



THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT
THE SENATE
OFFICIAL REPORT



Fifth Session

Wednesday, 13th May, 2026 at 2.30 p.m.

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 13th May, 2026

*The House met at the Senate Chamber,
Parliament Buildings, at 2.33 p.m.*

[The Speaker (Hon. Kingi) in the Chair]

PRAYER

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
AT COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Clerk, do we have quorum?

(The Clerk-at-the-Table consulted the Speaker)

Serjeant-at-Arms, kindly ring the Quorum Bell for 10 minutes.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

Clerk, we do have quorum. Proceed to call the first Order.

STATEMENTS

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): We will have a Statement pursuant to Standing Order No. 52(1) by the Senator for Narok County, the Hon. Sen. Ledama Olekina.

NATIONAL TREASURY CURRENT FISCAL
APPROACH ON PARLIAMENT'S FUNDING

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): That Statement is dropped.

(Statement dropped)

Let us hear from Sen. Tabitha Mutinda.

SHORTAGE OF CONTRACEPTIVES
IN THE COUNTRY

Sen. Tabitha Mutinda: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.52(1) to make a Statement on a matter of general topical concern, namely the critical shortage of family planning commodities across the country and the urgent need to ring-fence family planning funds.

Family planning is a critical component of reproductive health sector and is directly linked to the right to the highest attainable health standard as provided under Article 43(1) of the Constitution. It also affects maternal health, the welfare of our young people, household planning, access to information and the broader realization of universal health coverage.

This Statement is informed by a stakeholder consultative meeting held on the 26th March, 2026, attended by members of the Kenya Young Parliamentarians Association, the National Council for Population and Development, the Ministry of Health, United Nations platforms, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Kenya, Population Services Kenya, Kenya Plan International, Jhpiego, Health NGOs' Network (HENNET) and civil society organisations.

Kenya is currently experiencing a severe shortage of family planning commodities. The Ministry of Health has reported that several commodities are at zero stock nationally, including combined oral contraceptives, three-month injectables, progesterone-only pills, emergency contraceptive pills and cycle beads. Other commodities include implants, male condoms, Subcutaneous Depot Medroxyprogesterone Acetate (DMPA-SC) injections, Copper Intrauterine Devices (IUDs) and Levonorgestrel Intrauterine Device (LNG-IUD) remain at critically lower levels or below the optimal supply pipeline.

The total estimated funding requirement for family planning commodity standards stands at approximately USD22.9 million. However, in the current Financial Year 2025/2026 only Kshs500 million was allocated. Out of this amount, only Kshs250 million has been disbursed to the Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (KEMSA), leaving an outstanding balance of Kshs50 million, despite valid authorities to incur expenditure having been incurred.

This delay is particularly concerning because of the current procurement lead time for family planning commodities. It is approximately 13 months from the date of receipt of funds. Therefore, every delay in disbursements directly translates into prolonged stock outs at health facilities and limited access to essential reproductive health services.

The consequences of inactions are grave. The Ministry of Health has projected that the current stock outs could result in increased unintended pregnancies, unsafe abortions, maternal deaths and additional health care costs attributed to unmet family planning needs. This would reverse the gains Kenya has made in reproductive health and undermine the country's universal health coverage objectives.

Kenya also risks failing to meet its commitments under the impact with UNFPA, under which the Government is required to procure family planning commodities using domestic funds as a condition for receiving matching contributions. Continued non-

disbursement, therefore, exposes the country to the risk of losing future compact support and falling behind comparable countries in the region.

In the view of the foregoing, I call upon-

(i) The National Treasury to urgently disburse the outstanding Kshs250 million to KEMSA to facilitate timely procurement of family planning commodities;

(ii) The Ministry of Health and KEMSA to provide Parliament with a comprehensive and current report on the stock status of all family planning commodities, including the procurement pipeline and expected delivery timelines;

(iii) The relevant parliamentary committees to inquire into the persistent non-disbursement of allocated family planning funds and identify the administrative or financial bottlenecks causing these delays;

(iv) The National Treasury and the Ministry of Health to develop a clear mechanism for ring-fencing family planning funds within the national budget so as to prevent diversion, delays or reprogramming of these allocations;

(v) The Ministry, in collaboration with the county governments, developed partners and civil society organizations in order to strengthen public information awareness on family planning services, particularly among young people, women and underserved communities; and

(vi) Parliament to prioritize the ring-fencing of family planning funds during the consideration of the budget estimates for Financial Year 2026/2027.

Family planning is not merely a health matter. It is a governance issue, a development imperative and a constitutional obligation. The failure to disburse funds already allocated for family planning commodities undermines the right to reproductive health care and weakens public finance accountability.

I, therefore, urge the House to support decisive actions to ensure that allocated funds are released, commodities are procured and distributed and the reproductive health rights for women, girls and families across the countries are protected.

Thank you. Yours truly, none other than Sen. Tabitha Mutinda.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Ledama Olekina, your Statement has been reinstated, so you may proceed to read it.

NATIONAL TREASURY CURRENT FISCAL
APPROACH ON PARLIAMENT'S FUNDING

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.52(1) to make a Statement on a matter of national concern, the current fiscal approach adopted by the National Treasury, particularly in relation to the funding of Parliament and its critical functions.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is deeply troubling that while the national Government continues to incur significant expenditures under Article 223 of the Constitution of Kenya, Parliament is simultaneously being subjected to severe financial constraints. These imbalances not only raise questions of fiscal prioritization, but also risk undermining the constitutional role of Parliament as an independent arm of Government.

Parliament is currently facing mounting pending bills and acute funding shortfalls that directly affect its ability to discharge its constitutional mandate. Essential activities, including committee work, legislative processes, oversight functions, and statutory engagements such as the Senate Mashinani and other outreach programmes, are being jeopardised due to inadequate and unpredictable funding.

Equally concerning is the persistent failure by the National Treasury to honour budgetary commitments. Promises of financial support, including allocations anticipated under the supplementary budget, have not materialised, leaving institutions to operate under a significant deficit.

This pattern erodes confidence in fiscal planning and creates operational uncertainty that is untenable for a critical institution such as Parliament. Continued reliance on Article 223 to authorise expenditures while Parliament struggles to meet its core obligations presents a contradiction that must be urgently addressed.

It is imperative that the National Treasury align its spending practices with the principles of accountability, transparency and equitable resource allocation across all arms of Government.

In light of the above, I urge the National Treasury to-

(1) prioritise allocation of funding towards the settlement of Parliament's pending bills;

(2) ensure timely and full disbursement of approved budgetary allocations;

(3) provide clarity and accountability regarding expenditures undertaken under Article 223; and,

(4) adopt a more predictable and credible fiscal framework that supports the effective functioning of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Parliament cannot effectively perform its oversight role while constrained by financial uncertainty. Addressing this concern is not only a matter of institutional efficiency but also of upholding the constitutional balance of governance.

It is regrettable that Kenya had the opportunity to host the Fourth World Summit of the Committee of the Future Parliaments this October in Nairobi, but due to competing priorities within the National Treasury, Parliament was unable to allocate the required USD100,000 to support the event.

This decision is particularly disappointing given the significant economic and diplomatic benefits such a global summit would have brought to Nairobi. Hosting parliaments would have elevated Kenya's international standing and generated substantial revenue for the city through tourism, hospitality, and related sectors.

Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Statement pursuant to Standing Order 53(1), proceed, the Senator for Nairobi City County, the hon. Sen. Edwin Sifuna.

STATE OF MUHORONI SUGAR COMPANY

Sen. Sifuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The subject of this Statement is a visit we had in Kisumu a few days ago.

I rise pursuant to Standing Order 53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries on the state of Muhoroni Sugar Company.

Muhoroni Sugar Company remains a critical source of livelihood for thousands of households within the sugarcane belt and continues to play an integral role in the local economy, serving as a pillar of hope for the people of Kisumu County and neighbouring regions.

Although the sugar production plant was officially leased to a private entity in 2025, residents continue to experience prolonged closures and unexplained plant failures.

These challenges raise serious concerns regarding the sustainability and intent of the lease agreement. As a key economic driver, the potential collapse of Muhoroni Sugar Company would have devastating consequences for the livelihoods and aspirations of the significant population dependent on the factory and its hinterland. The committee should address-

(1) The current functional and operational status of Muhoroni Sugar Company, including daily cane crushing capacity and staffing levels.

(2) The status of the company's nuclear estate, specifying total acreage under its control, the portion under cane cultivation, and its capacity to sustainably supply raw materials.

(3) Whether the lessee has fully taken over management and operations, including confirmation of consistency in factory operations and whether staff remuneration is up to date.

(4) The long-term strategic plans to restore the plant to full operational capacity and reposition it as a viable and competitive regional economic hub.

Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Kakamega County, proceed, the hon. Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale.

