

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 11th March, 2026

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

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

PRAYER

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, I am being advised that we do not have quorum. So, I want to refer to our Standing order No. 32(2) and I quote:

that “if there is not quorum are present when the chair is taken at the time appointed for a meeting of the county assembly immediately after the saying of the prayer the speaker shall order the bell to be rung for five minutes and if no quorum is present at the duration of the five minutes the speaker may direct that the bell be rung for a further five minutes and if there is no quorum the speaker shall adjourn the county assembly forthwith to the next sitting”.

So, I direct that the quorum bell be rung for the first five minutes. Again, I have not been able to spot the Leader of Majority or the Whip in the House. So, I direct Honourable Tom Nyaoke to whip the members who are out and as that is being done any member who is already in shall not leave until the bell stops ringing.

(Quorum bell rung for five minutes)

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Nyaoke, kindly confirm if we have quorum.

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have enough quorum to enable this House transact its business.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable member, I believe that, now you should be sitting where the whip sits because now you are a temporary whip. What do you want to say Honourable Nyaoke?

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to thank you as I prepare to cross the floor to occupy the Whip's seat.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members I have got two communications to make. One, is that I have a request from Honourable Caroline Opar that there is a welfare issue that regards the death of Honourable Orimba who was the County Executive Committee Member, who passed on and will be buried on 14th of March 2026. The member is requesting that there are those who are doing contribution. Please if you have not made your contributions then, try to reach her.

Secondly, the communication is in regards to those who are in the Speaker's gallery, who are part of the new staff of the county assembly. I wish to draw the attention of the members of their presence in the public gallery this afternoon. It is a group of new members of staff of the county assembly who have joined the assembly service in various capacities. Honourable members, as part of their induction and familiarization programme, the officers have been accorded an opportunity to observe the proceedings of the House so as to gain practical experience of the legislative process and the conduct of business in the chamber.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the County Assembly of Kisumu, I take this opportunity to warmly welcome them to the assembly and to congratulate them on their successful recruitment into the assembly service. The work of the assembly relies heavily on the dedication, professionalism and integrity of its staff. It is my expectation that they will discharge their duties diligently in support of the oversight and legislative mandates of the House. I want to request that each of them when I call your name, you rise up so that you may be acknowledged in the usual manner of the assembly.

So, number one we have Mr. Samuel Odhiambo, who is attached to the Department of Research Department. We equally, have Alex Okowa attached to the Department Research. We have Ms. Teresa Muma also attached to the Department of Research. Ms. Daisy Atieno, similarly in the Department of research. Mr. Yogo Kenneth under Legislative Procedures and Committee Services. Mr. Joshua Otieno, at Legislative Procedures and Committee Services. You are most welcome to the County Assembly of Kisumu and I wish you success as you begin your service to the people of Kisumu.

Honourable members, you may also note that a number of them have been attached to the Department of Research and therefore that should ease your way of doing research. You may recall that, previously we had lost some two staff members by virtue of either getting greener pastures or by retirement.

So, that office has been empty. It is been difficult for you to carry out your research as required. Please make good use of that office. With those few remarks I once again want to welcome all the staff members and to wish you success as you begin your service in Kisumu County assembly. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order.

STATEMENTS.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): It is Statement time.

(Silence)

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

MOTION:

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON LIAISON ON THE CONSIDERATION OF HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON COMMITTEES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED AT 1ST DECEMBER 2025.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Moses Ochele.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. I am seated here on behalf of my Chairperson, Liaison Committee, Honourable Nereah Akoth Okombo who is also the Deputy Speaker of the House.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Proceed.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Me. Speaker, before I proceed Mr. may I also take the privilege of welcoming the new staff to the County Assembly of Kisumu and on my behalf and on behalf of my colleagues, kindly feel welcome, feel at home and do what we do diligently.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker I want to move a motion on a report of consideration, of a half-yearly progress report of committees for the period ended 31st December 2025.

Honourable Speaker, the provisions of Standing Orders No. 183(1) of the County Assembly Standing Orders require the Select Committee to submit half-yearly progress report the liaison committee and outlining the status of business referred to them and the extent to which they have executed their mandates. In turn, standing order number 183(2) mandates the liaison committee

within 20 days of receipt of such reports to compile and submit considered reports to the county assembly for consideration. In fulfilment of these provisions, the liaison committee hereby presents this report which provides a comprehensive analysis of the performance of committees of the county assembly during the period between 1st July 2025 and 31st December 2025. The report captures the level of legislative activity undertaken by committees, highlights key trends in committee performance and provides an overview of the progress made on the discharge of their oversight legislative and representative functions. Committees remain the engine through which the assembly executes the bulk of its constitutional and statutory responsibilities. It is within committees that detailed scrutiny of policies, bills, financial proposals, and oversight enquiries take place. As such, the performance of committees is a critical indicator of the overall effectiveness of the county assembly in fulfilling its mandate under Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. During the period under review, committees continued to discharge their mandates through consideration of papers laid before the assembly, processing of legislative proposals, interrogating of statements sought by members, and the preparation of various reports arising from the oversight activities. The liaison committee observes that while considering progress has been made in advancing committee work, certain areas continue to require improvements, particularly in the timely conclusion of statements and expeditious handling of pending businesses before the committee.

