

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE, 2023

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

2nd Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE, 2023

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker [Hon. Stephen Wamalwa] in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I do have some communications to make Honourable Members.

1. REORGANIZATION OF THE ORDER PAPER

The first communication concerns the Order Paper; I want to reorder the day's Order Paper so that the item no.8 and no. 9 will come immediately after the item no. 6; therefore the order no. 7 will come last.

2. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CECM IN CHARGE OF TOURISM, THE HON. KIBUNGUCHI

The second communication is that I am in receipt of a letter from the CECM in charge of Tourism, the Hon. Kibunguchi who is not around and states that my office acknowledges receipt of your letter reference: BCA/CC/SECT/6 Vol.2 (57) dated 3rd May, 2023 on the Implementation status of a motion on decentralization of dumpsites to every Sub-County and the Honourable CEC says, "however, due to unavoidable circumstances, I will not be able to attend this session and kindly request that you re-schedule to another date. Sorry for the inconveniences caused."

Honourable members, I will reschedule the same and the CECM will appear here next week on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m; that is the Hon. Kibunguchi Herbert.

So, Honourable members, those are the communications that I had to make, they were only two; and therefore we proceed with the Order Paper of the day.

Are you on?

(Loud consultations)

(Laughter)

Hon. George Makari: *(On a Point of Information)* I am there Hon. Speaker. You have read the communication yes, we do agree with the communication you have made, but what are the reasons given for the CECM not appearing? This is one of the reasons why we have an

impeachment motion for one CECM for Agriculture, for non-appearance. What are the reasons? Yes, a letter saying I will not be available but what are the reasons for not being available to the House? Because the issues raised by an Honourable Member to the CECM, he must be in the House to respond; unless maybe Hon. Speaker you have edited the reasons and you have not read out to the House the reasons. But according to the letter, there is no reason why the CECM should not appear.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you so much Hon. Makari. You are very much in order to inquire on that. Honourable Members, the letter was received in the Speaker's office and it is in my possession here and; because the CECM has made a request, you know it is not fair if we do not, now that he has requested for that. We have made it clear that he must appear, but because he has written a letter to that effect, that there are unavoidable circumstances... You know we could not ask what these circumstances are. Some issues may be so private or that are touching even on illness. Sometimes they say as doctors, you cannot divulge the illness of your patient. So, we never tell if it is illness or something, but he has written a letter which we are in receipt of and we have rescheduled the same. Hon. Wasike, he must appear on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. without fail, I hope that is sufficient and you have...

Hon. George Makari: Hon. Speaker, from where I sit, it is not sufficient. Maybe from where you sit, it is sufficient, but if you are indisposed, you don't need you to divulge to us what you are suffering from but just say 'I am attending to a session with the doctor at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital on this particular date at 2:30 p.m.' We are not going to question whether you are suffering from HIV or malaria or typhoid or Corona; we will not question that. But now why can't you put in your letter that because of ABCD, I am not going to be available, but just writing a plain letter! Hon. Speaker, these are among the reasons why these people take us so much for granted. I will accept your communication, but next time let us get the reasons as to why this person is not appearing. Thank you Honourable Speaker for your communication.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Wasike Makari, Honourable Members, riding on that because we have to move on with other activities, I want to bring to the attention of the House that once a letter has been written, it is binding. Maybe the issues of explaining themselves can be expressed by yourselves as Honourable Members here that in future, when you make a written explanation, make us aware of what is holding you back, but once a letter has been written, it is binding. We have to move on... we have lots of tasks ahead of us. I can see the Senior Members here but I want them to hold on to their horses.

PAPERS

1. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON COUNTY REVENUE FUND-GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well Honourable Member, our Leader of Majority.

Hon. Joseph Juma (*Leader of Majority*): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow me table the report of the Auditor General on County Revenue Fund Government of Bungoma for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you the Leader of Majority, next item.

We are skipping statements; we have reordered our Order Paper and therefore after that we move to Order no.8 on our and therefore I want to call upon...

BILL

1. THE BUNGOMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL, 2023 FOR THE FY 2022/2023

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Chairperson, Budget and Appropriations.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa (*Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriations*): Thank you Chair, a Bill for the Bungoma County Government Second Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2023; for the financial year 2022/2023 be read for the second time. Honourable Chair, I call upon my Vice Chair to second.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well, the Hon. Wambulwa. Now the Hon. Charles Simiyu Nangulu...

Hon. Charles Nangulu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I second.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well Hon. Nangulu, Honourable Members, I now propose that the Bill be read a second time.

Hon. Francis Chemion: (*On a Point of Information*) I don't know, I didn't hear the Chair - Budget properly. I thought he should read what is provided in the Standing Order as it is. So, I think we could make a mistake if that does not come out in our HANSARD report. I don't know, because it is a long statement, but our Chair just gave us a summarized version. So I want guidance from the Speaker so that we are not making any mistake.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Chemion, the Chair is very much in order. I will have to put a question and that is when the Clerk will read plus the Standing Order and everything. You are ahead of us. So, I now put a question that the citation be read and the Bill be read a second time.

A BILL FOR AN ACT OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF A SUM OF MONEY OUT OF THE COUNTY REVENUE FUND AND ITS APPLICATION TOWARDS THE SERVICE OF THE YEAR ENDING ON THE 30TH JUNE, 2023 AND TO APPROPRIATE THAT SUM UNDER SUM VOTED ON ACCOUNT BY THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC SERVICE AND PURPOSES. Second reading

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I now put a question...

(Question put that the Bill be read a second time put and agreed to)

I now direct the Clerk to read the citation Bill.

A BILL FOR AN ACT OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF A SUM OF MONEY OUT OF THE COUNTY REVENUE FUND AND ITS

APPLICATION TOWARDS THE SERVICE OF THE YEAR ENDING ON THE 30TH JUNE, 2023 AND TO APPROPRIATE THAT SUM UNDER SUM VOTED ON ACCOUNT BY THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC SERVICE AND PURPOSES.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Honourable Members as per our Standing Orders, a Bill having been read a second time stands committed to the Committee of the Whole House and therefore let us be upstanding as we fall back to the Committee of the Whole House.