CONSTRUCTION STATUS OF BUKHUNGU STADIUM AND KAKAMEGA TEACHING AND REFERRAL HOSPITAL

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on a matter of countywide concern regarding the status of construction of Bukhungu Stadium and Kakamega Teaching and Referral Hospital.

The two projects were initiated by the County Government of Kakamega during the administration of former Governor Wycliffe Oparanya as flagship development initiatives aimed at enhancing sports infrastructure and strengthening healthcare services in Kakamega County and the wider western region.

Contractors were engaged, and significant public funds, running into hundreds of millions, were disbursed towards implementation. However, progress remained slow, prompting the national Government to assume responsibility for completion.

Despite this intervention, the pace of implementation continues to raise concern among residents and stakeholders eager to see the projects completed and operational. In the Statement, the committee should address-

(1) The initial approved project cost for the construction of Bukhungu Stadium and Kakamega Teaching and Referral Hospital.

(2) What was the total amount of funds disbursed by the County Government of Kakamega to these projects respective contractors prior to the national Government's takeover?

(3) What is the budgetary allocation set aside by the national Government for completion of the two projects following the takeover for their implementation?

(4) What are the projected timelines for completion and operationalisation of the projects?

I thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Could we hear from Sen. Kibwana?

WELFARE OF PERSONNEL RETURNING FROM HAITI MISSION

Sen. Kibwana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. My Statement concerns unresolved cases and the welfare of returning personnel from the Haiti Mission.

I rise pursuant to Standing Order 53(1) to seek a Statement from the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs, and Human Rights on unresolved matters from the Haiti Mission.

While Benedict Kabiru Kuria has been recognised as a fallen hero abroad, his family is without his remains or verified information on his fate. This lack of closure is deeply distressing and demands urgent accountability. Even as the mission is declared concluded, the family continues to endure pain, uncertainty and unanswered questions. Recognition without clarity only compounds their grief. Further, beyond this case, concerns persist about other personnel whose situations remain unresolved, raising the need for a comprehensive account of all individuals deployed and their current status.

As the mission concludes, this House must ensure transparency, truth and support for both the affected families and officers who have returned from a high-risk deployment.

In the statement, the committee should address the following-

(1) A comprehensive and verified account of circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Benedict Kabiru Kuria and ensure the immediate facilitation of repatriation of his remains to the family.

(2) A report on the unresolved cases from the Haiti Mission and the current status of all deployed personnel.

(3) The measures in place to provide psychological support to all returning officers and ensure that all affected families are accorded full support, transparency and dignity.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir,

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Embu County, the honourable Alexander Mundigi.

CHALLENGES FACING BEE FARMERS IN EMBU COUNTY

Sen. Munyi Mundigi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on a matter of county-wide concern regarding the challenges facing bee farmers in Embu County.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a significant number of farmers in Embu County are engaged in agriculture and produce substantial quantities of honey. However, the sector continues to face critical challenges, notably inadequate industrial processing capacity which limits value addition and restricted access to both the local and international markets.

In the Statement, the committee should address the following-

(1) The initiative being undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and the County Government of Embu to support bee farmers through the provision of modern equipment and technologies aimed at ensuring value addition and improving the quantity, quality of honey and related products.

(2) The steps being taken by the ministry to identify and secure both the local and international market for honey and honey products from Embu County with the objective of increasing farmers' incomes.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Elgeyo Marakwet County, Sen. Kisang.

ESCALATING CASES OF DIGITAL FRAUD
ARISING FROM DATA BREACHES

Sen. Kisang: Thank you, honourable Speaker. I rise pursuant to Standing Order No.53(1) to seek a statement from the Standing Committee on Information, Communication and Technology on the escalating cases of digital fraud facilitated through telecommunications infrastructure and the erosion of public trust arising from data privacy breaches by state agencies and telecommunication operators.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kenya continues to face increased incidences of cybercrime and digital fraud including SIM swap fraud, phishing and spoofing. Reports indicate that cyber threats and related financial losses have increased significantly with many Kenyans being targeted through fraudulent calls and other forms of technology-enabled deception.

Further, concerns have been raised regarding the alleged unlawful access to and sharing of subscriber data by telecommunications operators and state agencies.

In the Statement, the committee should address the following-

(1) The number of reported digital fraud and cybercrime cases for the years 2024 and 2025 disaggregated by type including SIM swap fraud, phishing, spoofing and other related offenses and the estimated financial losses arising therefrom.

(2) The measures being implemented by the Government, telecommunications operators and the relevant regulators to prevent, detect and respond to telecommunications-assisted fraud.

(3) The number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions under the Computer Misuse and Cybercrime Act and other related laws including the conviction rate for digital fraud cases and the challenges in having successful prosecution.

(4) The status of investigations into the reported cyber-attacks on government websites including measures taken to strengthen the security and resilience of Government digital infrastructure.

(5) The number of data access requests made by state agencies to Safaricom, Airtel and Telcom since 2020, the legal basis for such requests and measures taken by the Communications Authority of Kenya and the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner to investigate and penalise unlawful access to or sharing of subscriber data.

(6) Finally, honourable Speaker, whether the Government has acquired, deployed spyware or other surveillance technologies and if so, the legal framework, approval processes and oversight mechanisms governing the acquisition and use.

Thank you, honourable Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Is the Senator for Taita Taveta County not here?

That statement is dropped.

NON-REMITTANCE OF STAFF DEDUCTIONS
BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF TAITA TAVETA

(Statement dropped)

Is the Senator for Mandera County, Sen. Ali Roba not here?
That statement is dropped.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTY PENSION FUND

(Statement dropped)

There is another statement by the Senator for Taita Taveta County. That statement is also dropped.

(Statement dropped)

Honourable Senators, I will allow comments for not more than 10 minutes. If you get an opportunity to speak, kindly, do so for not more than three minutes.

Proceed, Senator Maanzo.

Sen. Maanzo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to comment on the statement request by Sen. Hamida and Sen. Kisang. The mission to Haiti has a lot of unanswered questions and we have had statements to the effect that the Government of Kenya were not given full disclosure as to exactly what the officers were going to go through. It is not just the officer who has been mentioned in the statement who died. There was an officer in the border of Makueni and Machakos, a place called Katua, who

also passed away in this mission. Another one was deported but we would like the committee to come with a full disclosure of activities. One of the issues and statements made while these officers were in Haiti was that they ended up using old unreliable vehicles and that would increase the attack.

Therefore, it is important that we have full disclosure of what exactly happened, what needed to happen so that in the future, before Kenya gets involved in such activities, we will be knowing exactly what is going to happen to officers.

Also, in this sort of activity - now that I am running out of time, I want also to comment on Sen. Kisang's statement whereby a lot of people are being robbed. You know, the internet and the SIM swaps, and this money is being gotten out of banks and thereafter, investigations are landing nowhere. So many people have been conned. Sometimes, the money also ends up into M-Pesa agencies and M-Pesa accounts and the investigations still get to nowhere.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Nyutu.

Sen. Joe Nyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to comment on the statement by Sen. Hamida Kibwana on Officer Benedict Kabiru, whose death is reported to have occurred in the infamous Haiti Mission. Even to this date, the body of this officer has never been delivered to his family and the whereabouts of the body have not been made clear. This situation is very stressful and harrowing to the family.

It should also be remembered that the announcement of the death of this officer was made by the Head of State, even before the family had been informed. I hear that it is a practice that before one has been able to set eyes on a body, you cannot declare that somebody has died.

Therefore, the committee dealing with this matter should call the relevant authorities to establish why officer Kabiru has been declared a fallen hero, meaning that he is dead, even before his body has been seen. If the body has been seen, why has it not been delivered to the family for final rites?

It will be remembered that we have also had reports of many Kenyans who have lost their lives in Russia. It is important that the committee establishes whether those reported to be unaccounted for in Russia--

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Olekina.

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to comment on the statement brought by Sen. Hamida. The first question is: How did we get there? We got there because we were magnanimous. We were willing to go and help the people of Haiti when other African countries were reluctant. This was done out of our generosity. When are we ever going to stop being generous towards other people and first look at ourselves?

As we pursue this issue, we need to remember what you are told when you enter an aircraft: protect yourself, put on your safety belt first before you even take care of your child. It is very sad. I empathise with the family of this fallen hero. We were willing to go there when other African countries were reluctant. We knew very well that the gangs we were going to face, the Americans and other developed nations were not able to deal with. That should encourage other countries, particularly the United Nations, to put more emphasis on reimbursement, compensation and tracking this body.

It is very sad that the family will never say goodbye to their son. I wonder, what will happen later when those who survive come back home. Will they end up being treated like soldiers who were once given land in the Narok, Sagamian area, and then left without recognition for the sacrifices they made for this country?

