

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA**

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA**

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

**THE DAILY HANSARD**

**WEDNESDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2024**

**Morning Sitting**

**3<sup>rd</sup> County Assembly**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Session**

# COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

## THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2024

The House met at the County assembly Chamber at 9:30 a.m.

(Mr. Speaker [Hon. Emmanuel Situma] in the Chair)

### PRAYER

### PAPERS

#### REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE STATUS OF ECDE TEACHERS IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

**Mr. Speaker:** Chair, Education.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiulah:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to lay on the table of this House a report by the Committee of Education and Vocational Training on the status of ECDE teachers in Bungoma County.

*(Hon. Benjamin Otsiula laid the Paper laid)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, the report by the Sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the status of the ECDE teachers in Bungoma County is hereby tabled and it formally becomes the property of the House accordingly.

#### THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA COUNTY BUDGET REVIEW OUTLOOK PAPER (CBROP) 2024

**Mr. Speaker:** Majority Leader, Hon. Joseph Nyongesa.

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to table the report on the County Government of Bungoma County Budget Review Outlook Paper (CBROP) 2024.

*(Hon. Joseph Nyongesa laid the Paper)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, the County Government of Bungoma County budget review outlook paper, CBROP 2024 is hereby tabled and I commit the same to the Committee of budget and appropriation for processing and reporting back to the House accordingly.

## **REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON SELECTION ON THE PLACEMENT OF MEMBERS IN COMMITTEES**

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Majority, proceed.

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa:** Thank you, Speaker. Allow me to table a report by the Committee on Selection on the placement of members in committees.

*(Hon. Joseph Nyongesa laid the Paper)*

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, the report by the Committee on Selection on the placement of the members in committees is hereby tabled and it formally becomes the property of the House accordingly.

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **NOTICE OF MOTION BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE STATUS OF ECDE TEACHERS IN BUNGOMA COUNTY**

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Otsiula, proceed.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to issue a notice of motion that this House adopts the report by the Sectoral committee on education and vocational training on the status of ECDE teachers in Bungoma County.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, a notice of motion has been duly issued by the sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the status of the ECDE teachers in Bungoma County. I do direct the clerks- at- the table to share this report with the members on their gadgets. The same is going to come up as a motion in the course of this week or once the same is schedule by the HBC in our Order Paper as a motion accordingly.

### **NOTICE OF MOTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SELECTION ON THE PLACEMENT OF MEMBERS IN COMMITTEES**

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Joseph Nyongesa, proceed.

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa:** Thank you, Speaker. Allow me issue a notice that this House adopts the report by the committee on selection on the placement of members in committees.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, the notice has been issued by the Committee on Selection on the placement of the members in the committees. Equally I urge the clerks at the table before

us here to share this report with the members on their gadgets. The same will be coming up as a motion on our Order Paper in the course of the week or one the same is scheduled by the HBC on our Order paper accordingly.

Next,

## QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

### STATEMENT ON THE BURSARY DISBURSEMENT TO VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES IN BUNGOMA COUNTY SINCE 2013

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Millie Masungu. Hon. Cornelius, you do have instructions to proceed.

**Hon. Cornelius Makhanu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Hon. Millie Masungu, I am standing in for her. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 49, she is seeking a response from the Chairperson Education and Vocational Training Committee in respect to bursary disbursement to vocational training centres in Bungoma County since 2013.

The Chairperson to respond to the following questions;

1. The detailed report on the utilisation of bursaries disbursed to the VTCs in Bungoma County.
2. How many vocational training centres are in Bungoma County.
3. The list of all the beneficiaries in VTCs in Bungoma County.
4. The Department or Directorate to provide the legal framework used to disburse bursary to VTCs in Bungoma County..

**Mr. Speaker:** Chair - Education, you require how many days to give us a feedback?

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Looking at the nature of statement, he is requesting for information dating back to 2013, which is an ambiguous request. How I wish that they come clear but if they insist on since 2013 then we require maybe a maximum of three months.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Cornelius, on behalf of the owner of the Statement, you want a feedback from 2013? I am giving you a chance please.

**Hon. Cornelius Makhanu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir. You know this is for public consumption. The owner of the Statement has requested for the public consumption. I wish that maybe the committee chair, these are in records. Three months is too much. Since 2013 the records are there in the Ministry, when he walks in he will be given. I don't think....

**Mr. Speaker:** He sought from three months and you know that one takes me to April next year.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Cornelius Makhanu:** Three months is too much.

**Mr. Speaker:** No, I am being very fair. Today is the 30<sup>th</sup> of October. You only have five weeks sitting and by 8<sup>th</sup> of December, we are adjourning up to February. So if you had a date or what you want to do mischievously, you want this statement to lapse by December. You know if it goes to the end of December, it can go to the next session. So I will give you the last sitting of this House for feedback.

So I will give him basically one month and a half. So you will be given but as you are asking so we have some set precedents. You can ask in this financial year, but now it's in 2013. Let's give him time so that

*(Laughter)*

Let's not cut him short members, I will give him on 4<sup>th</sup> of December,

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** 4<sup>th</sup> of December but in your wise words you have said that they are set precedents.