(Loud consultations)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

(Order for Committee read)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Stephen Wafula) left the Chair]

IN THE COMMITTEE

[The Temporary Chairperson (Hon. Christine Mukhongo) in the Chair]

BUNGOMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL 2023 FOR THE YEAR 2022/ 2023

Temporary Chairperson (Hon. Christine Mukhongo): Okay, Honourable Members, welcome to the Committee of the Whole House. You be seated.

Once again, we are here for a Committee of the Whole House on the Bungoma County Government Second Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2023 for the year 2022/ 2023.

A notice is given that pursuant to the Standing Order No. 235, the Chairpersons of the Sectoral committees on Lands, Urban, Physical Planning, and Housing and Finance and Economic Planning intend to move the motion to issue sum of money from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 to the supplementary Appropriation Bill at the Committee stage. Therefore, we shall have the procedure on how to go about this. The procedure for considering the second supplementary budget is highlighted in Standing Order No. 239 in reference, with the necessary modification under Standing Order No. 236.

Basing on the budget reports, only three departments shall supply the votes as captured in the order while the rest of the departments only had the internal reallocations that do not affect their previous allocation. Therefore, we shall have the Clerk to read out the said departments as per the Order Paper and the affected Sectoral Chairs to move the votes of the second supplementary budgets. So the Clerk, we shall go as per the other paper; that is Bungoma Municipality, Kimilili Municipality and then Finance.

Department of Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing - Bungoma Municipality

Hon. Francis chemion (*Chairperson, Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing*): Hon. Chair, under Standing Order No. 235, I move that the sum of Kshs. 1,339,914.88 be issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the ending 30th of June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs 145,356. 56 and development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Bungoma municipality.

Temporary Chairperson (*Hon. Christine Mukhongo*): Thank you Chair; Bungoma Municipality, that is under Standing Order No. 236 (3), I propose the question that the sum of Kshs 1,339,914.88 be issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs 145,356. 56 and development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Bungoma Municipality be granted.

(Question proposed)

Honourable Members, in case you have made any argument or you have any...Okay now I put a question.

(Question put and agreed to)

They Ayes have it.

(Applause)

Department of Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing - Kimilili Municipality

Hon. Francis chemion (*Chairperson, Committee on Lands, Urban Fiscal Planning and Housing*): Thank you Hon. Chair. Under Standing Order No 235, I move that the sum of Kshs 694,559.32 be issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th of June, 2023 in respect of recurrent reduction of Kshs 500,000 and development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Kimilili Municipality.

Temporary Chairperson (*Hon. Christine Mukhongo*): Thank you Chair. Under our Standing Order No. 236 (3), I propose the question that the sum of Kshs 694,559.32 be issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent reduction of Kshs 500,000 and development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Kimilili Municipality be granted.

(Question proposed)

Honourable Members, I now put a question that the sum of Kshs 694,559.32 be issued from the County Exchequer accounts to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent reduction of Kshs 500,000 and development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Kimilili Municipality be granted.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Ayes have it.

(Applause)

Department of Finance and Economic Planning

Hon. James Mukhongo (*Chairperson, Committee on Finance and Economic Planning*): Thank you Chair. Under Standing Order No. 236, I move that the sum of Kshs. 9,000,001 be issued from the County Exchequer account, to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 In respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs. 9,000,001 and the development expenditure of zero shillings in the Department of Finance and Economic Planning.

Temporary Chairperson (*Hon. Christine Mukhongo*): Thank you Chair. Under Standing Order No. 236 (3), I propose the question that the sum of Kshs. 9,000,001 be issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs. 9,000,001 and development expenditure of zero shillings in the Department of Finance and Economic Planning be granted

(Question proposed)

Honourable Members, I now put a question that the sum of Kshs 9,000,001 be granted from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs 9,000,001 and development expenditure of zero shillings in the Department of Finance and Economic Planning be granted.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Ayes have it.

(Applause)

Chair - Budget you have something to say?

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you Chairperson. It is not something to say but unless I say it, nothing will happen. The House having considered the second Supplementary Budget, I move that the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House reports to the Speaker its consideration pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (16).

Temporary Chairperson (*Hon. Christine Mukhongo*): Thank you Chair. Honourable Members, a Motion under Standing Order No. 145 (16) having been moved and seconded, it hasn't been seconded Mr. Chair you call in a seconder...

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: I now call upon my Hon. Vice Chair, Nangulu to Second.

Hon. Charles Nangulu: Hon. Chair, I second.

Temporary Chairperson (*Hon. Christine Mukhongo*): Thank you Vice Chair, Budget. Honourable Members, a motion under Standing Order No. 145 (16) having been moved and seconded. I therefore put a question that the Chairperson reports to the Speaker its consideration on the Second Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2023.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Ayes have it.

(Applause)

So we shall be upstanding for the Speaker to come in.

(The House resumed)

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Stephen Wafula) in the Chair]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Honourable Members. I now call upon the Chair - Budget. Just a moment please... Hon. Jackson Wambulwa Ouma.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order Number 148 (I) move a motion that the House does agree with the Committee in the said report. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Wambulwa, but you have to give the Chair of the Whole House to report.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Hon. Speaker I now call upon the Chairperson, Committee of the Whole House to report back to you, thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well, you can relax the Hon. Wambulwa, the Hon. Cunera?

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am here to report on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole House that pursuant to the Standing Order No. 147, I report the consideration of the Bungoma County Second Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2023 and its considerations there of as follows;

Bungoma Municipality

In the Municipality of Bungoma, a sum of Kshs1, 339,914.88 was granted and issued from the County exchequer accounts to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs 145,356.56 and Development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Bungoma Municipality

Kimilili Municipality

The Municipality of Kimilili, a sum of Kshs 694,559.32 was granted and issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs 500,000 and development expenditure of Kshs 1,194,559.32 in the Kimilili Municipality

Department of Finance and Economic Planning

In the Department of Finance and Economic Planning, a sum of Kshs 9,000,001 was granted and issued from the County Exchequer account to meet the expenditure during the year ending 30th June, 2023 in respect of recurrent expenditure of Kshs 9,000,001 and development reduction of zero shillings in the department of Finance and Economic Planning.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Cunera. I now call upon the Chair, Budget Committee, to move the appropriation.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Hon. Speaker pursuant to Standing Order 148 (1), I move a motion that the House does agree with the Committee in the said report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Jackson. Honourable Members, I now put a question that according to Standing Order No.148 (1), that this House does agree with the Committee of the Whole House in the said report.

