

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA



## SECOND KITUI COUNTY ASSEMBLY (FIRST SESSION)

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

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### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR ON THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SECOND COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI ON TUESDAY, THE 3<sup>RD</sup> OF OCTOBER, 2017

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**Your Excellency, the Governor of Kitui County,  
Honorable Members of the second Kitui County Assembly,  
Distinguished Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

Good Afternoon,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the first sitting of the first Session of the second County Assembly of Kitui. First and foremost let us take this opportunity to thank the Almighty God for the great gift of life, our Country Kenya and our County Kitui. In light of the just concluded elections, I wish to thank the Kitui

County citizenry for expressing, in a mature and persevering way, their sovereign will during the elections and voicing their democratic choice. I once more offer you, Honourable Members, my heartfelt congratulations on being elected or nominated to this noble House

**Honourable Members,**

I am once again greatly humbled by the confidence you bestowed upon me by electing me your speaker and by the trust and faith you have in my leadership. In this spirit, I undertake to discharge my duties with a high degree of efficiency and impartiality. I solemnly affirm that I will perform my functions with diligence, dignity and honour. With impartiality I submit myself to the will of this house and assure you that I will as usual strive to be accessible to every member of this House.

**Your Excellency**

The 7<sup>th</sup> of September this year, marked the beginning of the second Kitui County assembly through swearing in of members and subsequent election of the Speaker. Consequently, members are well aware that reflection on the previous House achievements and challenges, on devolved units of governance specifically Kitui County will be key in learning and setting the agenda for the second County Assembly of Kitui. Our Assembly like other Assemblies across the republic has not been devoid of its own experiences so far. Privy to being speaker of the first Assembly, I can report that we indeed encountered and conquered numerous challenges. Some of the teething problems included, lack of proper facilities and structures, staff shortage, inadequate office space for

committees and employees, a congested chamber, unfamiliarity with parliamentary procedures, inadequate funds and unnecessary interference by Constitutional Independent Commissions just to mention a few.

### **Your Excellency**

This Assembly consists of the constitutionally recognized representatives of the people of Kitui County. A quick glance at its membership gives me pleasure to inform you that there are a number of young and vibrant professionals from varying backgrounds who voluntarily abandoned their careers to join this House including women, youth and persons with disabilities. I wish to assure you that the Honorable Members are sufficiently prepared for the task ahead of representation, legislation and oversight of our County. Members' are also ready to listen to your address today which will enable us have a better insight of your political mandate for Kitui County, going forward.

### **Honourable Members,**

As we undertake our duties as members of the Second County Assembly of Kitui, allow me to commend the first Assembly for the admirable work they did and for meeting constitutional deadlines. This was manifested in the passage of numerous Bills, statements, motions and reports. Their work cannot go unapplauded. I am well aware that all records of previous work done are accessible to members and in the safe custody of the Clerk of Assembly. I wish all Honourable Members the best as we steer the legislative and policy agenda of this august House over the next 5 years. We all

participated in an electoral process in which we campaigned in different Wards contesting for a seat and campaigning as members of different parties and coalitions. Today, we come together with a single purpose – that of promoting the welfare of Kitui County citizens, protecting their rights and giving voice to the many and varied interests of our people. We are here, not for ourselves, but as representatives of the people.

**Honourable Members,**

As your speaker I wish to take this opportunity to remind you all of the tasks that lay ahead of us. I am aware that parties have already come up with the leadership which await official notification to my office on such election/nomination. Looking around I can see familiar faces past and present colleagues, some have been re-elected for a further term. This is an endorsement of the confidence the electorate have in you. By our Constitution, and our traditions, you represent the sovereign will and aspirations of millions of Kenyans. I also salute the large number of young people, who have come to elected office. I am very glad that Kitui people are willing to give our youth opportunities to offer leadership. The young men and women elected to the assembly, and other offices, have a special responsibility to represent the aspirations of the youth for employment opportunities and better service delivery by our County Government. I wish all of you every success in fulfilling your very important County duties in the next five years.

### **Your Excellency**

I want to assure you that this County Assembly shall work together in comity, mutual respect and cooperation, with the County Executive. However, we trust that your Government will continue to accord the necessary support to the County Assembly and I assure you, we will do the same without compromising our roles. I urge you to never forget that we are here representing the Kenyan people, who have an urgent need for governance that delivers to them peace and security, and indeed prosperity.

### **Your Excellency**

Your government shall be held to account on your commitment to implement the Constitution and other policies, including the Kitui County Integrated Development Plan 2017 – 2022 which is the foundation for sustainable development of our County. Its effective implementation is pivotal in delivering prosperity and a high quality of life for us all. You can count on the support of the Assembly to help realize the goals set out in the County policies and plans. We shall expect your Government and this House to be the glue that holds the people of Kitui together, to constantly work on long term cohesion and to see that the marginalized in our society can get hope in our governance.

### **Honorable Members**

Today's sitting is informed by the Kitui County Assembly Standing Orders No. 17 (1) which states that “The Governor shall address the opening of each newly elected County Assembly” and further guided by Standing Orders No. 20 (3) which states that "When

delivering an address to the County Assembly, the Governor shall be heard in silence and the address shall not be followed by any comment or question" It is now my pleasure and privilege to invite the Governor of Kitui County Honorable Charity Kaluki Ngilu to address this honorable House. Welcome Your Excellency.

**Thank you!**

***God bless you all.***

**HON GEORGE M. NDOTTO**

**THE SPEAKER OF KITUI COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

**3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER, 2017**