The report therefore provides an analytical overview of the workload handled by committees, including motions, policies, statements, bills, petitions, and committee reports, as well as comparative assessment of the assembly's legislative performance during the reporting period and across the financial years since the commencement of the third assembly. This report also identifies pending businesses before the committee as of 31st December 2025, with a view of informing future planning and prioritization of committee activities.

Objectives;

The main objective of the report is to fulfil the requirements of Standing Orders No. 183(2), which mandates the liaison committee to compile half-yearly reports submitted to it by all committees and submit a report to the county assembly.

Methodology

Mr. Speaker, in preparing this report, the committee examined the half-yearly reports submitted by various committees and subsequently forwarded to the House Business Committee for tabling and presentation on the floor of the House.

Findings

Hon. Speaker, from the analysis the liaison committee established, and during the period under review, between 1st July to 31st December 2025, the following observations were made.

1. Committee workload: A total of 18 papers were laid on the table of the county assembly and subsequently committed to various committees in accordance with their respective mandates. This you can find in the annexures underneath the report.
2. Motions: During the period under review, a total of 40 motions were deliberated upon by the assembly. You can see table IV under categories. There is category 1) Motions by way of reports were 31. Second category is; Members' sponsored motions were 2. One was adopted whereas the other one was withdrawn. Category 3 is; Exceptional motions, which we had 1. Then Adjournment motions were 6.
3. Public petitions: No public petitions were received or processed during the period under review.
4. Policies Only one policy was received during the period under review, and the policies can be seen in table 3.
5. We had statements: A total of 8 statements were requested during the period under review, out of which only one was concluded. The remaining statements were still pending before various committees as at the end of the reporting period. You can find the detailed information in table 4.
6. Bills and legislations: A total of two bills were considered during the period under review, one of which was carried forward from 2024. You can see table 6.
7. Committee reports Between 1st July 2025 and 31st December 2025, 14 committees tabled a total of 31 reports as shown below. We have a table below showing columns with committee names and number of reports tabled.
8. Committee performance in terms of reports tabled so far in the third assembly.

As at the end of the period under review, a total of 250 reports have been tabled by the committee so far in the third assembly. That is 2022 December to 2025 as distributed as shown below in the below table. Column, three columns, numbering, committee and then the report number of reports tabled.

1. PIC/PAC 51 reports
2. Medical services, public health and sanitation, 22 reports.
3. Budget and appropriation, 20 reports.
4. Land, housing, physical planning and urban development, 15 reports.
5. Finance and ICT, 14 reports.
6. JLAC 13 reports.
7. Implementation, 13 reports.
8. Labour and social welfare, 12 reports.

9. Appointment committee, 12 reports.
10. Infrastructure, energy and public works, 11 reports.
11. Education, technical training, innovation and social services, 10 reports.
12. Liaison, 8 reports.
13. Water, environment, natural resources and climate change, 8 reports.
14. Sports, culture, gender and youth affairs, 8 reports.
15. Agriculture, fisheries, livestock development and irrigation, 8 reports.
16. Trade, tourism, industry and marketing, 7 reports.
17. Selection committee, 7 reports.
18. Delegated county legislation, 5 reports.
19. Procedure rules, 3 reports.
20. House business, 3 reports.
21. Ward development, 3 reports.
22. Welfare and equal opportunities, 2 reports.
23. Powers and privileges, 2 reports.

Total of 250 reports.

Comparative analysis of the legislative performance of the Third Assembly

This section presents the overall legislative performance of the Assembly for the period beginning FY 2022-2023, FY2023-2024, FY 2024-2025, and FY 2025-2026 to date. It should be noted that financial year 2025-2026 figures are provisional as the financial year is still in progress. You can find the details in table 11. On table 11 we had a total of 35 statements in the financial year 2022-2023 and 24 statements in the year 2023-2024, 30 in the year 2024-2025 and 9 in the current financial year. Totaling to 98 statements sought.

Motions: We had 11 motions in the year 2022-2023 and 12 in the financial year 2023-2024. We had 17 motions in the year 2024-2025 and to date we have 9 motions in the ongoing financial year. Total of 49 motions so far.

Bills: A total of 5 bills in the year 2022-2023, 8 bills in the year 2023-2024, 5 bills in the year 2024-2025 and so far, 1 bill in the current financial year making a total of 19 bills.

Petitions: 5 petitions in the financial year 2022-2023, 5 petitions again in 2023-2024 and 2 in the financial year 2024-2025 and in the current financial year we have 0 so far. Total of 12 petitions.

Policies: in the year 2022-2023 we had 2 policies, in 2023-2024 we had 2, in 2024-2025 we had 1 and in the current financial year we have 1. Total of 6 policies.

Reports: In the financial year 2022-2023 we had a total of 57 reports. In the financial year 2023-2024 we had 78 reports.

In the financial year 2024-2025 we had 82 reports and in the current financial year so far, we have 29 reports. Making the total reports so far to be 247.

Pending businesses: Mr. Speaker as of 31st December 2025 a total of 65 items of business remained pending before various committees and that is distributed in table 12.