**Mr. Speaker:** No, the thing is very simple.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Meaning the statement is ambiguous.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Otsiula, you are supposed to go to the department and get answers. Don't become the one answering here. So let's go up to 4<sup>th</sup> of December but the fear I am having for you and the owner of the statement. When he goes for long recess on 5<sup>th</sup> of December, it will die a natural death.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Let us try the 4<sup>th</sup> of December.

**Mr. Speaker:** So Otsiula, hold your horses. 4<sup>th</sup> of December, I have given you the date.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** I will .I don't know what he is looking for in 2013.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes Hon. Leader of Majority

**Hon. Joseph Juma:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In fact, just to inform this House that in fact the officers to respond are the officers of the MCAS because bursaries are allocated by our offices. Executive just implements what we have allocated. We should also reread our statements before asking.

**Mr. Speaker:** It's okay. Let's come with the 4th of December.

*(Laughter)*

Next item,

**Hon. Cornelius Makhanu:** I abide by your ruling.

Next item,

## **MOTION**

### **REPORT ON THE BUNGOMA COUNTY GENDER MAINSTREAMING, BUNGOMA COUNTY DISABILITY MAINSTREAMING, CULTURE AND HERITAGE GROUP REGISTRATION, AND THE BUNGOMA COUNTY CHILDREN'S POLICIES 2023**

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Kawa, you do have the honour of proceeding with this motion. The energy is what people are wondering.

*(Laughter)*

Hon. Kawa, this energy of yours we require that energy in tag of war

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Jack Kawa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for the opportunity that after the games, we had I have the privilege to stand before this House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Kawa, we do have a session after this where you will be able to have all the time as the chair of CASA games committee to say what you want to say and be able to dance for us. So proceed please.

**Hon. Jack Kawa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am on my feet to read the report by the committee on gender, culture and social welfare on gender mainstreaming, Bungoma County disability mainstreaming, culture and heritage group registration, and Bungoma County children's policies 2023.

## **Preface**

Pursuant to the provisions of the County Assembly of Bungoma, Section 217(5) (d), which mandates the committee to study and review all county legislations referred to it. In this review, the Committee on Gender, Culture and Social Welfare retreated to write a report on the five policies committed it.

### **Establishment of the Committee**

The Committee on Gender, Culture and Social Welfare was constituted under Standing Orders 217.1 of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders and thus, and whose mandate pursuant to Standing Order 217.5 shall be

1. Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations, coordination, and control and monitoring of budget.
2. Consider quarterly reports of the assigned departments and report to the House within 21 days, ceding days upon being late.
3. Study the program and policy objectives of the effectiveness of the implementation.
4. Study and review all county legislation referred to it. Study, access and analyse the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives.
5. Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned department as they may deem necessary and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly.
6. To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the House to approve except those under Standing Order 208, Committee on Appointment and make report and recommendation to the House as often as possible, including recommendation of the proposed legislation.

### **Committee Membership**

The committee comprise the following members:

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1) Hon. Jack Kawa        | - Chairperson. |
| 2) Hon. Ibrahim Obama,   | -Vice-Chair.   |
| 3) Hon. Joseph Juma      | - Member.      |
| 4) Hon. James Mukhongo   | - Member.      |
| 5) Hon. Godfrey Mukhwana | - Member.      |
| 6) Hon. George Kwemoi    | -Member.       |
| 7) Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba  | -Member.       |
| 8) Hon. Alfred Mukhanya  | - Member.      |
| 9) Hon. Metrin Nangalama | - Member.      |
| 10) Hon. Eunice Kirui    | - Member.      |
| 11) Hon. Florence Juma   | - Member.      |
| 12) Hon. John Wanyama    | - Member.      |
| 13) Hon. Maureen Wafula  | - Member.      |
| 14) Hon. Mildred Barasa  | - Member.      |
| 15) Hon. Sheila Sifuma   | - Member.      |

### **Acknowledgement**

The Committee is grateful to the offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Assembly for the logistical support accorded to it in the discharge of its mandate. I wish to thank the Hon. Members of the committee for their input during the report writing exercise.

Further, the committee appreciates the Secretariat for their dedication towards the completion of this report.

It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege on behalf of the Sector Committee on Gender, Culture, and Social Welfare to table this report on Bungoma County's Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2023, Bungoma County's Disability Mainstreaming Policy 2023, Group Registration Policy 2023, County Culture and Heritage Policy 2023, and Bungoma County Children's Policy 2023, committed to the committee on its recommendations and its good recommendation to the Assembly for the preparation and approval.

Report signed by Hon. Jack Kawa Chairperson Committee on Gender, Culture, and Social Welfare.

### **Tabling and Commitment of the Policies**

Mr. Speaker, the following policies were tabled on 14 February 2024 and committed to the committee for consideration and reporting to the House. Pursuant to Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and Standing Order 217-5D of the Bungoma County Assembly Standing Orders, the policies were, one, Bungoma County Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2023, two, Bungoma County Disability Mainstreaming Policy 2023, three, Bungoma, I mean, County Culture and Heritage Policy 2023, Group Registration Policy 2023, and then lastly, Bungoma County Children's Policy 2023.