It is about time that we think twice about the welfare of our men and women in uniform. I met one police the other day who told me that he buys his own uniform. We no longer have money. If the police are buying their own uniforms and we are willing to send them to Haiti, why then can we not demand that those countries that were not willing to support our mission, support us and help these families? I wonder if there is even any psychosocial support being provided to the family.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an important statement. I hope that the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights, headed by Sen. Wakili Sigei, can get to the bottom of this matter.

Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Hon. Senators, with that, allow me to rearrange today's Order Paper pursuant to Standing Order No. 45 (2). We will move to Order No.9 and, thereafter, resume the normal flow as contained in today's Order Paper.

Clerk, please, call that Order.

BILL

Second Reading

THE FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO.38 OF 2025)

(Sen. Cheruiyot on 12.05.2026)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on 12.05.2026)

Sen. Faki, when the debate was interrupted, you had taken the floor and had a balance of 16 minutes. You may proceed.

Sen. Faki: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono Mswada wa marekebisho ya sheria ya misitu katika nchi yetu. Jana, nilieleza kwamba sheria hii ina umuhimu kwani imeweka taasisi ambayo itasimamia misitu kikamilifu. Vilevile, kuna nafasi ya kuhakikisha mkurugenzi mkuu wa Kenya Forestry Service (KFS) atakuwa ni mtu mwenye tajriba ya kusimamia taasisi hiyo.

Sheria hii pia itahakikisha carbon credit itadhibitiwa kisawasawa ili nchi yetu iweze kupata mapato ya kisawasawa kwa mfumo huu mpya. Kwa sasa nchi yetu haina uwezo wa kudhibiti masuala ya carbon credit. Sheria hii itatupa nafasi kufanya hivyo. Vilevile, tutakuwa na nafasi nzuri ya kuhakikisha miche ya misitu tunayopanga imethibitishwa na shirika la KEPHIS. Sheria hii pia italinda biodiversity. Sen. Murango, sijui biodiversity ni nini kwa lugha ya Kiswahili, lakini jambo hili litadhibitiwa na sheria hii.

Kwa hivyo, sheria hii ina mambo mengi mazuri. Naomba Maseneta waisome na waiunge mkono ili tupate sheria itakayotusaidia kulinda misitu ya nchi. Hii itapelekea misitu kuleta faida kwa jamii kupitia mapato mbalimbali. Tusitarajie misitu kutupa faida kupitia kuni ama makaa pekee. Tunataka kupata pesa nyingi za kisasa. Hiyo ndio njia pekee ya kulinda mazingira na kupunguza mabadiliko ya hewa tabianchi.

Naunga mkono Mswada huu na naomba Maseneta waunge mkono pia ili tuupistishe.

Asante.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Faki, carbon credit kwa Kiswahili ni hewa kaa.

Sen. Murango, I am informed that the Hon. Senator was seconding this Bill. I will now proceed to propose the question before I open the floor.

(Question proposed)

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. (Dr.) Murango, you may take the Floor.

Sen. (Dr.) Murango: Mstahiki Spika, ningependa kuunga mkono Mswada wa marekebisho ya sheria ambao umeletwa katika Seneti. Kabla sijaendelea, Sen. Faki aliniuliza *biodiversity* ni nini katika Kiswahili. Inaitwa bioanuwai.

Kwanza, Mstahiki Spika, misitu yetu ni muhimu sana kwetu. Kwa hivyo, si vizuri kuachia taasisi moja kuidhibiti. Ni vyema pia kuwe na wataalamu ambao wanaweza kuangazia mambo tofauti kuhusu misitu.

Wakati Mwenyekiti wa Kamati yangu, ambaye ni Sen. Faki alileta Mswada wa marekebisho ya sheria katika kamati, kuna mambo mengi ambayo tuliangalia na kurekebisha. Tulisema kuwa nguvu ambazo zilipewa National Land Commission (NLC) zibaki jinsi zilivyo ili kuhakikisha kwamba kuna usalama wa misitu yetu.

Jambo la pili ambalo ni muhimu sana katika Mswada huu wa marekebisho ya sheria ni kuhakikisha kwamba wanaopanda miti pia wanapata malipo ya hewa ukaa kama ilivyotajwa na Mstahiki Spika kwa sababu ni kwa muda sasa na hatujui kinachoendelea. Nasikia kuna walowezi ambao hufurahia matunda ya misitu iliyoko nchini Kenya. Kwa hivyo, Wakenya na wanaolinda misitu hawafaidiki.

Wakati taasisi hiyo itaundwa, itaangazia mambo mengi tofauti ili kuhakikisha kwamba hata kama tunamuua mgala, haki yake tunampa. Hii ni kwa sababu kazi ya watu wengi wanaokaa karibu na misitu ni kuichunga na kupokea kichapo wakati wanyama wanatoka na kuharibu mimea yao. Kwa mfano, wengi wanaokaa upande wa Meru katika maeneo ya Mlima Kenya wanahangaishwa na ndovu. Vile vile ukienda kule Taita Taveta na Lamu, utakuta watu wanahangaishwa na ndovu. Hata hivyo, faida ya misitu haifikii wale wanaolinda misitu. Watu hao wanahisi kuwa wameachwa nje wakati kuna faida kutoka kwa misitu.

Juzi katika eneo la Kirinyaga, kuna kijana aliyeuawa kwa sababu alipatikana na maafisa wa kulinda misitu akiokota kuni katika Msitu wa Mlima Kenya. Mambo kama hayo yanafaa kuangaziwa na taasisi husika ili tujue wale wanaoishi karibu na misitu na kuhangaishwa na wanyama wanafaidika kiviipi. Iwapo mtu anaweza kuuawa kwa sababu ya kuokota kuni kwenye msitu, hilo si jambo nzuri. Isitoshe, aliuawa na maafisa wa

kulinda misitu. Ni vizuri taasisi hiyo izingatie haki za kibinadamu kwa wale wanakaa karibu na misitu.

Jambo la tatu ni kuhakikisha pia kuwa wenyeji wanapewa nafasi katika misitu. Kuna Kauli iliyoletwa na Sen. Mundigi leo kuhusu wakulima wa nyuki wanaoweka mizinga ya nyuki. Kuna msemo kuwa kitamu kilambe. Msemo huo ulitokana na utamu wa asali. Wale wanaokaa karibu na misitu wanafaa kupewa nafasi kwa sababu nyuki hawaharibu bali husaidia sana katika ukulima. Uchavushaji ambao kwa Kimombo ni *pollination* unafanyika kwa sababu ya nyuki. Kwa hivyo, wananchi wanaokaa kando ya misitu wanafaa kupewa nafasi ya kuweka mizinga ya nyuki kule ili wafaidike kiuchumi. Vilevile kutakuwa na faida kutokana na mimea ambayo tunakuza kila siku.

Nikimalizia, kunafaa pia kuwe na uwazi. Wakati mwingi miti iliyokomaa inapovunwa, unapata kuwa wenyeji ambao hulinda misitu wanawekwa kando na wanaopewa nafasi na watu wengine. Taasisi hiyo inafaa kuhakikisha kwamba kuna usawa. Kuna misitu katika kaunti nyingi. Miti iliyokomaa inapouzwa, utapata kaunti zetu bado zinatimia pesa nyingi kununua samani zinazotumika katika shule nyingi za chekechea kwa bei ya juu ilhali kama kaunti zingeinunua, wangeweza kutengeneza samani kwa bei rahisi ili watoto wetu watumie. Kwa hivyo, tunataka taasisi ambayo itafanya kazi pamoja na kaunti zetu ili kuhakikisha kwamba faida za misitu si tu kupanda miti na kuilea, bali pia wanaoishi karibu na kutunza misitu wanapata faida yake.

La mwisho ni kuwa misitu huwa vyanzo vya maji. Ningependa tupitishie Mswada huu kwa sababu tumekuwa na matatizo kama haya. Wakati unataka kutoa maji kutoka kwenye vyanzo vya maji ili kupelekea wananchi, kupata cheti inakuwa safari ndefu sana. Unapokwenda kwa maafisa wanaolinda misitu, unapewa stori nyingi ama hekaya za abunuwasi ambazo huchukua muda mrefu.

Kwa mfano, kule kwetu kuna mradi wa maji ambao ulifadhiliwa na Serikali. Hata hivyo, kupewa cheti cha kuingia katika msitu huo inachukua miaka. Wanafaa kujua kuwa licha ya kuwa misitu ni mizuri, binadamu ni wazuri kuliko wanyama. Kwa hivyo, kunafaa kuwe na mipangilio mwafaka ya kulinda binadamu. Watu hawafai kungoja sana kwa sababu ngoja ngoja humuza matumbo. Haki ikichelewa, basi hakuna haki.

Asante, Mstahiki Spika.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Proceed, Sen. Maanzo.