Observations

Honourable Speaker, from the above presentations it can be observed that tabling of 31 committee reports within the six-month period demonstrates that committees remain the primary platform through which the assembly interrogates public policy, undertakes oversight over the county executive and processes businesses committed by the House.

That there was significant variation in the levels of productivity across committees while some committees recorded a high number of reports and active engagement within businesses referred to them, others registered comparatively minimal output. These disparities suggest the need for strengthened coordination, improved planning of committee work programmes, and enhanced monitoring of committee performances.

That there is a steady increase in volume of business referred to the committees, particularly papers and statements. This trend reflects the growing legislative and oversight demands placed upon the county assembly as it continues to assert its constitutional mandate.

That there is a slow rate at which statements sought by members are concluded across committees during the period under review only one out of eight statements sought was concluded. This indicates delays in committee follow-up processes and may undermine the ability of county assembly to effectively hold the executive accountable through the statement mechanism.

That the fact that no public petition was received or processed during the period under review may reflect varying levels of public engagements with the assembly. It also presents an opportunity for the assembly to strengthen civic awareness on the constitutional rights of citizens to petition legislative bodies on matters of public concern.

That the tabling of 250 reports so far in the third assembly indicates sustained engagement by committees in oversight activities and policies scrutiny. It also demonstrates the assembly's commitment to fulfilling its mandate under article 185 of the constitution of Kenya 2010.

That a number of sectoral committees tend to rely primarily on statements as the main trigger for committee activity. While statements remain an important oversight tool available to committees over reliance on this mechanism may limit the scope and impact of committee work.

That there are cases where matters committed to the committees by the House remains under consideration for extended periods sometimes until they are overtaken by events. While such

circumstances may arise in the evolving policy or administrative developments, committees should take cognizance of matters formally committed to them by the House that constitute business of the assembly and must be accounted for.

Recommendations

Honourable Speaker, in order to enhance the effectiveness efficiency and constitutional impact of committees of the county assembly the committee made the following recommendations.

1. THAT, House Committees should develop and strictly adhere to structured periodical work plans aligned to assembly calendar to enable them prioritize key businesses ensure timely consideration of matters referred to them and improve overall productivity.
2. THAT, House Committees should put in place clear timelines and internal monitoring mechanisms to ensure that statements and other matters of enquiry referred to them are concluded within reasonable time frames. Statements should be accorded priority to safeguard the oversight role of members and enhance responsiveness of the county executive.
3. THAT, House Committees should establish work plans ways of tackling businesses pending before them in a timely manner as such businesses may impede the timely consideration of the new matters referred to them.
4. THAT, the county assembly should strengthen public awareness initiatives to promote citizen engagement with the legislative process particularly, with regard to the submission of public petitions and participation in committee processes as provided for under the constitution and the county government's act.
5. THAT, the open day held sometimes back was a tremendous success the committee challenges the assembly administration and leadership to endeavour to make it a continuous exercise rather than a one-off activity.
6. THAT, the county assembly should continue in investing in capacity building programmes for members and committee secretariat in areas such as legislative scrutiny, budget analysis oversight methodologies and report writing in order to enhance quality of committee work and strengthen institutional performance.
7. THAT, the Select Committee on Implementation should establish stronger follow-up mechanisms to ensure that recommendations arising from committee reports are effectively implemented by the county executive and relevant institutions.
8. THAT, Departmental Committees need to adopt a more proactive approach, sourcing and initiating committee businesses in order to sustain meaningful engagement and enhance their productivity.
9. Committees may among other approaches;
 - (i) Undertake oversight enquiries into emerging issues within their respective sectors that affect service delivery to the residents of Kisumu.

- (ii) Review existing county laws policies and regulations to assess their effectiveness and identify areas requiring amendments.
- (iii) Examine departmental reports and performances reports relating to county departments and agencies falling within their mandates.
- (iv) Conduct field visits and oversight inspections for the county projects and programmes in order to assess their status and values for public resources.
- (v) Initiate thematic or sector specific investigations on matters of public interest affecting their respective sectors.
- (vi) By adopting a more proactive and structured approach to sourcing committee work several committees will not only strengthen their oversight role but also ensure a steady flow of substantive report that contribute to informed decision making by the assembly.
- (vii) That in instances where a matter under consideration has been overtaken by events, or where circumstances have materially changed, the concerned committee should formerly report back to the House, outlining the developments that have rendered the matter impracticable or obsolete. This is preferred rather than indefinitely shelving such inquiries. This will ensure that the House remains properly informed in disposition of all matters committed to committees by it and will uphold the principles of accountability of committees to the assembly, since all such matters originate from the authority of the House.

Acknowledgement

Honourable Speaker, the committee appreciates the continued support provided by the offices of the speaker and that of the clerk of the Kisumu County Assembly for the support accorded to it towards fulfilment of its mandates. It also commends committees for commitment demonstrated in executing their mandates during the period under review. Special recognition also goes to the secretariat of these committees whose efforts greatly facilitate the work of the committees and success of the county assembly.

In conclusion, Honourable speaker, it is therefore my honour and a privilege to move on behalf of the liaison committee that this house adopts this report on liaison committee on consideration of half-yearly progress report of committees for the period ended 31st December 2025 and Mr. Speaker allow me to request Honourable the temporary leader of majority, Honourable Emily Anyango to second. Thank you Mr. Speaker and I move.