(Question put and agreed to)

(Applause)

Now Honourable Members that marks the Second Reading and I now direct that the Bill will be read a third time tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. Thank you so much, we proceed to the next item.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa (*On a point of Information*): Hon. Speaker I wish to inform this House that the sitting arrangement for Leaders is specifically for Leaders. I don't know why Hon. Waiti has become a Leader of Minority today. Is it allowed? Or he is doing it intentionally? Or does he want to move to opposition?

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Waiti, you did not notify the House that you had joined the Minority side and I am informed that you are welcomed there. I don't know, Hon. Waiti, what have you to say?

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wanted to inquire something from you but when I was almost reaching, you started talking and so I found somewhere to relax a bit and that was the only nearest place I could find .

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well the Hon. Waiti, you had something to share with the Speaker, was it in camera?

Hon. Wafula Waiti: In camera...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well, I am very much available after this so that you don't whisper, but we can talk.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well. Now we move on to our reorganized Order paper before we go back to Order Seven.

STATEMENTS

1. STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. DORCUS NDASABA ON THE STATUS OF NAMANJALALA DAM-PLOT NO. BUNGOMA NAITIRI/ 147 IN NAITIRI KABUYEFWE WARD

(The CECM for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development is ushered into the chamber)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order number seven under statements we have annexures here; we have pursuant to Standing Order No. 55. Following the County Executive Committee Member, the following Members will be appearing starting with the Member for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development. The CECM should have a seat as directed, the CECM is supposed to be alone; I don't know who is accompanying her?

Hon. Member: Chief Officer

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Chief Officer? Well you can have a seat Chief Officer. The Executive Member for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development you are welcomed. The Hon. Makari, what is the point of Order?

Hon. George Makari (*On a point of Information*): Hon. Speaker it is a point of information according to Standing Order number 96 (2). I would wish to bring to your attention that the said Member who is the CECM, Agriculture... a motion for her impeachment is ready and anytime it will be tabled in this House. If you listen, are we supposed to still prosecute the matter? Can we let her prosecute matters in this House before the motion comes on the Floor of the House? Maybe you give direction before we come into this session.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, we have Hon. Ipara.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker, according to the Kenyan law, every accused person is presumed not guilty until evidence is produced to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the person is guilty.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Kimeta?

Hon. Polycarp Wandabusi: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I would like to say that at the moment we have not yet tabled the motion for impeachment so we give her time to respond to our queries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Isaiah Busolo?

(Laughter)

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Hon. Speaker I have...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You are not Hon. Isaiah Busolo, maybe I would be considerate enough that you come and use the dispatch, but kindly you can apply to have your card back.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. It is a challenge to some of us who have two houses or rather two eyes. So, I have the card with me but it will be within my reach in the shortest time. The case that our CECM has come to respond on is a specific item raised by the House. I will concur with members that how I wish that we give the CECM a chance to respond on whatever we are having and we shall cross the river when we reach the bridge. As we are talking today, our guest has not been served with anything and I seek the indulgence of the

House that everything is done procedurally. This is a House of procedure and order; that is my information.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you the Hon. Henry, I will have the Hon. Kharakha and the Hon. Mukhongo on line, then finish with the Hon. Khaoya.

Hon. Linda Kharakha: Thank you Mr. Speaker for the opportunity, I will have the same sentiments as my friends have said. Honourable Members here, the matter that Hon. Makari is raising is strange before this House and therefore we will not presume that the House has already received the motion that he is trying to put before us. Until we receive it, we will treat it as strange to this House and therefore the CECM before us Madam Monica, may continue to answer the questions that were called because we presume she is still legally in the office to deal with the matters being called to respond on.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. The Hon. Mukhongo, Hon. Members after Hon. Tony, we will proceed to the next item please.

Hon James Mukhongo: Hon. Chair, are we being confused or what? Because I listened very carefully to the statement from Hon. Makari, He only sought advice from the Speaker's desk and nobody else; and why are we delegating your responsibilities Hon. Chair? You are the Speaker of the House and the fact that the motion was drafted, we are the same Members who stood up and pleaded with my brother Hon. Makari to come up with a motion and now majority of the members who are now opposing are the ones who signed. I start to wonder. You need to advise us.

(Applause)

So it is under your prerogative to give a way forward and then we move on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well. Honourable Members, it is as a fact of democracy and I always believed that you are going to come up with something that could be different, but I have the final say and I am going to pronounce myself. So if you are going to repeat what has been said, kindly don't and if you have talked I will not give you chance to speak again.

I would like to finish with the Hon. Khaoya so that we can proceed.

Hon. Tony Barasa: Thank you Hon. Speaker, what I wanted to say *Mheshimiwa* (Hon.) Barasa has just said. We just need your directive so that we proceed with the matter. It is just guidance from you...

Deputy Speaker: So you are repeating.

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well Honourable Members for guidance purposes, I would like to state that before a motion is before this House, we cannot handle it as an issue before the House.

(Applause)

For now the CECM is in Office and must respond and perform her duties according to the law and as per what she swore when she was taking up the Office. So I want to straight away call upon the Clerk to guide so that we can welcome the CECM.

“The County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development to respond on the statements sought by Hon. Dorcas Ndasaba on the status of Namanjalala Dam Plot No. Bungoma Naitiri/147 in Naitiri Kabuyefwe Ward.

The CECM to respond to the following:

1. What plans does the County Government have for the encroached dam?
2. How much allocation was set aside for demarcation of the said dam?
3. What future plans does the County Government intend to implement on the dam to assist the locals around it?”

Mr. Deputy Speaker: So the CECM you can take the dispatch. I can confirm that the owner of the statement is in, the Hon. Ndasaba, you have the statement with you? So we proceed... the CECM.

Ms. Monica Fedha (*CECM, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries irrigation and Cooperative Development*): Thank you Hon. Speaker and Honourable Members. I am very delighted to come to this House to respond to the statement that was sought by one Member, Hon. Ndasaba and maybe before I give my statement, I wish to tender my apologies for what happened before when I was not able to come to this House. I ask for forgiveness Hon. Speaker, because I think it was just all about miscommunication. When I failed to come, I had written a letter to the Hon. Speaker’s Office.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. CECM, I want to guide you. Kindly go straight to the matter before the House. The other issues we have said they are not due for today. So handle the issue before the House.