Sen. Maanzo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an amendment originating from the National Assembly. It seeks to enhance forest conservation in Kenya, which is now a practice in the world. There are many projects being done by the Government. I am sure we are aware of the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) programme, which has an inclination towards making sure that we reduce effects on the ozone layer. Such efforts include preservation of forests in the country. Unfortunately, this is not distributed equally in the country. We can start afforestation in our country because there are indigenous trees that can grow anywhere without much water. Unfortunately, that does not seem to come out clearly.

The whole idea of carbon credits is the one featuring in this amended version. There is an improvement which does not come out clearly because there are other laws associated with this. This law seems to amalgamate all the laws on environmental concerns whereby the main idea is to plant more trees in the country.

With FLLoCA projects, you will be surprised. They would have been successful if issues of water pans, boreholes and irrigation were geared towards growing seedlings for forests where local species can grow naturally. There are places where acacia grows naturally. We also have places where indigenous trees, which are not thorny and have many other uses, grow naturally, but that effort seems not to be there.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I was growing up, there was a natural forest on a hill near our home that was described as a hill tower. However, people started raiding it. The area started becoming a desert and erosion began taking place. When I was first elected in 2013, I hired a young person to be surveying and making sure that no one cuts trees there. Later, the county government also hired somebody who used to assist the employee I had hired as a Member of Parliament. Today, it has become a thick forest and you can see changes in rainfall patterns.

If this law is implemented and we grow trees to replace the ones which have already been cut and increase the greenery, not because of earning carbon credits, but to improve our environment and have it like it used to be probably 100 years ago, we will be helping the country and the world.

Still on the issue of carbon credits, Kenya is not a big polluter. When other countries pollute the atmosphere and encourage us to plant trees due to the polluter pays principle, these countries are supposed to pay us these carbon credits. However, if you look at it, it is so porous. Although we are making this law, I do not think this has been watertight enough to warrant a farmer who grows 1,000 acres of trees and increases the green coverage in the world to be compensated for the so-called carbon credits. It seems so porous that it is owned by international cartels. There is no proper formula on how a Kenyan or a common person in this country will ever be paid a shilling on the carbon credits.

Therefore, as much as we make this law, I think that the committee dealing with environment needs to look further. The theme nowadays is environment. We had a very good meeting here of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on the issues of methane. Similarly, there was a follow-up in Naivasha with the environmental climate change caucus of the House. I have seen there will be further meeting between 15th and 17th of this month when we take a short break here in Nairobi. The meeting will attract quite a number of international partners.

In my opinion, however, as a country, we should really protect our own people and especially people who are doing investments in this area. I have seen proposals in Makueni County where a Russian company had sneaked into the country and was trying to negotiate with farmers to grow mangoes that grow naturally as forests, and subsequently earn carbon credits. However, without filtering this system through the national Government, it was very difficult for these people to access Makueni County directly. As much as the idea sounded very good, I still think of not only growing the mango forests because mangoes are part of food production. The tree coverage may be limited because of the space needed between mango trees, so that they can give the best.

As we plant trees, which are productive, from mango trees, mangrove trees to many others such as coffee trees, there seems to be conflict of the agriculture laws on some of these issues because some of them are scheduled crops. Therefore, as much as

we are enacting this law, there is need to amend more to make sure that other laws are taken care of.

I have seen quite a number of Acts, which are touched by this like the Pensions Act. I do not know what the difference is between the position of Secretary General that is being introduced and that of the Director General. In my opinion, it is just one and the same thing. I do not think much will change on that. Therefore, it is important that as we work on this, the experts in the House should look at it more keenly. I am sure there are serious experts in this House on matters environment and forests.

We have different forests in the country. The forest you find in Makueni County is not the forest in Nandi County. The forests you find in northern Kenya are so natural and amazing. I went there with Sen. Chute and a few Senators to deal with a cohesion issue in the north. You could see there are places with dense forests, where the tree cover can still be added even naturally and be more useful. However, conspicuously, there is lack of water supply. If you compare the desertification and the desert situation we have in this country with the desert in Israel, and how they use drip irrigation to grow forests and trees to beautify, we can borrow this and make sure that even in the worst desert situation, we grow the species of trees which grow there naturally. Most of them produce fruits. They are also beneficial commercially.

Therefore, I would like to support this great invention to amend this Act and make it better. Although many things have not been provided, and the reasons why we are doing this have not been aligned as usual when we are making a new Act or we are amending an Act of Parliament, this one particularly can become very useful to the country.

Generally, the practice we used to have during the Nyayo days of increasing forest cover was that we had laws such as if you have 10 acres, at least one acre should be covered by a forest. The farmers would not just farm. They could have trees on fence lines. If you visit the United States of America (USA), you find trees along the main highways. Although part of it is to stop snow from over accumulating on the roads, it breaks wind and beautifies the area. So, we need to capture quite a number of things, for instance, beautification in cities, towns, markets and more importantly, grow economically useful trees to increase the tree cover in the country, as well as increase the carbon credits likely to accrue to the benefit of farmers.

I support the Bill. During the committee stage, I look forward to a number of well researched amendments, to make sure this Act is better and improves the environment in our country.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Sen. Cherarkey, please, proceed.

Sen. Cherarkey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sir, for this opportunity.

From the outset, I would like to support this Bill, but of course, with a few reservations here and there. However, I know we shall be able to amend at the Committee of the Whole. I know this is a National Assembly Bill. Out of curiosity, we tend to process as fast as we can under 159 principle, the Bills that come from the National Assembly. However, most of our Bills have become part of the cemetery and graveyard in the National Assembly. In your wisdom and that of the Senate Business Committee

(SBC), we should be fair to this House. I can see that a number of Bills we schedule are from National Assembly. I know it is in the wisdom of the SBC. Perhaps in future, when some of us will be lucky to be members of the SBC, things will change.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a few observations. While we appreciate that there is a whole chapter on the environment under Article 60, where even it proposes 10 per cent of forest cover, I think that is where the President's policy of planting 15 billion trees---

Sen. Kathuri: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): What is your point of order, Senator for Meru County?

Sen. Kathuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have really thought about this after two or three seconds. Sen. Cherarkey should not run away from this mistake. The SBC, which you chair, has worked for us for the last four years, and there is never a time that the Committee has been blamed for anything. However, listening to Sen. Cherarkey, under Standing Order No.105, he is casting aspersions to that Committee that next time when he or some of them get a chance to sit there, the Committee will be run better. That means it will be prioritising Bills from the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sen. Cherarkey must withdraw and apologise to the Members of the SBC. We are here courtesy of the business they passed on Tuesday at noon. When Sen. Cherarkey was busy running up and down this town; that committee was sitting. They did not even take lunch. I know they sit up to 2.00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are the Chairperson. The Senate Minority Whip is also a Member, and many other members, who are not present this afternoon. When you are not in, I also chair that committee and we do marvelous work. So, Sen. Cherarkey cannot cast aspersions to the Cabinet of the Senate. That is the Cabinet of the Senate. Kindly withdraw and apologise profusely even to the chair, who is the honorable Speaker?

The Speaker (Sen. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, you can raise your concerns without necessarily imputing improper motives on a committee of the Senate. Kindly proceed to withdraw and raise your concern without having to impute improper motives.

Sen. Cherarkey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for guidance. However, I thought it was a fair comment.

The Speaker (Sen. Kingi): No, it was not. That is the way I have ruled.

Sen. Cherarkey: Okay. I withdraw and apologise, but my point has been made.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for representing the Parliament of Kenya yesterday in congratulating His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, who is now going for the seventh term; 40 years in power. We congratulate you for attending on behalf of all of us, and on behalf of the President of the Republic of Kenya.

Looking at Article 60 on the principle on the environment and ensuring forests resources are conserved--- When we had the Africa Climate Summit, I saw Sen. M. Kajwang', who is the Chairperson of the Climate Caucus. I know from 18th to 21st, they have a meeting. After we passed the Bill during that Africa Climate Summit, the President has led the country in planting 15 billion trees. This international conference is a conversation that we must take to those with a village mentality. I saw a former impeached Deputy President trying to cast aspersions on the African Forward Summit (AFS), which was co-chaired by President William Ruto and President Macron.

Somebody has not moved beyond the village mentality and is casting aspersions on why President William Ruto was hosting the AFS, where resolutions will be made.

This is the person who has never outgrown his village mentality somewhere in Wamunyoru. He has not even had a meeting with the staff of an embassy. Some of us are better. I have personally sat with the ambassador of Brazil. You are saying you are an opposition leader, and you do not know international principles on---

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, please observe the rule on relevance.

Sen. Cherarkey: Okay, Mr. Speaker. I was tying up with the summits that we have had. If you remember, during the last session, we had the African Climate Summit. I am underscoring the importance of international summits and engagements because the issue of forestry and conservation management is an international matter. It is not a village matter; the way some people want to localise through what we call “village-itis attention syndrome” by some of our opposition figures. That is why some of us miss Hon. Raila Odinga.