(Hon. Oginga bowed in secondment)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, the Honourable Moses Ochele, has moved the report of the Select Committee on Liaison. A report on consideration of Half-Yearly Progress Reports of House Committees for the period ended 31st December 2025 as seconded by Honourable Emily.

Honourable members, as per the provisions of our Standing Orders I want to propose a question. But before I propose a question, I want to draw your attention to page 41 of the Order Paper on Limitation of Debates. It is a Notice on Debates. Actually, I was wondering if Honourable Ochele had enough time. I thought that the member would debate his report after moving. However, I read that 'Pursuant to the provision of Orders No. 95(1) of the Standing Orders. The assembly orders that each speech in debates on a report of a House Committee, a Special Paper or any other report submitted by the assembly be limited to as follows.

A maximum of three hours with not more than twenty minutes for the mover in moving and ten minutes in replying and a maximum of five minutes for each member speaking except the Leader of Majority Party, who shall be limited to a maximum of fifteen minutes and that priority be accorded to the Leader of Majority Party in that order.

So Honorable members, I want to propose a question and I propose that the report on consideration of Half-yearly Progress Report of House Committees for the period ended 31st December 2025 is open for debate.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Ajumbo

Hon. Ajumbo (MCA, Central Seme): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the report, the half-yearly report on House Committees. I want to begin by looking at the comparative analysis of the performance of House Committees in terms of the items as listed above.

Mr. Speaker, I have looked at the performance on the Papers and compared the years 2022/2023 with the performance of 2024/2025. We can see a great increase in performance.

Mr. Speaker, I am also concerned about Statements. When I look at 2022/2023, it is my considered opinion that, that is when most of us were very excited to bring statements. Sometimes a member would get a lot of pressure from constituents regarding a road or maybe a project that had not been done. As a result, there were many statements flowing in.

Mr. Speaker, as we moved to 2023/2024, the Statements went down. I do not know whether the excitement also went down. Then again, they rose slightly in 2024/2025. This implies that we need to do something regarding statements so that most members can come forward with statements and thereby increase our legislative performance.

Mr. Speaker, I am also looking at the Reports. It is my belief that, the reports have gone up when you look at the comparative analysis in that table. That is good for most House Committees.

Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to comment on Petitions, taking into account what Honourable Moses Ochele has just concluded. When the member was reading the recommendation under item four, which states that the County Assembly should strengthen public awareness initiatives to promote citizen engagement, the member raised an important matter.

Mr. Speaker, the last time we had citizen engagement within the Assembly compound, many people from the grassroots were very inquisitive, excited and happy, and they looked forward to more engagement with the Assembly. The more they can engage with members of the Assembly, the more we can increase the number of petitions.

You will realize that in 2022/2023 we had five petitions, and in the following year we also had five petitions. However, the number of petitions later dropped from five to two. This means that there is not much public engagement with the Assembly. When we engage more with the public, we will see more people coming forward with petitions.

Mr. Speaker, I similarly want to mention that one of the petitions reported here came from my ward. The residents had brought a petition and registered it, but it has never reached the Assembly. Therefore, there is need to work on the petitions process because members complain that petitions are brought here and registered at the Administrative Office but take time to reach the Assembly. There is need to improve on that part. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the report. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Nyaoke

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to begin by thanking the Select Committee on Liaison for the report that has been presented before us, which has been well articulated by my senior, Honourable Ochele, on behalf of the Chairperson.

Mr. Speaker, the report is very informative. It should also go on record that we appreciate these House Committees, particularly those in which I personally sit, such as the Departmental Committee on Medical Services. Mr. Speaker, you can see the number of reports that we have delivered in this House.

Mr. Speaker, I must also thank the Departmental Committee on Lands, Housing, Physical Planning and Urban Development. Mr. Speaker, last but not least, the Select Committee on Implementation, which has always been a subject of referral. From the report presented, this House Committee has also performed very well.

Mr. Speaker, I want to promise that in the remaining period of time, we shall be able to present quite a number of reports.

Mr. Speaker, in view of what is happening, there is also need to operationalize what we had mentioned on the Floor of the House about “*Bunge Mashinani Initiative*”. When we operationalize this programme, we shall be able to have much more interaction with the people we represent on the ground. I believe more engagements will be witnessed.

If we incorporate views from different places, Mr. Speaker, I believe our responsibility in this House will be felt at a much higher level than what is reflected in the report before us.

Mr. Speaker, although my colleague, Honourable Ajumbo, mentioned something about statements, it is not that people are reluctant to bring statements in this House. We do have those statements. The only thing we need to improve on is the frequency of bringing them to the House.

Mr. Speaker, again, we have many such statements, Mr. Speaker, but some take a long time before they are responded to. For instance, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to pre-empt these matters, however I will soon be bringing a statement here regarding what is taking place outside, particularly in my ward where people are now moving away from their homes.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am already notifying the House of my intention to bring such a statement, even if it may not strictly be in accordance with the Standing Orders. Thank you. I beg to support.