Ms. Monica Fedha (*CECM, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries irrigation and Cooperative Development*): Thank you. I am well guided Hon. Speaker and Honourable Members. My statement is on status of Namanjalala Dam Plot No. Bungoma Naitiri/ 147 in Naitiri/ Kabuyefwe Ward.

Following the letter to my Office Reference BCA/ CC/Se II/ Vol 2/ 30 dated 23rd May, 2023, my response is as follows:

Introduction

Namanjalala Dam is located in Naitiri/ Kabuyefwe Ward, it is a colonial dam established in the mid-50s but has since halted completely.

Observations:

1. The Dam area has been encroached heavily, currently only 1.75 acres are available for rehabilitation out of 7 acres as per the community perspective.
2. The neighboring farmers have planted maize and sugarcane on the land earmarked for the Dam.
3. The Dam was completely silted, earth embankment completely eroded, auxiliary facilities are missing;
4. Auxiliary facilities are like community watering points, the livestock cattle troughs and maybe sanitation facilities.
5. Locals have planted arrow roots where the Dam water reservoir used to be.

ISSUE NUMBER ONE;

What plan does the County Government have for the encroached Dam?

My response is as follows:

In cognizance of the fact that Dams are a very valuable resource, the CIDP has a report about various Dams in our County and the Department has here earmarked to do the following:

To do survey to determine the boundaries of the Dam because as it is, this Dam was there in 1950s and 60s but it is completely silted.

We had a chance to visit the Dam with two Members of the County Assembly and we just found farms where we have sugarcane and even maize so we need to carry out what we call public participation so that we can bring together the locals and have conversation on how we can rehabilitate the Dam. So the Department also needs to fence the dam, we also need to put in place an effective Dam Management Committee, rehabilitate the Dam if finances will be allocated, then develop irrigation infrastructure to assist farmers to grow high value crops.

ISSUE NUMBER TWO;

How much allocation was earmarked for the silting and demarcation of the said Dam?

My response is as follows:

So far the Irrigation Department was allocated Kshs 1.8 Million for designs and pre-feasibility studies and some amounts for rehabilitating Makemo Dam in the forward budget of the FY 2023/2024; not in this current one but the forward budget.

There is no specific allocation for the Namanjalala Dam in the forward budget of FY 2023/ 2024. We shall ensure that the Dam is planned for in the financial year 2024/ 2025.

Allocation for Rehabilitation of the Dam

Based on our inventory of 73 Dams accessed by the directorate, the estimated cost of all the 73 dams is to the tune of Kshs 576M. This is a colossal sum and therefore immediate interventions can only be done gradually and commensurate with financial resources that can be availed. Our plan in the CIDP is to have at least four dams rehabilitated every financial year at an estimated cost of around 5 Million, I am sorry, I think there is some omission on that line.

ISSUE NUMBER 3;

What future plans does the County Government intend to implement on the Dam to assist the locals around it?

The plans we have as a Department are as follows:

The Survey Department to carry out a demarcation exercise to establish the actual size of the dam using cadastral maps,

Fencing of the surveyed Dam land,

Put in place an effective Dam Management Committee comprising of locals and the Administration,

Carry out public participation exercise; as I had said earlier in the introduction

So the dams will therefore cost around Kshs. 20 Million if each dam is rehabilitated at Kshs 5 Million each. So we shall also do prioritization of these dams after we do public participation. That is my statement, thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you CECM, you can sit. Meanwhile as we bring the owner of the statement the Hon. Ndasaba; if you are satisfied or what you think of the response?

Hon. Dorcas Ndasaba: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, according to me I am satisfied with the response of the CECM because I was there with area MCA and what she has said I know as the government they are going to do it.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Mr. Speaker. As the area MCA it is true that during the visit on the site of the said dam, I was present with the owner of the statement together with the CECM and her team from the department. Allow me to make a small correction on HANSARD about the dam; it happens that the dam is situated a half a kilometer from my residence and the plot number of the said dam should read Bungoma/Naitiri/149. If this can be corrected Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: You may repeat what you want to be corrected.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: The plot number of the dam in question should be Bungoma/Naitiri/149.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I want to believe it is captured, bearing in mind that you are a Surveyor. I want to believe that you have not encroached on the dam?

Hon. Wafula Waiti: I don't neighbor the dam; instead, it is within my Ward.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The area MCA has made a clarification which is important because the dam is in his area of jurisdiction and it is also good that he knows the registration number of the dam. I want to give a chance to the Hon. Hentry before we move to the next item.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Mr. Speaker, I want to appreciate your gesture to me today. I want also to appreciate the mover of the statement and the CECM. In future because we are moving to the digital world, we want the CECM to go an extra mile and have all these dams within this county have ownership in respect to title deeds and know the exact sites where the dams are situated. We are saying this because these dams have been encroached and you wonder how you will start fighting the community which we represent. Every dam was put up for a specific function for example some were established to provide clean water locals and even for farming purposes. In future let us have all the title deeds of these dams.

Secondly, let us fence off these dams so that when one walks around, he is able to know that this is a government project. I say this because I have a dam in my ward called Khulwanda dam where the first County Government put in a lot of money, but when you visit, you are unable to establish if it is somebody's land or a government land. Therefore the CECM should move an extra mile and have an officer in charge to make sure that all these dams that we are talking about are at the finger tips so that we don't need to visit the sites. Because if you are aware of what is happening on such sites, you don't need to do site visits. I rest my case and pray that we continue cooperating with our CECM.

Hon. Martin Chemorion: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to congratulate the CECM for being proactive. Issues to do with the dams across the county have been an issue and I am happy with the way she is trying to address. When it comes to environmental management safeguards, in future the County Government through the relevant ministries can come up with mitigation measures to address the adverse effects of these kinds of structures which can affect the people so that they have environmental management plans and give it to communities the way she has spoken about the management committees; who will be managing those structures so that the community can derive the benefits.

As a County, we can even delegate some functions to the community to do even the environmental annual audits so that such issues whenever they arise they are addressed first so that it does not affect the community.

2. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES, IRRIGATION AND COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT TO RESPOND ON THE STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. DORCAS NDASABA ON THE STATUS OF KABUYEFWE FARMERS' COOPERATIVE SOCIETY IN NAITIRI/KABUYEFWE WARD

The CECM to respond to the following;

1. What plans does the sector on cooperative Development has for the mentioned societies?
2. How much allocation is budgeted in the current financial year to improve the cooperatives?
3. Any other support from the donor funds to improve the well-being of the societies in the wards?

Ms. Monica Fedha (*CECM, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries irrigation and Cooperative Development*): Thank you once more Hon. Speaker and Honorable Members. My second statement is on the status of Kabuyefwe Farmers Cooperatives Society and Lungai/Naitiri Farmers' Cooperative Society in Naitiri/Kabuyewe Ward.

I received a letter on 23rd May, 2023 regarding my response on the above two cooperatives in Naitiri/Kabuyefwe. As a way of introduction and background information; Kabuyefwe Farmers Cooperative Society and Lungai/Naitiri Farmers Cooperatives Society are two cooperatives in Tongaren Sub-County in Bungoma County. This Sub County has varied crop and livestock value chain based cooperative societies as follows;

Cereal based cooperatives; that is for maize and beans are for; we have Ndalua, Naima, Somina and Mitua. Poultry we gave one, dairy 7, coffee 7. These cooperative societies are all registered; they have management committees as well as supervisory committees. The societies have by-laws that govern their operations. However, majority are facing challenges that have made them not to be of benefit to the farmers.

About Kabuyefwe Farmers' Cooperative Society, I was able to go on the ground and I also was able to talk to the management of this society. This society is Naitiri/Kabuyefwe Ward.

Registration Status

The cooperative society was registered in 1965, quite a long time ago by the original farmers who took up the settlement farms after the white settlers left to their homeland in the UK.

Membership

The cooperative society has a membership of 600 registered members out of whom 149 are paid up shareholders. We have those who are members, but not all them have shares in the cooperatives society. Out of the 600, 149 are paid up shareholders and each of the shareholders has a minimum of 200 shares whose value is 10 shillings. It means to be a shareholder you need to pay around Kshs. 2,000.

Management of the society

The society has a management committee of nine members, that is five men and four women and a supervisory committee of three members all of them being men.

Physical address

The society has an office space given by Kufaida Women Group at Sirakaru. The cooperative society claims to have over three acres of land that was taken up by Sirakaru Mixed Secondary School. The school has since given them a small portion of land of about an eighth of an acre which was part of their land. The officials claim that the land was taken by the school and it is designated as a public investment plot at the Ministry of Lands.

This is a cooperative society that claims that they had around three and a half acres of land; they even had some structures on it but later on we had a school called Sirakaru that took over their plot. The land that belongs the farmers' cooperative society was initially known as Stock Farm which was a white settlers farm and had space allocated for the farmers' cooperative society, a church, a chiefs camp, a market, a station for fuel, police station, a cemetery and other social amenities and public utilities.

Bank account of the society

The cooperative society has a bank account in Cooperative Bank in Bungoma which is dormant. They are not able to activate it because two of the officials have not filed KRA returns therefore, they cannot access accounts as signatories until they pay around Kshs. 11,000. This is quite strange because we have a management committee, they have opened an account but they cannot access it because some of the members did not file KRA returns therefore, they feel if they activate the account they will be gotten up by the KRA. Meanwhile, they have opened an account with Ng'arisha Sacco Naitiri Branch where members are able to deposit their shares through a pay bill number.

Projects of the society

They have coffee project, buying and selling cereals, and then they also had a project of management of cattle dips. For a long time the society was dormant and after losing their land and buildings to the school, most members gave up on growing coffee since they did not have any aggregation facilities. The members had established a coffee seedling nursery next to Yabuna Dam which is currently under rehabilitation by the National Government. Currently the coffee seedlings of about 2500 are being raised at the home of the society's Chairman.

The society initially enjoyed supervision and management of all dips and that geographically fell in the society's catchment area but due to lack of both technical and financial capacity lost the management of the dips to social groups and some of the dips collapsed.

This was a good arrangement because Hon. Chair, sometimes these cattle dips were vibrant because we have vibrant cooperative societies and all the members of the societies could ensure that there is management of the dips where part of their shareholders in the society could be used to buy the medicine. But all these arrangements collapsed with time. They had land of about 3.5 acres taken by the Sirakaru Boys High School; they claim to have heard a tractor which was stolen. They had equipment called weed separator which was also stolen, a disk plough stolen and maize drier was also stolen. They also now have a plot of an eighth of an acre donated by Sirakaru Secondary School. You realize that there is much about this society because when the member asked this question, I went and did a lot of ground work so that I am able to give a sufficient response.

Plans by the farmers' cooperative Society

They want to raise coffee seedlings for members. They also want to plant maize in Lugari Forest through the Shamba System. They think if they can be allowed to plant in Lugari Forest to get some income for the society.

They also want to request the County Government to construct for them a cereals store with a capacity of 2,000 bags of maize. You realize currently maize harvest is good in our county and H.E the Governor has been talking about brokers coming to buy the maize at a throw away price. Hence this is a good plan by the society if they can be constructed for a warehouse.

Members also want to plant over 5,000 coffee seedlings. Members also want to start a dairy project. We have also advised them to start a savings and credit cooperative society. Hon. Speaker and members, if all these cooperative societies are value chain based; if all of them can have Saccos, can be supported because we have development partners that could bring in money so that savings can be borrowed by members and return the money at a fee, they could have solved most of their problems or maybe invested to get some income. We have advised the cooperative society also to have a Sacco.

Members have filled forms provided by well-wishers to enable them register for carbon credits. If they can plant trees that can squeeze carbon dioxide then they can be paid for the carbon sequestration or what we call the carbon credits. That was about Kabuywe.

Lungai/Niatiri Farmers Cooperatives Society

When I talked to the officials and may be here I will also declare conflict of interest Hon. Speaker because this is a cooperative society in my village because actually I went to Lungai

Primary School. Therefore, the people who are even officials of this cooperative society are known to me. They are my village mates.

Registration status

The cooperative society was registered in 1965 just like Kabuyefwe by the original farmers who took up the settlement farms. It was revived in early 1990's.

Membership

It has a membership of 300 and registration of new members in on-going.