Mr. Speaker, that is what I wanted to say on this Forest Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025 (National Assembly Bill No.38 of 2025). I wish that had been addressed. I am happy Sen. Ledama is here.

We have another problem of forest evictees which we must confront. We have what we call infrastructural evictees. However, we also have forest evictees. If you remember, we had run-ins especially on the issue of Mau Forest. We have many Kenyans, even with what we call absentee landlords. We have people who have been displaced in my county and other areas such as Meru. There are many Kenyans who out of this issue of forests, have been evicted. For example, at a place called Ng’atikong. I was somewhere at a place called Taptengelai, Kwa Kinyanjui and Kakoros. We have three forests in Nandi all the way to Kapchorua. The people have been evicted. When you go to Emgwen Sub-county, Tinderet Constituency, Chesumei, Emgwen and most of the--- because of the forest. In Nandi, we have three forests; Nandi North, Tinderet and Kimondi forests. Kenyans must see---

I have seen the role of the proposed registrar of forests in Clause 6. I agree with Sen. Maanzo. There is no need to have a Director General, then duplicate those functions with the Secretary of Forest Regulations. It does not make sense because they do similar work.

Looking at the role that they have developed, the only solution for these forests to thrive in Narok, where Mau is, Nandi, Meru, Kilifi and the coastal region with the mangrove forests, Chemasusu in Baringo that is sharing Baringo and Nakuru counties, is for the communities to own these forests; to adopt a tree. I have seen the functions of the Secretary of Forest Regulations. Some of them have tried to include the Kenya Forest Institute (KFI) on their role of seed production and issuing regulatory guidelines.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are lucky, as a country, to have had people such as Prof. Wangari Mathai, the former Member of Parliament for Tetu Constituency, who went to become Nobel laureate in terms of environment conservation of our forests. We remember people who stood and fought against destruction of forests. That is why I want

to emphasise that we must own these forests. We must ensure that these forests are protected.

There is the issue of licensing, regulation, certification, compliance and regulation. During the era of His Excellency the late Kibaki, there was what we call the shamba system, where communities were allowed to farm as they protect trees. It is similar to saying adopt a tree.

I remember when the former Deputy Governor of Baringo passed on and we went to his home. I am failing to recall the name of where we were in Eldama Ravine. I can see the Senator of Baringo is around. The only argument was about whether people were allowed to do shamba system within Chemasusu Forest, so that they adopt and protect the forest. You cannot bring regulations, compliance, licensing and a regulatory regime through the Secretary of Forests without involving the community. The community must own the forest. That is the only way we can protect forests.

During the Nyayo era, there was what we call Nyayo Tea zones. When you drive all the way from Kakamega through Shinyalu to Kakamega Forest, all the areas around the forest--- I saw some people castigating Mzee Moi. They do not know what Moi did for this country. I saw somebody saying William Ruto is a reincarnation of Mzee Moi. Moi did his part during his time. Remember former President Moi--- We know where Kiptagich is. Former President Moi came up with the Nyayo Tea Zone and ensured there was a buffer zone. They ensured they grew tea around most of the forests to protect the “*grabiosis*” of land within our forest.

We celebrate Mzee Moi, one of the distinguished sons of Baringo and one of the great leaders. You will never erase the history of Mzee Moi. He ruled this country like a colossus for 24 years. People such as Sen. Chemitei grew and they were drinking milk from the Nyayo Era. That is why we have many strong young men.

That is what I wanted to say on the issue of Director General that we are introducing and the issue of ensuring regulations. We must encourage the shamba system, so that we can ensure we do not duplicate.

Fourth, is on the headquarters. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know you are a well-travelled man. I think you have been to Brazil. There is Brasilia and Sao Paulo. You have been to Tanzania where there is Dar-es-Salaam and Dodoma. There have been arguments in this country that we need to move our headquarters to Isiolo, so that we decongest Nairobi. How can we say we are a House of devolution if we are saying this headquarters should be in Nairobi? These are forests. Do you see any forest in Nairobi apart from Kibiku or any other forest like here in Kiambu? We should even take the headquarters of this forest service to be in Mau. How do we decongest Nairobi?

I am happy that the party leader of the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM), one of the keys they called us in governance of this country is here. We should encourage devolution by all instances. That is why we are saying, if the forest matters, let us take the headquarters to Mau Forest. If it is tea, take it to Kericho. If it is maize, take it to the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) headquarters in Uasin Gishu. If it is tourism, take it to Kilifi or Mombasa. If it is livestock, take it to Mandera. Maybe we can make Laikipia the headquarters of potatoes. The point I am trying to make is it is fallacious for us, as a House---

How do we decongest Nairobi which is clogging? The Governor of Nairobi City has always told us that Nairobi is built on a swamp. God forbid, if Nairobi sinks today, it will sink with the entire Government of this Republic. So, we must be careful. Let us make sure that it is the headquarters of the Republic of Kenya. Therefore, underscoring the principles in Article 60 of the Constitution, on the issue of forestry, we need to develop an---

Sen. Omogeni: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, would you wish to be informed by Sen. Senior Counsel Omogeni?

Sen. Cherarkey: No. From the way he is behaving, I am hesitant to be informed.

(Loud consultations)

Could you protect me from these hecklers? These Wamunyoros are now learning how to heckle. Maybe if it was Sen. M. Kajwang', I would have agreed because he is the Chairperson of the Climate Caucus.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Conclude your remarks.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I still have time. I will conclude.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): What is your point of order, Sen. Omogeni?

Sen. Cherarkey: Freeze my time.

Sen. Omogeni: Actually, I wanted to assist my friend, Senator for Nandi, and just have it on record. This is a House of record. He has made a statement to the effect that the headquarters of this institute should have been devolved to one of the counties. He says that this draft Bill says that the headquarters will be Nairobi. I had gone through this Bill and Clause 29(h) actually says that the headquarters of the institute shall be in Kiambu County.

As the defenders of devolution, we know that Kiambu is a county. Kiambu cannot be said to be Nairobi. He has made a statement that we should be thinking about devolution. In fact, this Bill has gone ahead and said the headquarters will be devolved to one of the counties. So, that should be on record. If that statement he has made remains, it is actually misleading.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, your earlier statement was not factual if you read through the Bill. You may proceed to conclude your thoughts.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the senior counsel is economical with the truth. This is because Kiambu is part of Nairobi Metropolitan. So, if we create Nairobi Metropolitan, it will capture part of Kajiado and Kiambu. So, it is still part of Nairobi. I appreciate---

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, why should you argue on anything that is put before you? Just accept. As per the Act, your statement is not factual.

Proceed to conclude your thoughts.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is good that it will be in Kiambu, but it is still part of Nairobi Metropolitan. Kiambu does not have forests. How many forests does it have? We should go to Mau. Karura Forest is being dismembered.

On the issue of qualifications, I have seen that they are saying people who should serve in the board should have a qualification of masters. That is unfair. Why not use the bare minimum of a degree? Why masters? Why are we unfair to Kenyans yet in Parliament, we have class three drop outs who have been elected? They do not know how to read, write or sign yet they are busy yelling and yapping all over the place. We need to be fair to Kenyans. We are not holier than thou.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Yes, Sen. Omogeni, what is your point of order?

Sen. Omogeni: I do not know what the Senator for Nandi has taken this afternoon because he is again making a very misleading statement. You know that one of the qualifications for you to be elected as a Member of Parliament is that you must be proficient in the English or Kiswahili language. However, he is making a statement on the Floor that there are people who have been elected to this House who can neither read, speak or sign. That statement that he has made before this hon. House should not be on record. I challenge him to name those three Members for the public to know.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, you may proceed to substantiate, failure to which you just withdraw and conclude your thoughts.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, how can I substantiate the obvious? They are known. They cannot express themselves. I can bring you a number of clips when you were doing swearing-in.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Could you substantiate?

Sen. Cherarkey: Yes, I will bring the HANSARD next week.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Proceed to substantiate.

Sen. Cherarkey: Mr. Speaker, Sir, could I get time to substantiate in the next sitting?

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): By tomorrow.

Sen. Cherarkey: Okay. They are there. I am surprised the Parliamentary Service Commissioner (PSC) is not aware yet he has access to some of the academic documents--

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The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Senator for Nandi, we have put this matter for tomorrow.

Sen. Cherarkey: I hope I will get time to name the people who have never spoken even on the Floor of the House.

I was arguing on the qualifications that we need to be fair. A masters degree is too high. Let us make it at least a minimum of a degree or even a diploma in the relevant field.

I know the Chairperson on Caucus on Climate Change, Sen. M. Kajwang', is in the House. I would really want to listen to his rare thoughts, as likely as a snowball in hell, on what he thinks about this Bill. After he says it, then we can think about it. You know he is a member of Broad-based Government. So, I am comfortable listening to him.