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

Hon. Pete (MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Select committee on Liaison has brought before us the work that we have been doing as an Assembly so that we can assess and review how effective or ineffective the Assembly has been. When we go through this report, Mr. Speaker, we are able to see how effective the performance of these House Committees has been.

Mr. Speaker, when I look at pages five and six of this report, which outline the concluded work and the pending work, the total work tabulated there is eighteen. Out of this, the concluded work is four, while the pending work is fourteen.

Mr. Speaker, when we examine the percentage performance of these House Committees, the picture is quite clear; out of eighteen tasks, only four have been completed, while fourteen others remain pending. Mr. Speaker, when we refer to pages thirty-two to forty, the work is again tabulated, showing both pending and concluded tasks. This presents a clear indication that progress is slow, as most of the work remains pending. Mr. Speaker, one is compelled to ask; what is the position and how are these works supposed to be undertaken? We understand that these matters are first discussed at the committee level within the Assembly after which Honourable members proceed to prepare reports for submission and debate in this House.

Why, then, have members delayed in executing their duties at the House Committee level to ensure timely report writing and submission for discussion? This is an issue that we must address with seriousness.

Mr. Speaker, in this report, the Liaison Committee has not adequately addressed the issue of effective induction of Honourable members. The lack of proper induction is evident and it is necessary that Honourable members be inducted from time to time. Mr. Speaker, how many times have members been inducted since the commencement of this Assembly? This could be a

contributing factor to the high volume of pending work. Consequently, the report paints a picture that the Assembly is performing below expectations. I therefore urge your office together with the Office of the Clerk to ensure that Honourable members are properly inducted and adequately motivated so that such a report does not reoccur before this House. I so contribute. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Emily, I was just wondering out aloud whether Honourable Oiko Pete requires induction in order to attend House Committee sittings.

I say so because this House provides clear schedules almost like a primary school timetable for committee sittings. Yet, I continue to receive reports of lack of quorum in House Committees. I therefore wonder why induction would be necessary merely to attend committee meetings.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Honourable Emily Oginga.

Hon. Oginga (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me this opportunity. I rise to support the report of the Liaison Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to re-emphasize some of the recommendations contained in the report. First, on strengthening public awareness initiatives to promote citizen engagement: I have observed over time that there is a significant gap in awareness among the public. Many citizens do not fully understand the role of the County Assembly. Whenever I engage with members of the public, I encourage them to present petitions to the Assembly. However, many still expect leaders to determine what should be done for them.

Mr. Speaker, under the current constitutional dispensation, governance works differently whereby the people are expected to articulate their needs and priorities, which leaders then act upon. Therefore, I support the idea of “*Bunge Mashinani Initiative*”. Taking the Assembly closer to the people will enhance public awareness and help identify the challenges facing our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to give a comment on Recommendation No. six (Six) regarding the Select Committee on Implementation. From my observation, this House Committee is the engine that drives the Assembly. I therefore emphasize the need to strengthen this House Committee so that it can effectively track implementation and provide feedback. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I support the report. Thank you.

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

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this report since it gives a true reflection of the performance of various House Committees. Indeed, the concerns raised by this House Committee regarding members’ attendance are valid. However, Mr. Speaker, until the electorate understands that the deliberations in this House translate into tangible development, they may not fully appreciate the importance of committee work.

Therefore there is a need for civic education so that the public appreciates the importance of committee work and holds members accountable. If this does not happen, members may only appear during critical processes such as the budget-making process and neglect regular committee sittings. Mr. Speaker, all House Committees have the potential to generate reports for consideration by the House, provided members actively participate.

Honourable Speaker, as we move forward, I would also like to appeal to Honourable members of this House to take personal responsibility and show commitment in attending committee sittings. I often joke with my brother, Honourable Ochele that many people struggle immensely just to earn the opportunity to sit in this House.

Mr. Speaker, some aspirants spend substantial resources during campaigns, and others even go the extra mile travelling far and wide, even to places like Sukuma Land to seek assistance from herbalists or spiritualists, all in pursuit of securing a seat in this Assembly. Yet, once they achieve that opportunity and are appointed to serve in various House Committees, which are critical to the functioning of this House, it is unfortunate that some of the members still fail to attend those sittings.

Mr. Speaker, this House cannot operate effectively without the work of House Committees. When members miss committee meetings and at the same time fail to participate in discussions such as this one, where the Select Committee on Liaison presents reports on committee performance, it undermines the collective responsibility we bear as Members of this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I must also say perhaps humorously that I do not know who in this House is particularly prayerful. Honourable Pamela has made sincere efforts to pray for members, yet it appears the conviction of SDA has not fully taken root. I am aware that Honourable Nyaoke has even started a small church near his home, although it is still in its early stages. Perhaps the angels are yet to fully settle there. Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, my humble appeal is that we take our committee responsibilities seriously, because that is where the real work of this Assembly takes place.

(Hon. Nyaoke rises on a Point of Order)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Nyaoke, what is it?

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of fact. I wish to inform the Honourable member that the church the member is referring to was established in 1958, Mr. Speaker. Therefore, it is not as small or as recent as he may imagine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Okumu, are you informed?