Management of the society

The society has a management committee of six and a supervisory committee of nine. Ideally, a management committee for a cooperatives society ranges between 5-9 members. Therefore, they can choose to have five members or a maximum of nine. A stakeholder called Hansen trained the management committee on how to run the cooperative society. Those are our stakeholders who have been keen in ensuring that there is good governance in our societies.

Physical address

The society has an office at Lungai market opposite Mukuna's Shop. There used to be an MP called Mukuna therefore, he has a property at Lungai Market. If you wish to see where these people are located if you ask Mukuna Shop you are able to locate where this cooperative society has a physical office. The land earmarked for the society was taken by CDF, part of the building that was renovated to be used as an office by the society was given to a church on a temporary basis.

Bank account

The cooperative society has a bank account in Cooperative Bank in Kimilili with some cash which they did not disclose.

Projects

Buying and selling of cereals.

Plans of selling fertilizer as a last mile access by the National Cereals and Produce Board.

Societies Assets

They say they have land of about three quarters of an acre but they don't have a title deed and it has been put to other uses.

Plans by the cooperative society

They want to mobilize more farmers to members of the society. Put up a store for stocking maize.

Hon. Speaker and Honorable Members, I now move to the response to the County Assembly statement;

1. What plans does the sector on cooperative development have for the mentioned societies?

My response is as follows;

The Department has the following plans;

Gradual revival process to make them vibrant

Most of these societies are actually dormant because we had to go a long way in finding out who the management committee is. When I also checked with my Sub-County Cooperative Officer; he just had a skeleton file with only document in it.

We also want to do pre-cooperative training on establishment of Saccos to support members and enable them pay out dividends, training the society members on good governance, train members on resource mobilization to finance purchase of land for offices and stores.

2. How much allocation is budgeted for in the current financial year to improve the cooperatives?

Hon. Speaker and Honorable Members, the current financial year is almost coming to an end so what I did, I went to the programme based budget and the itemized budget and submitted it as part of my response. When you look at the programme based budget, you realize that in the current financial year 2022/23 the department was allocated Kshs. 19.3 million for the recurrent budget only, there was no development budget. This budget was to go towards administrative services, cooperative registration services, cooperative governance advisory and training services, cooperative agri-business and marketing services etc. I have attached the programme based budget and itemized budget of the current year.

3. Any other support from donor funds to improve the wellbeing of societies in the Ward.

Currently Naitiri/Kabuyefwe Ward does not have support from donor funds, unfortunately specifically for the cooperative societies. There is a new project called Kenya Livestock Commercialization Project (KeLCOP) that covers 4 Wards; Bukembe East, Kaptama, Musikoma and Naitiri/Kabuyefwe. Therefore, this project will support breeding of small livestock and some funds will be allocated towards supporting producer organizations and livestock marketing associations for the value chain which will be supported such as poultry, sheep, goat and bee keeping.

I just want to add maybe in three minutes that we have in the Office of H.E the President, a Secretariat called PETS; Presidential Economic Transformation Secretariat and recently they came to sensitize around 45 cooperative societies in our county; those that are doing well, one

per Ward. They also sensitized Sub-County Agriculture Officers and Cooperatives Officers. Before that, we also invited them to sensitize the Sector Committee on Agriculture in Kisumu and that time we also sensitized Members of this Committee on the avocado strategy. Therefore, we have a plan of ensuring that we have one successful multi-value chain cooperative in each Ward.

Today I was talking to the coordinator of the PETS who sits in the Office of the President called Dr. Menjo and he has asked me now to give a list of 45 successful cooperatives and here is where Honorable Members you will support us because these cooperative societies are in your Wards and you know. I will be talking to each one of you so that you guide much as we may know those that are successful, but we will get your input so that we speak with one voice. Once we give the list to the President's Office, they will come down again to train the management. They want to ensure that these societies are active; they will support us with five staff. They say that there is money that has been allocated to employ five staff per cooperative society in the Ward. We need to support each other on this one because cooperatives are the way to go. If we have strong cooperatives *Waheshimiwa* (Honorable Members), our people will be food secure and they will fight poverty. That is the end of my response Hon. Speaker, Honorable Members.

(Applause)

Hon. Dorcas Ndasaba: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I want to thank the CECM for her response and accepting to be with us here today. Maybe just to give a comment; I would like the CECM to urge the government to fast track the development of the cooperatives so as to eliminate the people we call brokers who normally interfere with the farmers and the farmers end up losing what they should get. If the cooperatives are well managed, I know the farmers are going to benefit from their produce.

On the issue of training, I hope that your office will also allocate monies for training of farmers as well as for the cooperatives societies. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Ndasaba. Before I come to Hon. Tony, being the owner of the Ward again, let me allow Hon. Waiti to inform this House if he is satisfied as the elected representative of the people of that area.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is fortunate enough once more that the Cooperatives mentioned here by our CECM both of them are in my Ward. It is true that the said Cooperatives are there but the only problem we have... because that is like my home where I operate from every other time. The only problem we have is that I don't know if this County has got the Cooperatives Officers. Because these people should be up on their feet moving in the field to supervise and do further inspection about the facilities, educate our farmers and the so called management of these Cooperatives so that the managers of the Cooperatives are on toes, so that we can avoid this issue of the failing Cooperatives within the County.

The Lungai-Naitiri Farmers' Cooperative Society happens to be a little bit closer to me. The CECM has talked about the building being next to Mukuna's shop or facility, it is true, but how I wish that a survey is done to establish the true picture of the land meant for the Cooperative. Equally for Lungai, if I am not wrong, the three mentioned acres is meant for the Sirakaru Township which is to be sub-divided into various plots for various activities. So I want to put across that the department should quickly run up to identify the very particular plot meant for the Cooperative Society so that they fence and it is made known to the management to carry out the activities from within that particular plot. Otherwise I want to appreciate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Waiti, being the host MCA for the same Cooperatives. Let me allow Hon. Khaoya to also contribute.

Hon. Tony Barasa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. First allow me to congratulate the owner of the Statement Hon. Ndasaba and also to appreciate the area MCA. Hon. Speaker listening to what has been submitted by the CECM; I want to treat this now as a matter of county importance. It is saddening that what we have heard from the response from the CECM that something must be done in that area.

