

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



**FIRST KITUI COUNTY ASSEMBLY
(THIRD SESSION)**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR
ON THE WELCOME ADDRESS DURING THE OPENING SESSION AFTER
THE AUGUST RECESS**

Honorable Members,

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome you back to the Assembly today the 1st of September, 2015 as we officially resume our duties after the recent recess. It is my genuine hope that you were able to get the adequate rest needed during this time and that you are quite replenished and ready for the legislative work that lies ahead of us.

Honorable Members,

As members of this Assembly we were able to undertake a legislative training workshop as well as conduct a Midterm Review as from 10th to 15th August 2015. The main objective of the Midterm Review was to constructively appraise our performance, identify gaps in the enactment of legislative procedures and practices and to come up with appropriate recommendations on the way forward. I was delighted by your active participation during the sessions and I am certain that what we came up with shall positively impact this Assembly during the days to come.

Honorable Members,

This Assembly shall continually create such fora for discussion and capacity building of its members as part of a comprehensive approach to bring on board professionalism and best practices in handling matters pertaining to legislative procedures, oversight and representation practices of the Assembly.

Honorable members,

I am aware that the Assembly Committees were able to draw their work plans for the Financial Year 2015/2016. The respective chairpersons of the Committees are expected to approve these work plans and forward them to the Liaison Committee for harmonization as required by Standing Order no 192 (2)(b) of the Kitui County Assembly Standing Orders.

Honorable Members,

A number of committees were able to successfully conduct county project inspection tours from the 24th to the 29th of August, 2015, namely;

1. Agriculture, Water and Irrigation Committee
2. Basic Education, Training and Skills Development Committee
3. Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development Committee
4. Culture, Youth, Sports and Social Services Committee

I wish to categorically state that these inspection tours are not only important but mandatory in ensuring that county projects are properly implemented and that the allocated funds are used transparently for the benefit of the people of Kitui County. It is our hope that the reports from these committees will inform the same and provide relevant recommendations that may be able to seal any possible gaps identified.

Honorable Members,

You will recall that before we went on recess, the Kitui County Assembly was able to achieve some legislative milestones with three (3) Bills being passed and forwarded to the Governor for assent.

These Bills were, namely;

1. The Kitui County Supplementary Appropriations Bill I 2015 (Assembly Bill No.1)
2. The Kitui County Supplementary Appropriations Bill II 2015 (Assembly Bill No.2)
3. The Kitui County Appropriations Bill 2015 (Assembly Bill No. 4)

Honorable Members,

That period also witnessed the adoption of various motions, among them;

1. Motion on the recommencement of the project on construction of sand dams across Kitui County.
2. Motion on adoption of the Report of the Appointments Committee on consideration and Vetting of members of the Kitui County Land Management Board.
3. Motion on adoption of the Report of the Procedure and Rules Committee on amendments to the Kitui County Assembly Interim Standing Orders.
4. Motion on adoption of the Report of the Public Investments and Accounts Committee on consideration of audited accounts of the defunct councils of Kitui for the FY 2011/2012 and the financial operations of the County Government of Kitui for the period from 1st January to 30th June 2013.
5. Motion to update the County Assembly on the status of the human resources in Kitui County – Kitui County Public Service Board.

Honorable Members,

We still have some pending work that was not completely dispensed off previously which includes some reports, motions, petitions and statements. This work needs to be dealt with expeditiously moving forward.

Honorable Members,

You are aware that we are expected to dispense of the Kitui County Finance Bill 2015 within ninety (90) days of the passage of the Appropriations Bill which you may recall that we did pass on the 28th of July 2015. I wish to urge members to be keen in undertaking our legislative duty as the peoples' representatives when the Bill is forwarded to us for passing in order to try to avoid the possible public outcry witnessed during the same period last year.

Honorable Members,

I recall that at the beginning of the third session of this First Assembly I encouraged Honorable members to be more proactive in initiating legislation on issues affecting the electorate. I wish to extend this challenge once again to you since we have quite a lot of policy gaps that need to be sealed with proper legislation and policy formulation that we need to take up the initiative both as private members and also as members of the different assembly committees.

Honorable Members,

I wish to express my satisfaction in working with you members of the Kitui County Assembly and once again re-affirm my commitment to serving the Kitui County Assembly justly and to the best of my ability. My chief objective as your Speaker is to assist you to deliver your mandate and advance your individual and collective responsibility to the people of Kitui County. This Assembly has so far shown resilience in handling the difficult challenges we encountered and embraced dialogue when needed. This has enabled us to serve efficiently and

uphold our country's ethical values and therefore protecting the good name of our Assembly.

Honorable Members,

I encourage you to continue with the same spirit as we carry out our Legislative, Oversight and Representation roles and as we endeavor to serve the people of Kitui. Never forget that we all need each other in order to attain a vision of a prosperous and self-sufficient County.

Thank you!

God bless you all.

THE HON GEORGE M. NDOTTO
SPEAKER OF KITUI COUNTY ASSEMBLY
September 1, 2015