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Honourable Speaker, you have heard that the church dates back to 1958, yet it still remains just next to his house and has not expanded as one would expect. Therefore, it does not contradict what I said earlier when I mentioned that the member has a small church perhaps the angels have not yet fully settled there. Nonetheless, even if the church were large enough, it appears the prayers have not quite succeeded in helping members attend committee sittings.

Honourable Speaker, perhaps we need to identify someone with even stronger spiritual influence to pray for these members, so that they may develop the commitment required to attend committee meetings diligently. House Committees must have dedicated membership that can effectively deliberate on matters, generate reports and motions, and bring substantive business before this House.

Honourable Speaker, if this does not happen, we may find ourselves in a situation where the House lacks sufficient matters for discussion on the Floor.

However, Mr. Speaker, to commend some House Committees that have performed well. I wish to thank the Departmental Committees on Medical Services, the Select Committee on Public Accounts and Investment, and the Departmental Committee on Education for the reports they have generated over the past half of the year, which have enabled this House to have meaningful business to transact.

Mr. Speaker, we now encourage other House Committees, particularly the Select Committee on Ward Development, I have not seen the Chairperson present today to improve their performance. As it appears to have been among the least performing House Committees. I hope that in the next half of the year they will bring forward more reports for consideration by this House.

Finally, Honourable Speaker, allow me to remind members about the proper name of the committee we are discussing. It is not the “*Layason committee*,” as some members jokingly pronounce it in their mother tongue. The correct name is the Liaison Committee. Let us maintain that distinction for the dignity of this House. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

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

Hon. Oyoo (MCA, Migosi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to commend the Select Committee on Liaison for the commendable work it has done. I wish to appreciate the Chairperson of this House Committee, as well as the clerks, for their dedication in ensuring that we receive a well-prepared report.

Mr. Speaker, I similarly take this opportunity to congratulate all the committees of this House. They have made significant efforts to bring business before the House and to address matters affecting our county. From my observation, their performance has been above average.

Mr. Speaker, this should not dampen the spirit of members but rather motivate them to attend committee sittings more consistently. House Committees are the engine of this House, and it is through their work that we generate the reports, motions, bills, and policies necessary for the smooth running and development of Kisumu County.

Mr. Speaker, I equally wish to encourage Honourable members, especially as we gradually approach the election period when many will be engaged in campaign activities. For now, I urge members to remain committed by attending committee meetings and participating actively in the business of the House so that we can continue to discharge our mandate effectively. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I stand to support.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Omuya. Before you speak, this is to Honourable Oyoo. Honourable Okumu accused you that you have been praying for members to attend sittings. I don't know why...

Hon. Oyoo (MCA, Migosi): Yes, I have been praying for members including the member who has raised this matter. I have been praying for our health and our success. I have been praying for our journey to this place and back home. May the Lord continue to bless this Assembly through our leadership, the Honourable Speaker. God bless you and the members of this House. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable member, I'm surprised that you are siding with Honourable Seth. Honourable Seth, I don't believe that you need prayers to attend House Committees. You campaigned to be in the House. However, anyway, that's discussion for another day.

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

Hon. Omuya (MCA, North Seme): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to add my voice in appreciating the work that has been done by this House Committee. After going through the report, I can confidently say that we have indeed done some work as a House.

Through the report of this House Committee, we have been able to review and reflect on the performance of all House Committees, and it is important that we also take a moment to appreciate ourselves for the effort that has gone into producing this report. The manner in which it has been presented reflects, to a great extent, the actual work that has been undertaken in this House.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the report has also highlighted areas where we may have fallen short. It is now upon this House to strengthen those areas where weaknesses have been identified, while at the same time appreciating the progress we have made where we have performed well.

Before I conclude, Mr. Speaker, allow me to come to the defence of my colleague, Honourable Nyaoke. Indeed, Honourable Nyaoke is a reverend, and I wish to inform Honourable Seth that the church the member referred to is actually a very big church. In fact, from what I have seen, it is even larger than this Assembly Chamber. It is quite a significant establishment. With those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, I beg to support. Thank you.

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

Hon. Wajewa (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to call the mover to reply.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Ochele.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Thank you, once again, Honourable Speaker, for allowing me to reply on a motion that I moved earlier. Allow me to start by appreciating the presence of a Symantic teacher in the name of Honourable Seth Okumu, one thing through speaker that at times you can mention something which demeans and discourages some of us from attending these House Committees.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable members, if I make a language, symantic mistake, and you correct me on the floor, I get scared of you, and then not attend any committee sitting where you are present. At times, correct me please. I know it is not intended to me, it was intended to your friend and the friend knows herself.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, it is funny in this assembly that some of us struggled very much to be elected into this House. I was elected first, forced to rest, I did not want to rest but I was forced to rest. Then, I struggled very much to be here again. Mr. Speaker, there is a tendency that some of us immediately we step foot in this House, we start looking for this position. It is quite ironical that you struggled to be here, once you are given an opportunity to give that you wanted to give to the public of Kisumu, you again rush back to them that kindly elect me in 2027. Surely, why must you be elected before you carry out the task you are elected for? Some of us were nominated, they struggled, they followed up to be elected. The moment they were nominated, they started looking for elective positions in this House. Mr. Speaker, I do not see much difference between an elected member and a nominated member. The mandate of an Member of County Assembly is the same whether you are elected specially or elected by vote. I can hear my friend murmuring but the member knows that she is even sitting in a seat which I have never sat since I came to this Third Assembly. The seat called Mr. Speaker or Madam Speaker. That alone tells you that