We have heard the element of corruption, looting and in the submission of the CECM and I have not heard her coming up with preventive measures on those who are looting the Cooperative assets. We have heard that the tractors were stolen, everything was stolen and nothing... remember this is public money including the land. I wish to urge the CECM to go and dig deeper, maybe the transaction between the Cooperative and Sirakaru Secondary School is something that transpired, and if indeed that land belongs to the Cooperative society, we need to bring back this land.

Honourable Speaker, a tractor is not a pen or razor blade that you can put in your pocket and move with it. There must be a transaction that has been done there. Why can't we bring these people to book?

I heard of the composition of the leadership of that Cooperative society and the saddening part was the management team; a club of men, no single representative from the women and the same club of men; the three who open an account have questionable issues. They have issues to do with the KRA. They have even deserted the bank account and they have gone further to open another bank account. What is it that they are hiding in the other bank account? And what are the rules and regulations of this Cooperative where this club of three men in management cannot be... we must do something about that Honourable Speaker! Who are these three men who are running the Society as if it is their property that they can decide to change; they close this bank account and open another bank account? How will it be transparent to the society men that indeed it is true you have issues to do with KRA, and if indeed they have issues with KRA who has given them another mandate to go and open another bank account and not to change the management of that Cooperative? That is a saddening thing.

The CECM and the office, to me must follow up on this matter and the Implementation Committee. This one to me is not satisfactory at all and if indeed they are going to say this is satisfactory, we are not going to do justice to the people of Naitiri, and we all understand the assets... what was the value of that thing? We need to understand this, and the CECM in her response to me it is unsatisfactory... it is unsatisfactory to me!

If you are saying you are going to train these cooperatives, for us to believe you Hon. CECM give us the work plan of the department so that we can believe, because we are not here just to listen that the CECM came and responded to the query of the Statement. Have you actualized it in a financial budgetary? We need to have that work plan so that *Mweshimiwa* (Hon.) Waiti understands that for training purposes for this Cooperative and more other cooperatives in Bungoma County, this is the allocation. Because it was saddening to hear you saying that you are going to train these people gradually on matters of good governance and down there you are saying in this financial year you have been given only Kshs. 19Million.

We need to have the work plan so that we can now hold the Department accountable, but if you don't have that money, it is also good for you to open up to this House that we intend to do the trainings for these Cooperatives for good governance, but we have minimal allocation; so that the Chairman of Agriculture and Members here can also chip in. We are not here for you to please us because this issue cuts across, not only in Naitiri/ Kabuyefwe, but also across our Wards and we also need them to be trained in good governance.

I was listening and I don't know if the CECM answered the last part of it. I didn't hear her answer the last part of it. It was; what were your plans towards these Cooperatives that are across the Wards in Bungoma County. If you answered Hon. CECM, we want it documented and supported by the work plan and the budgetary allocation because we must hold the Department accountable and we need value for money going forward. Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me this chance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well Hon. Khaoya for your contribution. We have Hon. Jackson then Hon. Aggrey Mulongo.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I first of all want to thank Hon. Ndasaba for coming up with that Statement. This is the spirit we want to work with for the county to improve; our people's wealth must be addressed.

Having listened to the CECM responding on the concerns raised by Hon. Ndasaba, Madam CECM you seem to have very good ideas towards these Cooperatives but my worry is as a CECM in charge of Agriculture, Cooperative, Livestock and all these other departments, do you give any allocations to this departments for you to make sure that wherever you are responding to will be able to assist? Why do I say so? I am coming direct to what Hon. Tony has said, and that was the last response that you were to tell us. What measures are you putting in place to

cater for Cooperatives across the county including my Ward? This is an area where people are permanent in those positions.

Using your position as the CECM, can't you call for order in Cooperatives by making sure we have fresh elections? These people have been there for all those years and there is no change at all, like the Bumula Cooperatives Society based in Kimaeti, the characters have been there for the last twenty years and there is no value addition.

I will also request Madam CECM to go and assess what measures the Cooperative department has put in place to make sure that we have Cooperative Societies across the wards and across the sub-counties.

Like we have the constructions that were going on for milk coolers, what is the status? What measures have you put in place to make sure that these milk coolers are complete so that we are able to empower our people by making sure that this milk is processed, taken there then we can later on have a donor who will come in or any other company that is willing, be it KCC or any other coming to collect this milk for us, so that our people can benefit. More so, Madam CECM, I want to urge you as a daughter of the soil, don't be happy coming here to respond all the time. Try and be innovative, creative and make sure that our people are getting service delivery. We will not be happy inviting you all the time to question you.

Today you have come, thank God, I was going to come up with a statement but I am addressing it through Hon. Ndasaba's statement, please make sure that this department of Cooperatives is empowered.

It pains me that we allocate money to Cooperatives and then you divert to other departments. I can tell you for example, today I have been reading the second supplementary, you know what you did to Cooperative and you know it yourself.

Don't say this Assembly hates you; we love you but the way you operate and do things! Why do you want to kill Cooperatives? Why do you want to kill Livestock? Why don't you want these directorates to operate? Please I request you to review your way of operation. Love every directorate that is under you; make sure there is enough allocation for us to follow up so that we can implement and have our people get money in their pockets. Otherwise coming here every now and then will not be just a walk in the park, people are going to.... I don't know, thank you Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you so much the Hon. Jackson Wambulwa Ouma.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr Speaker Sir. I was almost saying that *Mheshimiwa* Wambulwa was addressing the CECM instead of doing it through the Speaker. I was almost standing but... Thank you ... I said thank you Mr Speaker Sir. *Wewe ndiye haukusikia* (you were not involved)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order Hon. Waliaula. You are defiling, you have to use one language and you have to have sharp memory of what you are saying from the start to the end.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr Speaker Sir for giving me this chance. I have very sharp memory myself since I am here and I was elected by my own people, residents of Kibingei.

Mr. Speaker, what do you mean by this thing Cooperatives? Cooperative is a movement. When we grew up especially in my own village, there's a Coffee Cooperative Society that we used to have. All these Cooperatives that we are talking about... first of all I must thank Hon. Ndasaba for coming up with such a Statement. It is now an eye opener for the whole County, for all the 45 Wards.

The CECM sits in the Cabinet. If it comes to a matter of Budget, the CECM sits in that cabinet that allocates money towards Agriculture, Livestock, Cooperatives, Fisheries and Irrigation.