With those many remarks, I beg to support the Forest Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

The Speaker (Hon. Kingi): Proceed, Sen. Olekina.

Sen. Olekina: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to make some brief comments on this very important Bill. I really hope that all of us can take some time, read through and understand the intended and unintended consequences of the Bill.

From the outset, when I look at the Bill, I struggle with two competing interests. One interest is a commercial interest versus genuine conservation of our forests. The good Senator from Nandi alluded to the fact that the good President of this country has attempted to ensure that we have at least 10 per cent forest cover in this country. This Bill suggests the following. That an easement is allowed to be able to create roads in forests for easy access. To me, that creates an avenue where, we, politicians, can grab the land, to put a road in the middle of a forest, in the guise that we are actually doing it for the public good.

I would like to make my comments based strictly on the pros and cons of this Bill, so that we can attempt, as the upper House, to balance the interests of genuine conservation versus conservation. I have refused to accept the debate on carbon credit in this country. This is because of the available literature, which is there for people in my community, to be able to understand the benefits of carbon credit. I have looked at the pros of this Bill. I appreciate them because they are meant to ensure that they align with the Constitution of Kenya and other global standards, when it comes to issues of conservation. The Bill has also set up a legal framework to be pursued, including one which I think is actually very unique, to ensure an oath of office, for accountability. This is the first Bill that clearly indicated that when you are removing the director, you must subject him to fair labour practices.

[The Speaker (Hon. Kingi) left the Chair]

[The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kathuri) in the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to focus a little bit on the cons in this Bill. I always look at a Bill with the evidence-based pros and cons approach, so that when we are doing this, we do not only think about our current generation, but future generations that will be subjected to this Bill. Most operational Bills in this country today were developed by our forefathers and the colonial masters, for example, the Penal Code, which we are always struggling to amend, so that it can fit into the current Constitution.

As we amend this Bill that has come from the National Assembly, I beseech all of us to take a toothpick and comb through every clause then ask ourselves, “what are the cons”? There is a risk of increased deforestation in this Bill. Amendment to Section 56 that allows easement to public roads, utilities and infrastructure in public forests, potentially accelerate forest clearance. This contradicts the 10 percent forest cover campaign in the country. That is an issue that we must be alive to and find a way to clearly gazette the easement into the forests. That is one issue that is a con in this Bill and we need to deal with it.

Number two is an issue that I have alluded to already and refused to entertain debate on it because of lack of proper understanding. It is a risk of carbon credit vulnerability. Section 47(A) and (B), which is being added in this Bill, enables carbon

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projects under the Kenya Forest Services (KFS) resulting in fear of poor governance, benefit diversion and sidelining of local communities.

Communities should be able to own these projects. We have always supported the shamba system in the forest to enhance the forest cover. When decisions are now being made outside the community, that is a risk because we want our people to benefit. If there is any carbon credit benefit, it should benefit the local people who live there. That is an issue that I think we need to focus on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, when I started my submissions, I spoke about the need to develop legislation for future generations and continue increasing learning opportunities for us to enhance and better legislation. One of the biggest problems in this Bill is the replacement of Section 17; elimination of training institutions. When you remove the forest college, where are you going to get fully trained people who can understand these issues? This potentially weakens experts for future generations. Everything we are doing today is for future generations.

I refuse to believe that I will live forever because I know my time is limited. So, whatever I put my pen and my two cents in, it has to be something that will better the future generations. This boils down to the two competing interests; the issue of commercial interest when it comes to carbon credit and genuine conservation.

When the late Wangari Mathai was still alive, Uhuru Park was complete. Today, it is only a small section that can be considered as Uhuru Park. A bus park was built on half of it while the other half is just there. That conservation effort that she fought so hard for is something that reminds me of her agility and dedication to the goodwill of this nation's environment. Nairobi was once regarded a green city, but slowly by slowly, it is turning into a concrete jungle. We need to safeguard these interests and make sure that the experts continue being trained. This issue of a forest college must still be entrenched and brought back. We need to look at Section 17 that is being removed.

The other con in this Bill is the loophole for exploitation of our forest cover. When it comes to the issue of development, we have to be cognisant to the fact that the only time that we will have a clean environment is if forests remain forests. When there are small loopholes of allowing development in forests, it may enable some of us - I am not pointing at any person in particular - to have a desire to use corrupt means to cut a section of the forest and develop their own business empire.

I am happy that I can see young people in the public gallery. It is important that I reiterate this; every piece of legislation that we develop in this country has to take the interests of the young people at heart. It has to put their interests, first, to make sure that we still maintain a good environment for them. When I was growing up, we used to plant trees on a daily basis. Narok Town had a beautiful forest called the Olekoonyo. I am currently attempting to plant more trees to see whether we can save the environment.

The future generations; the Gen Zs and the Gen Alphas must be trained. In whatever we do, we must show them that we want to make this country a better place for them. We spend more time insulting each other left, right and centre, but when the chips finally fall, what should lead us is the development of a good environment that enables us to depend on ourselves as a nation first. We are going to look at Kenya first before we look at interests of other nations. Kenya must always be first.

Help me understand carbon credits. Help my people in the village understand carbon credits. Help these younger people, this generation understand carbon credits. They do not understand. If I do not understand, I am 100 per cent sure that the people I represent do not understand. When you want to amend legislation, ensure that you entrench their interests first. Make sure they are the ones who are leading that piece of legislation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this brings me to my last point on equity and oversight gaps. We are now decentralising these forest professional forums, but I see a lack of robust accountability. What do I mean by that? The only way that we can ensure that our forests are fully accounted for is by ensuring that the local indigenous communities---

The issue of Loita Forest is very emotive with a lot of significance to the Maasai Community, both in Kenya and Tanzania. Recently, there have been some discovery of minerals in that forest. There is particularly an interesting red stone in the forest. At first, people in the current Government and the former Government were leading in deforestation. I once stopped a former Cabinet Secretary's truck that was transporting many cedar trees from the forest to go and build a hotel somewhere. For this issue; if the community's interest is taken into consideration, the first oversight body must be the local community.

If flooding happens in Embobut Forest and there is no protection of that forest by the local community, the landslide will affect the local people. If we cut the majority of trees to create an easement in the Mau Forest, the people who will suffer are the local Maasai and the Kalenjin people who live in that forest.

I beseech the Mover of this Motion, given that it is a Bill coming from the National Assembly, to consider at the Committee of the Whole, to introduce an amendment that deals with those cons and try to turn them into pros. There is absolutely no reason to develop legislation that has more cons than pros.

Let us apply an evidence-based analysis to the Bills that we bring into this House. Are they helping future generations? Are they helping us? Let us understand these Bills properly so as to proceed with them. Ultimately, all of us are interested in making a shilling or two. No one will be interested.

I am happy that this Bill recognizes those people who hold a licence for timber harvesting or grading of timber. When the responsibility switches to the Cabinet Secretary, they will still be grandfathered into the new regulations.

As I conclude, we must ensure that we promote a clear balance between genuine conservation and commercial interests.

With those few remarks, I support.

Sen. Omogeni: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to make my contribution to The Forest Conservation and Management Bill, 2025, a Bill from the National Assembly.

I have noticed that this week, we have dealt with a number of Bills that have come from our sister House, the National Assembly. I am happy that I am speaking when our Majority Leader, Sen. Cheruiyot, is present.

I do not know what happens on the other side. Most of the Bills that have come from this House to the other House are just gathering dust. In fact, I received a

communication and to my utter surprise and disappointment, the National Assembly has refused to approve a Bill I drafted to take care of our senior citizens. We are facing a lot of discrimination from insurance companies when it comes to providing medical cover for Kenyans aged 70 and above.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in line with Article 27 of our Constitution, which outlaw discrimination on account of race or age, and taking into account that health is a devolved function, I drafted a Bill that was approved by the office of the Speaker, to amend the Insurance Act to outlaw the practice by insurance companies of refusing to issue insurance cover for citizens aged 70 and above. I did this in recognition that there are a number of Kenyans who are lucky to live beyond 70 years.

I remember when we were burying the mother of the Speaker of our sister House, I was impressed to see his father at 94 years, speaking very fluently and with very clear thoughts.

I thought that the Bill would address and solve that problem to the benefit of many Kenyans, our senior citizens. However, I have received communication that the National Assembly has declined to process the Bill because it is not a devolved function. I do not know what reading of the Constitution could lead to that conclusion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I hope that your office will take the initiative to have a sitting with the Speaker of the other House so that you can have some consensus. Health is a devolved function. Seeking to extend that benefit to citizens who are above 70 is within that mandate. We are all heading there.