you are even more equal than I do. So, at times, we must assume that we are same and we carry out the same responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, I want to believe that we as members of various House Committees, trying to give our best and somewhere in the middle of this Third Assembly, I believe that some little discouragements from leadership. Sometimes there are issues you wished to interrogate but your mouth is blocked or your footsteps are barricaded. So, you get quite discouraged to an extent where even if you have certain things to follow up on, you do not have the courage to do it. Like my friend Honourable Fredrick Odari has been discouraged several times. The member has a number of good things but how to put them on the floor is an issue. I only wish that the leadership can find if Honourable Odari has something which is disturbing him, so that we see a way of helping the member and getting it done through the Assembly. This is whether the result comes negative or positive but everybody must be accorded same environment to work in.

Mr. Speaker, as Honourable Oiko Pete says, I do not want to advocate for induction for all members but there are specific chairpersons. I said this because, when we were in Homabay County, and since we were placed in these positions of chairmanship, we have not been inducted. Some of us work by the experience we had in previous assemblies. I have experience in the First Assembly; I was lucky to be a chairperson. Some of us are lucky to have been chairpersons like Honourable Seth Okumu, who equally served in the Second Assembly. However, think of somebody who has looked for this position for more than two decades in the name of chairperson Ward Development. You put him in a place of leadership, the member has not been inducted, does not even know the mandate of that House Committee. Mr. Speaker, if you expect results from that cadre of member, we might be crucifying such a member not because of their wish but because they have not been properly inducted. It is my belief that, it is not late.

Mr. Speaker, election will be conducted next year. It is not late to induct chairpersons, since in this Assembly you attend a meeting where the chairperson does not even know how to start chairing and instead if the clerk is not keen then the meeting goes without any minutes. So, it is my considered opinion that, it is upon the leadership and the leadership is you, Mr. Speaker, kindly do one or two inductions to the chairpersons and that will also encourage members. If one attends a meeting where the chairperson does not know what to do, I attend that meeting today, I attend the next time but nothing changes, I will feel like why should I continue going? I get discouraged because you attend a meeting where the chairperson does not understand what he/she should be doing. I get discouraged. So, Mr. Speaker, it is my opinion that, you do something about that.

Mr. Speaker, we have pending works, the same thing that goes hand in hand with induction. You have often repeated that when time given, time accorded by the House elapses, it is prudent that we send or we table a progress report. This progress report still does not ring a bell into most of

the chairpersons. What is this Progress Report? You mentioned it there, Mr. Speaker, but they do not understand it. What is this progress report? So, allow some of us to sit in a classroom and be taught on what this progress report is all about because the excuse that most chairpersons normally have is that we delayed, or the County Executive delayed in responding. So, is it that we will be waiting for them even if they take one year? This thing of progress report has not been properly put across, save for the senior members who have been through such, can always bring a progress report in time. So, that induction is key.

Mr. Speaker, prayer is key to everything. In the National Assembly we have office of a chaplain. In this assembly we do not have a chaplain. When Honourable Seth talks of Honourable Nyaoke, to be praying for members, if at all Honourable Nyaoke has been making any attempts to pray for members, I believe that is why we cannot progress well. Since the member is not fully spiritually nourished. Not the church, but the person. The only person I can give credit to is the Commissioner, Honourable Pamela Oyoo.

(Hon. Nyaoke interjects with a Point of Order)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Nyaoke, the member is replying. What is the point of order that you want to give?

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): Mr. Speaker, you see it is not good to mislead the House. This is because matters of spirituality must be taken with a lot of seriousness it deserves. That is why the member is able to move from this assembly to his home and find his family well and living well, Mr. Speaker. So, with due respect, I request my senior to withdraw matters of spirituality and proceed. That he should apologise to me as well.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Ochele, desist from such issues, so withdraw, apologise and proceed.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my belief that, it is not procedural to allow Honourable Nyaoke to interject a member who is replying. The member would have relayed the same message, then it is you, the Speaker, to address the member. So, allowing him to interject a serious member replying is lack of knowledge and that is why we need training. I mean, Mr. Speaker, you have a serious duty.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Order!! Honourable Ochele, the chair has ruled that you withdraw. Apologise and proceed.

(Hon. Oiko rises on a Point of Order)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Benny Pete, we are still on a Point of Order that is being handled, so allow me to continue.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo /Kanyagwal): A point of order, Mr. Speaker, sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Benny, we cannot have a Point of Order on a Point of Order. Honourable Ochele.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Mr. Speaker, Hon. Nyaoke is an Honourable member, an Engineer and a Reverend. However, the only issue which I underscored is the spirituality. That is the only thing. If the member can prove that he has, he talks with experience, then the member is free to say that. Nevertheless, I have not disputed that the member is a Reverend. The member is a reverend, an engineer, an Honourable, a Doctor, and also my friend. However, the spirituality element is underlined. I was saying that Honourable Pamela has tried to pray for us. If there is one member who is free-hearted, it is Honourable Pamela Oyoo. Whether you wrong her, the lady member will pray for you. Whether you praise her, the member will still pray for you. It is my belief that, Honourable Pamela Oyoo, you are nearing going to heaven.