It is shocking, that Cooperatives and Livestock have zero or Kshs 5 Million and everything that we have budgeted in Agriculture goes to Subsidy Programmes and what have you. We call them Subsidy, *Mbolea* (fertilizer), insurance and what have you. That money is being divided from Cooperatives, Livestock instead of now buying semen for animals, instead of now enhancing Cooperative movement especially like now if we come up with some programmes for Capacity Building, not even training. Some of them have already been trained. Let us come up with Capacity Building in our societies. Three quarters of all our societies are becoming political... instead of working as a management. Why, is it just because when somebody has retired, that is the time he will go home and vie to become a Cooperative member or a Chair.

We need Capacity Building to make our societies have life.

The Senate Members came I think last month. They were going round with amendments of changing the management skills; and therefore if anybody is thinking of running away with people's money in the societies, the Senate I think has come up with a structure.

We were with them in Kimilili, I think they were also here... the Agriculture Committee from the Senate. So, these Honourable Members here assembled in this hall in the 45 Wards, I plead with them.

Mr. Spear: Hon. Mulongo, this is not a hall.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: A plenary, rather a House for making laws Sir. I am sorry about that.

CECM, you should come up with the work plan for these 45 Wards. Before maybe we get Members from outside coming and see us or visit us, we need to come up with a work plan for us to see what kind of Cooperatives we have and which one are we supposed to sponsor.

Otherwise, for your case maybe in your Office, you might come up with very good paper work, very good, in fact everything is well framed, but when you go on the ground, you will encounter a mess. Therefore you need to consult with the Members of County Assembly before you make up a decision.

Lastly, I don't know whether there is Professionalism, whereby when this money is allocated for under such vote head, you are not supposed to transfer it. Otherwise, I am now pleading with the CECM not to transfer any money that has been placed on Livestock, Cooperative, Irrigation and Fisheries.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. We finish with the Hon. Deputy Majority Whip, the Hon. Isaiah Busolo. He will be the last one, and then make a comment so that the CECM can make her final remark as we move on.

Hon. Sudi Busolo: Hon. Speaker, thank you so much. Mine is very brief. I just wish to encourage the CECM and the Chief Officer for the Cooperatives now that she is present with us here. She has heard the sentiments of Honourable Members from different parts of this County.

Cooperatives can create employment; they can reduce unemployment in our County. So, I urge the department to give it the necessary support, necessary allocation, so that we move because if you look at even what the National Government is doing, the issue of constructing houses actually is to create employment despite the resistance.

So, you also come up with things that are good, so that we see how we can put money there instead of even fertilizer. You know fertilizer does not create any employment but if we put that money in Cooperatives that every Ward has Kshs 5 million to run small societies which can form a Cooperative, then as a County we shall be moving towards the right direction.

Otherwise, I say thank you. The CECM has feared to come. You can see, this is what we wanted. What we have been longing for you to do, but the issue of the impeachment could have not come had you cooperated the way you have done today with concrete answers. We wish you well.

Otherwise when you run away, the House has a way of making you to come. I rest my case.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Before I bring the CECM to make her final remark; I want to believe that the CECM has taken note of what has been reinforced here. Transfer of some allocations especially from those other departments. The Honourable Members feel that it is not worthwhile and maybe it is intentional with ill motive. So, I want to believe that you take note of that.

At the same time the CECM, the Chair of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation, Cooperatives is from your Ward and the statement has emerged from your Ward and even the owner of the statement is from the same Ward. This is, and Honourable Members I want to laud

the Hon. Ndasaba and the Hon. Waiti. If all the nominated MCAs worked in the same manner with the elected Members the way the two are behaving, then we can have a harmonious Assembly here.

(Applause)

So, I want to encourage the Hon. Ndasaba and Hon. Waiti to move in the same direction and even better and try to influence others to be like so.

So, the CECM, these dams are even in Soysambu/Mitua Ward, are in Kabula and everywhere. We need them rehabilitated. Come and make your final remark.

Ms. Monica Fedha (*CECM, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries irrigation and Cooperative Development*): Thank you Hon. Speaker and Honourable Members. I must admit that this has been a very friendly session and I really thank you all for supporting me.

What I can say about the Cooperative Movement, going forward, what I will work on is the issue of staffing because human capital is very important. We are actually facing a challenge of well trained staff in the Cooperative Movement. Those who have done Cooperative Management, I am working on that.

Secondly, what is again an issue is working environment of Cooperative Officers. You find most of them don't have vehicles; they don't have even Offices and we are working on that.

Then thirdly and most important, Members have given me very good ideas because I have always said we do not have monopoly of ideas and when such statements are made Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members I am able to really learn a lot and improve. So, on that I will ensure that each sub department be it Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperatives will have a strategic plan; because if you do not plan then you are planning to fail. So we can have an elaborate strategic plan where we shall have a situation analysis looking at what is ailing our Cooperatives and how we can improve them and you know the strategic plan can also inform resource allocation.

We are being allocated nothing because the Cooperative department is having a challenge of staff. There are no projects that are being suggested. So, where we sit, you find that we are not having those ideas. So you find that maybe we are only talking about Agriculture and Farm inputs and then Cooperatives is being ignored.

Then we also need to understand the role of Government in Cooperative Movement. The Cooperatives are as quasi-private institutions and Government only does a regulatory role but going forward even the Cooperative Society Act 490 is being reviewed so that we can have more participation in Cooperative Societies.

So, with all those remarks, I really want to thank you Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members.

Or maybe I should also, like there in my introductory remarks, I was saying that I need to be forgiven and so I am hoping that now the impeachment motion will not come

Mr Deputy Speaker: That is out of Order!!

Ms. Monica Fedha (*CECM, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries irrigation and Cooperative Development*): Thank you Honourable Speaker Honourable Members.

Mr Deputy Speaker: We stick to the issue at hand in this House, this is a House of rules and procedure. So we handle everything the way it comes at the very time. Very well, we appreciate your coming, the CECM Member for Agriculture.

Honourable Members that being our last item on the Order Paper, this House stands adjourned and before we do that, we want to allow the CECM to be led out of the plenary by the orderlies of this Assembly together with the Chief Officer. We will get to know her name later on when she is before this House; maybe or before the Committee.

For now she was just accompanying the CECM.

The CECM for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development is escorted out the chamber)

So Honourable Members we adjourn and reconvene here tomorrow 2:30 p.m.

(House Adjourns)