Just the other day, you saw the President signing into law a retirement package for judges. When I read through the new law, I noticed that the Government has now committed, and I fully support to treating our judges well when they retire. That law makes it compulsory, at the expense of the taxpayer, that retired judges above 70 years be given full medical cover by the Government. So, if we are doing that for people who are privileged to occupy positions at that level, we should also be doing the same for the poor Kenyans who do not occupy positions that guarantee them medical cover after retirement.

Going back to the Bill, I have since learned that there are two headquarters. I want to correct the impression I may have created that Sen. Cherarkey was wrong. I have seen that under Clause 4, the headquarters of the organisation will be in Nairobi. It is the research branch that will be in Kiambu. So, I want that to be corrected.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we must agree that we have an obligation to protect the environment, our forests, for the benefit of future generations. When I served as the Chair of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), it was during that time that there was a sustained onslaught by a certain cabal in Government to grab Karura Forest. We worked very closely with the late Prof. Wangari Maathai and the EACC filed several cases in court to stop the grabbing.

I remember Wangari Maathai used to say that Karura Forest is what she called the lungs of Nairobi. It is the one that gives the people of Nairobi oxygen. If you deplete it, you may lack fresh air. So, we must support any initiative, like what I have seen in this Bill, to have a dedicated agency that will ensure that we protect our forests.

Our desire is to have 10 per cent forest cover, but we will never attain it if we allow people to continue grabbing parts of our national forest cover. Last week, I was reading a

decision where the Court of Appeal overturned a decision of the High Court that allowed a Kenyan to grab about 4,600 acres of the renowned Maasai Mara.

I want to laud the bench of judges, which included the newly appointed Judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Warsame, Justice Gachoka and Justice Mativo. That is a heroic decision. They have sent that matter back to the High Court. I hope the judge who will hear that matter will act in a manner that protects the Maasai Mara.

We have so many tourists who come to Kenya just to visit and bring foreign income to our country. If we finish the Mara, where will our tourists go? What we should be thinking about is how we can extend the railway network that goes through Narok to Sekenani Gate, so that there is easy access.

I hope now that we have this Bill, the agency that will be created can even take the extra step of joining interested parties in the many cases that have been filed in court either by EACC or any other public body, or any other interested Kenyan, to protect our forests.

We have placed the qualification of the head of this body as per Clause 29(2)(d). The person is to have experience of 15 years. We should allow our youths to thrive. We have many young Kenyans, who the experience of seven years, can serve very ably as Chief Executive Officers (CEO). I think Mr. Oigara was appointed as the CEO of Kenya Commercial Bank when he was 30-something years. He did not have 15 years' experience, but look how he turned around the Kenya Commercial Bank to what it is today. When he left, he was poached by another bank.

So when we say 15 years, we are locking out the youth completely. I do not think we place the experience at 15 years for people applying to be judges of the High Court. What is needed is 10 years' experience and one can pass a sentence to condemn someone to be hanged and bring their life to an end. It is a serious assignment. I propose that we consider, because of our youth, amending this clause to reduce the experience to at least 10 years. I would have preferred seven years but a middle ground can be 10 years. If we put 15 years, we will lock out so many of our youths yet we want them to get employment.

On Clause 29(h) on the headquarters, I think that it would be nice to say that the headquarters of the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) will be at the headquarters of any of our devolved entities. We have 46 counties other than Nairobi. I do not know why we have said that it has to specifically be in Kiambu. We should have said the headquarters of the institute shall be in one of our counties other than Nairobi.

Kisii or Nyamira can compete to be the headquarters of KEFRI. It can even be in Kericho or Nandi. I do not think that I have seen a law so prescriptive that it names a particular county as the headquarters of a body corporate like this. I am just curious, why say Kiambu? Why not Narok, for example? Why not Nyamira? To change these headquarters, you must amend the law again. We should leave it to be a bit open.

I have seen a number of cases where you appoint people to a board and the appointing authority is taken to court. Clause 29 of this particular law says that the chairperson will be appointed by the President. Why can we not say the Cabinet Secretary in consultation or on the advice of the President? If you have an issue with this appointment, do you sue the president? I propose that we do not give the President some

of these very small duties like appointing chairpersons. This is something that can be undertaken by the cabinet secretary. I hope the committee that will consider this Bill will put that into consideration.

I have no problem with the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) setting remuneration. I am wondering why we cannot have a generic salary structure for members who serve in our various boards. Why should you say that if you serve as the chair of Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), you should earn Kshs350,000, but if you are serving as a chair of the Kenya Conservation and Management Institute, you earn Kshs25. When you walk to a supermarket, the supermarket does not know that you are from EACC and that the other one is from KEFRI. We should promote parity and fairness. Everybody should earn the same salary.

You will get a police officer working at the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) who is supposed to arrest somebody who has committed a crime or somebody who has swindled public money. On the other hand, you have a police officer forwarded to the EACC who is also supposed to investigate that crime somewhere but the person at the EACC is paid more money than the police officer at the DCI who is doing investigation. What statement are we making? Are we saying that this police officer is not being well remunerated because he is going to get extra money from somewhere or what are we really saying?

If remuneration is meant to ensure that we adequately compensate members who are serving in public service, then the earning should be the same. Otherwise, the others who are earning less will say they have an excuse to look for other means of topping up so that they earn like people who are in those other bodies.

I participated when we were making comments on what Kenyans intended when they set up the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC). The intention was to make sure that the remuneration that Kenyans are earning is uniform. We wanted to remove this idea of saying there is a special kind of Kenyans working somewhere who earn more and others who earn less. That is why the SRC was set up to equalize remuneration so that Kenyans can get what we see in other countries where if remuneration is set at USD20 per hour, then that is what everybody should earn.

In future, the SRC should tell us that the sitting allowance in one sitting is Kshs25,000 to a maximum of this and this if you are serving as a member of a board. If they do that, we will not keep legislating and saying in every law that the allowance will be in consultation with SRC.

In conclusion, I support this Bill. We need to conserve our forests and enhance the forest cover of this country. We also need to reduce our greed of wanting to grab our forests. We will not take all these things we are trying to accumulate when we die but the forests will serve the current generation and the future generations.

I support.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kathuri): Next is Sen. (Dr.) Mungatana.

Sen. (Dr.) Mungatana, MGH: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Forest Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 38 of 2025).

I am particularly interested in the national forest research institute that has been set up under this Bill. We have a very serious problem in Tana River County and this problem originates from a tree that is called the Mathenge tree. The scientific name for that tree is *prosopis juliflora*. This tree has had a major negative impact on the ecosystems in Tana River County. It has killed grazing lands and affected farmlands. Today, forests are dying because of the Mathenge tree.

The history of this tree is that it was introduced in the 1970s and 1980s with the idea that it would fight desertification. It was brought into our county those days because it is one of the semi-arid counties. When it came, it started growing with great force. It spread everywhere. Wild animals dispersed its seeds widely, and it grew so fast. The roots of that tree are very strong. Even if you cut it today, tomorrow, it grows again. Even in the dry season, if it rains a little, all the Mathenge trees will sprout again. It consumes a lot of water. It stresses other trees and prevents the regeneration of natural vegetation. It hinders the regeneration of forests within our area.

I am very pleased to learn that in this Bill, in proposed Section 291(g), one of the responsibilities of the institute is to assess, map, control, and develop procedures for the management of invasive species. The Mathenge tree has become a major invasive species. It does not die. It is so strong and destroys everything natural within the area. Even in large-scale irrigation schemes such as the Bura Irrigation Scheme, it clogs the canals. When farmers want to plant, they must spend a lot of money clearing Mathenge before they can sow seeds. Even the locals, when grazing their animals, face problems. If cows eat this tree out of hunger or any reason, they suffer serious digestive problems. This Bill, therefore, speaks directly to the people of Tana River.

I am glad that one of the reasons for establishing this Research Institute is to ensure control of invasive species. I have also noted that the Bill attempts to address the question of the spread of research institutions. The debate has been about the location of the headquarters, but I am not concerned with that. I want this Bill to recognise that the people who suffer are those in the counties. It should be specific about establishing research centres within counties. At present, it only mentions regional centres for research. When we were establishing judges under the new Constitution, I moved a clause that was very specific, requiring each county to have a judge. Progressively, the Judiciary has appointed judges in every county. At that time, Tana River County had no High Court, but because of that law, each Chief Justice has ensured that every county now has a judge. I am proud to say that Tana River County now has a High Court Judge. However, the wording on research centres in this Bill is not specific to counties. The language is not the one we would be using if this law is set up from the Senate and going to the other side.

I, therefore, urge, at the Third Reading, that there be a clear provision requiring research centres for forestry to be progressively established in all counties. Counties such as Tana River are often ignored when forests are mentioned, yet we have large forests in areas such as Kipini and Bangla, which are already under the Department of Forestry. It would be wise to establish forest research centres in every county of the Republic of Kenya.