Mr. Speaker, the last thing I wanted to say is that, the Select Committee, Liaison is a coordinating House Committee. It coordinates the functions of other House Committees. However, the bulk of these reports, Motions, Bills which I read here today, the bulk of Statements, all these are like debris swept by a river to a pond. The pond we have in this House is the Select Committee on Implementation. If this House Committee is not serious, then, it is my considered opinion that, a number of issues we will be doing will be in vain because the result must come from the committee on Implementation.

Mr. Speaker, if a statement is sought and sent to for example, the Departmental Committee on Administration of Law, Constitutional Affairs, Good Governance and Security, I will do my preliminary investigations, the County Executive responds, but then Select Committee on Implementation on the resolutions of this House, Mr. Speaker, does not come back to Departmental Committee on Administration of Law, Constitutional Affairs, Good Governance and Security (JLAC). It goes to the Select Committee on Implementation. Therefore, if the Select Committee on Implementation does not give us feedback from the County Executive on the Resolutions of the House, then we will just be like singing sleeping dogs. And that is another source of discouragement to members. My brother, Honourable Oiko often says, even if you shout, they will not act. Why are they not acting? They are not acting because we do not get response from what we resolved on. If that can be changed, then I believe that, members can be agitated to put more effort on their work.

Finally, Honourable Speaker, I will not forget to thank the office of the clerk. I do not believe that, there is any House Committee in this House which can say we are not performing because

of incapacity necessitated by the office of the Clerk. All House Committees are properly facilitated. In terms of report writing, benchmarking, or sittings, we are properly facilitated. To that, I thank the Board, chaired by you, and the Office of the Clerk for ensuring that you make available all the tools and instruments for our work at the time we need it.

Therefore, the onus is on us members to reciprocate. Remember, our main work here is not to please members, colleagues. We are not here to please ourselves. We are not here to please Mr. Speaker on our work. We have a duty; we are called upon to represent our people on serious matters. Now, if we do not attend committee meetings, it is like we are abdicating the very responsibility accorded to us by the very people who elected us; and silently, even if they do not come to this House, silently they know that some of us do not take their work seriously.

Mr. Speaker, so as we give them Kshs. 50, they know it is meant to buy them not informing them on the kind of work or the quantity of work we do. Therefore, I plead on behalf of all members that let us be considerate to our constituents. Let us do that which brought us here to do. If you do good to others, God will do good to you, including your children. If you do not work, if you do not carry out the task before you, then it is like you are robbing God. We are stealing from God because we are lying to his people. I know Honourable Nyaoke would have put it better, but let us do the best for this county, and let us do the best for the people who elected us. Mr. Speaker, I reply.

The Speaker (Hon Oraro): Honourable members, Honourable Moses Ochele has moved the motion on the adoption of the report of the Select Committee on Liaison on consideration of the half-year progress report of House Committees for the period ended 31st December, 2025. The motion has been seconded, debated and reply made. I, therefore, want to put a question.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Speaker (Hon Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to direct as follows. First, that, the recommendations of the said committee be put into action. I have seen that a number of the recommendations are for House Committees. There is a whole list of attachment on all the pending works per House Committee. Therefore, the first recommendation is that House Committees must do what has been recommended by this House Committee.

Secondly, I want to challenge all the Chairpersons of the various House Committees. You are all members of the Select Committee on Liaison. If there is any challenge that you undergo, it is your responsibility as a House Committee to bring it to the attention of the leadership for assistance. I believe there has been almost three- or four-times proper induction on the running of committees at different levels. However, if you feel that you still need further induction, which I still doubt that the report I have in terms of committee attendance, that you need an induction to attend a House Committee sitting. If that is required, please, as a committee, make that request to the leadership of the House to assist.

Finally, we had agreed in a *Kamukunji* that we will make stringent measures in terms of committee attendance. Honourable members, if you do not attend your House Committee meetings, I will not make any approval for other works, not even for the payment if you are not in the committee. I believe that, this way there will be seriousness in attending the committees. There are House Committees with over fifteen pending works. There are those with ten pending works. Some of them dating back to September, 2025. Yet you find them still requesting for sittings or opportunities to do other activities. Whether or not the work has been completed, there need to be a report to the County Assembly. The Select Committee on Implementation needs to follow up also on the same, including, but not limited to the works that are given to the committees on their status. I so rule.

The Speaker (Hon Oraro): Next order!!

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon Oraro): Honourable members, there being no any other business in the Order Paper, House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, the 12th of March, 2026 at 02.30 p.m.

(The House rose at 03.54 p.m.)

Addendum

Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Assistant Director, Hansard Services

Patrick Okoyo – Senior Hansard Reporter

Fanuel Okode – Senior Hansard Reporter

Vallery Achieng’ – Senior Hansard Reporter

Jesca Otieno – Senior Hansard Reporter

Edward Odanga – Hansard Reporter

Jackline Otieno – Hansard reporter

Brian Omondi- Attache’