I am pleased to note that in the proposed Clause 5, the national Government is required to provide technical assistance to counties. Every county is supposed to receive national Government support in agroforestry and commercial forestry on community land. Some of our community lands in Tana River County are registered, but others are not. Technical services in agroforestry and commercial forestry should cover both registered and non-registered community lands.

One of the most important provisions in this Amendment Bill is the establishment of the Forest Secretary. This is a very good innovation because until now, the Department of Forestry has operated almost like an outsider, only becoming relevant when there is political pressure to grow trees. Now, we are creating a full department headed by a secretary. This Directorate of Forestry will be a game-changer, with a secretary in charge of forests who will advise the Cabinet Secretary for Environment directly, develop policy, and ensure forestry in Kenya is fully exploited for the benefit of the people.

My concern with this proposed law lies in Clause 29(d). This one proposes the establishment of a register for all professionals in the forest sector. It suggests that the Secretary of Forests, whom we are now setting up, will issue certifications for professionals in forest management and related practices.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have various professional bodies within the Republic of Kenya. We have the Law Society of Kenya, the doctors, surveyors and many other professional institutions. You will remember that in this Parliament, we passed a law to create HR professionals in human resource management and created a law for them. The practice in Kenya has been that management or professional institutes and managing those institutions is done by professionals within that area. It is managed by professionals in that area. I am a lawyer by training, and the Law Society is managed by lawyers. We conduct our own elections. We carry out our own disciplinary actions. This is what we do. It is self-regulating. Now, that is the standard that goes across all professionals in Kenya.

How does it become that the secretary in charge of forests is the one that certifies professionals in this area of forestry? It cannot be that one person or one office is in charge of a whole profession. There are many people in the environmental sector. There are many people who are already practicing agroforestry, commercial forest growing. There are people who have been trained in these areas; on environmental management. How can it be that instead of us doing what is supposed to be done, setting up an institute for forestry professionals and having them manage their own issues, we are actually giving these powers to one office called the Secretary of the Directorate of Forestry?

I fault this law seriously on that matter. It is not a good thing to create an office and give it so much power. It does not make sense because the qualification we have put for the Secretary of Forest is a person who has a master's degree. There are people who are professors in the area of environmental law and economic management of forestry. These professionals who are environmentalists are the ones who should be regulating the professionals within the area of forestry. It cannot be the secretary who just has a qualification of a master's degree.

There is a deficiency somewhere in this law that needs to be looked into again in the Committee of the Whole. We need to place amendments so that we can release the

professionals to do their thing. Somebody who has a master's degree cannot be the one certifying a professor in environmental law as a professional in forestry. That is a problem that I have noted with this particular Bill. I would really support this Bill.

For the first time now, we are seeing that forestry is being given its proper position within the Republic of Kenya. I see that for the first time, we are not treating them as just a force, a force that is not really defined, because it is not within even the structure of the Ministry of Interior and National Administration. It is somehow a force, but somehow it is not a force, and they do not have a very good structure. But now with the creation of the Office of the Secretary for Forests, and in the creation of this clear structure that is coming up now with this Bill, we are headed in the right direction.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya is known to be ahead in terms of making legislation. This is one of a demonstration of where we are going. We are moving away from what used to be just a small department of forests to a strong department that has policy direction and head of policy direction. We believe that it will spread across the counties. I have made a case for every station, every county to have its own station so that we can develop this sector.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those many remarks, I beg to support. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kathuri): Very well. Honourable Senators, from my dashboard, there is no other Senator wishing to contribute. Therefore, I call upon the Mover to reply.

The Senate Majority Leader (Sen. Cheruiyot): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, some Members of this House have spoken on this very important subject. This Bill speaks to our future. Any country that does not take care of its national environment and its forests, will one day pay a very heavy price. I am particularly happy with the kind of interest that I am hearing from Members that this is a matter which quite a number of them will actually be seeking to amend one or two things.

I appreciate and I concede, that, rarely, do you get the kind of interest on a topic that is fairly complex such as this from the number of Members that we have got this afternoon. Each one of them has picked a particular area of interest to them, things that they feel strongly about. It is my sincere hope that, tomorrow, when we progress this Bill, Members will be available in the House to do the subsequent amendments alongside those of the Committee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you. With those very many remarks, I beg to reply. In accordance with Standing Order No 66(3), I request that the putting of the question be deferred until a later date, preferably tomorrow afternoon.

I thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

(Putting of the Question on the Bill deferred)

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kathuri): Honourable Senators, I again reorganise the Order Paper. We defer Order No.10 and go to Order No.11.

BILL*Second Reading*

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 66 OF 2023)

(Bill deferred)

(The Clerk-at-the-Table consulted with the Deputy Speaker)

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kathuri): Hon. Senators, I requested the Clerk to call out Order No.11 but due to other technicalities, we are not able to handle that now. Therefore, I defer business appearing as Order No.11 all the way to 28 because we have no Movers for these Bills. Yours truly has Order No.23, but I cannot do that now.

(Sen. Nyamu consulted with the Deputy Speaker)

Sen. Karen Nyamu is here, but seems not to be ready. So, I again defer Order Nos.29 to 34.

BILL*Second Reading*

THE STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.10 OF 2024)

(Bill deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE FOREST CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL
(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 38 OF 2025)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.10 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE NUTS AND OIL CROPS DEVELOPMENT BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 47 OF 2023)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE HERITAGE AND MUSEUMS BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.8 OF 2023)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 10 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE COUNTY HALL OF FAME BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.18 OF 2023)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE PUBLIC FUNDRAISING APPEALS BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.36 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE ENVIRONMENT LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.23 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE SPORTS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.45 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

THE COUNTY OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO.3 OF 2024)

(Committee of the Whole deferred)

MOTION

ADOPTION OF MEDIATION COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE FOOD AND FEED SAFETY
CONTROL CO-ORDINATION BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO.21 OF 2023)

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Mediation Committee on the Food and Feed Safety Control Coordination Bill (National Assembly Bills No.21 of 2023), laid on the table of the Senate on Tuesday, 28th April, 2026, and that pursuant to Article 113 (2) of the Constitution and Standing Order No.167 (3) of the Senate, approves the mediated version of the Bill.

(Motion deferred)

BILL

Seconding Reading

THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 52 OF 2024)

(Bill deferred)

BILL

Seconding Reading

THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS (STATE OFFICERS
REMOVAL FROM OFFICE) PROCEDURE BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 34 OF 2024)

(Bill deferred)

BILL

Seconding Reading

THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 39 OF 2024)

(Bill deferred)

BILL

Seconding Reading

THE STREET NAMING AND PROPERTY ADDRESSING SYSTEM
BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 43 OF 2024)

(Bill deferred)

BILL

Second Reading

THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 14 OF 2025)

(Bill deferred)

BILL

Second Reading

THE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 13 OF 2023)

(Bill deferred)

BILL

Second Reading

THE AUTISM MANAGEMENT BILL
(SENATE BILLS NO. 19 OF 2025)

(Bill deferred)

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORTS ON COUNTY OVERSIGHT
AND NETWORKING ENGAGEMENTS IN KITUI,
MAKUENI AND MACHAKOS COUNTIES

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Standing Committee on Health on the County Oversight and Networking Engagements in Kitui, Makueni and Machakos Counties, laid on the Table of the Senate on Thursday, 26th February, 2026.

(Motion deferred)

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORTS ON COUNTY OVERSIGHT AND
NETWORKING ENGAGEMENTS IN KIAMBU COUNTY

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Standing Committee on Health on the County Oversight and Networking Engagements in Kiambu County, laid on the table of the Senate on Thursday, 19th March, 2026.

(Motion deferred)

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORTS ON COUNTY OVERSIGHT AND NETWORKING
ENGAGEMENTS IN BUNGOMA AND KAKAMEGA COUNTIES

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Standing Committee on Health on the County Oversight and Networking Engagements in Bungoma and Kakamega Counties, laid on the Table of the Senate on Tuesday, 21st April, 2026.

(Motion deferred)

MOTIONADOPTION OF REPORT ON SESSIONAL PAPER NO.1 OF 2025 ON
FOREIGN POLICY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations on Sessional Paper No.1 of 2025 on the foreign policy of the Republic of Kenya, laid on the table of the Senate, on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026.

(Motion deferred)

MOTIONNOTING OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEES
DURING THE THIRD SESSION (2024)

THAT, the Senate notes the Report of the Liaison Committee on the activities and operations of Select Committees during the Third Session (2024) pursuant to Standing Order No. 224 (2), laid on the Table of the Senate on Wednesday, 28th May, 2025.

(Motion deferred)

ADJOURNMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kathuri): Hon. Senators, there being no other business on the Order Paper, the Senate stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 14th May, 2026, at 2.30 p.m.

The Senate rose at 4.54 p.m.