### **Public Participation**

In compliance with the Article 196-1B of the Kenya Constitution 2010 and Section 87 of the Counter-Government Act, the committee through the Office of the Clerk, placed an advert seeking for views from members of the public through submission of memoranda to the committee. By clause of business on 29 February 2024, the committee had received views from the County Gender Technical Working Group, Partners, and Bungoma County Civil Society Organization coordinating unity. The public views have been considered under every policy in this report.

### **The Scrutiny of the Policies**

#### **Bungoma County Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2023 Introduction**

The policy seeks to contribute to the endowment of gender, culture, and equity in service delivery in the county government of Bungoma. It points out gender equality issues in the county and the factors contributing to the situation, and also entails the measures that will be taken by the county in order to accomplish gender mainstreaming. 2. Policy Scope and Rational.

The Bungoma County Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2024 is designed to guide and influence the practices of all county government departments, independents, bodies, quests, autonomous entities, and agencies at the county level, with an extended influence on the private sector and the civil society. The policy's core objective is to promote equality to



access to and control all the county resources and services while addressing the distinct needs of both women and men. It particularly emphasizes the environment of women who are currently marginalized by detecting special programs and resources to achieve equitable outcomes.

The policy also outlines indicators for measuring its effectiveness and implementation, ensuring that gender equality is institutionalized across various sectors. The rationale behind this policy is to foster a fairer society where both women and men benefit from equal treatment and opportunities. It seeks to uphold constitutional provisions such as Article 27, which guarantees freedom from discrimination and aims to promote equality in political, social, economic, and cultural spheres.

By enforcing statutory religions and customary laws in alignment with the constitution, the policy ensures respect for human rights and a Bill of Rights. Additionally, it equips duty-bearers at the county level with gender-responsive tools for planning and budgeting, thereby supporting the broader goal of gender equality and empowerment in Bungoma County.

Bungoma County has a population of 1,675,070 persons as per 2019 census, with a density of 552 persons per square kilometres and average household of 4.6 persons. Out of the total population, 812,146 persons are male, 858,389 are female, and 35 are intersex. The county has about 467,171 youths in brackets KNBS 2019, of which approximately 40% left schooling, with about 25% of them maturity-paying men engaging in informal employment such as border riders.

The rate of unemployment in Bungoma County is 43.8%. In Bungoma County, 14% of the residents with no formal education, 10% of those with primary education, and 19% of those with a secondary or above level of education are working for pay. According to Kenya's demographic health survey, GADHS 2022, Bungoma was ranked highest with 34% of women reporting to have experienced violence since the age of 15, 42% of these women were of age 45 to 49, and 54% of the perpetrators being men. Women and men are not equally active in their different productive sector.

For example, in Bungoma, women engage in intensive economic activities, thereby playing crucial roles in economic survival of their families. The overall goal of Bungoma County's Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2023 is to ensure gender equality is realized in all departments through gender mainstreaming by establishing a clear strategy of delivering services, policies, procedures, and practices.

### **Monitoring, evaluation, implementation and review of the policy**

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be a crucial aspect of implementing the Bungoma County Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2023. A detailed results framework will be developed to outline outputs, outcomes, impacts and key actors for each policy action, integrating these into annual and development planning processes across all sectors. The M&E strategy will

follow a strategic implementation plan and involve both quarterly and annual updates to ensure effective tracking and reporting of progress.

The Directorate of Gender will establish a comprehensive evaluation mechanism to ensure that the objectives of the policy are effectively monitored, tracked, and assessed. This includes integrating development and implementation monitoring tools and performance indicators into the County Government's annual planning and development processes. Gender mainstreaming activities will be evaluated using both qualitative and quantitative indicators, with a focus on maintaining accurate, sex-disaggregated statistics. The County departments will document beneficiaries from a gender perspective and report progress on gender mainstreaming to the Bungoma County Gender Mainstreaming Committee. Gender-sensitive indicators will be incorporated into all planning and program levels to address gender gaps and leverage opportunities for change.

Additionally, the policy outlines a research component for monitoring and evaluation, emphasizing the need for baseline research and enhanced data collection. The Directorate will establish a gender management database, develop national guidelines for collecting and analysing sex-disaggregated data and strengthen capacity in this area. Programs will be assessed to ensure they meet gender equity and women empowerment targets and their impacts on beneficiaries will be evaluated. The policy will be reviewed every five years through a participatory process, aligned with the implementation timelines of Vision 2030 and CIDPs, to incorporate new developments and practices. A continuous review process will also be in place to adapt the policy as needed.

### **Committee observations**

1. The data captured in the policy reflects the situation in Bungoma County.
2. The policy is self-executing
3. The policy aims at ensuring gender equality and women empowerment in the socio-economic, political and cultural spheres as envisaged in the Constitution; in particular, under Chapter 4 on the Bill of Rights.

### **Committee recommendation**

**THAT** this House approves the Gender Mainstreaming Policy 2023

## **BUNGOMA COUNTY DISABILITY MAINSTREAMING POLICY 2023**

### **Background information**

Persons with disabilities are among the most marginalized groups globally, often facing neglect and suppression of their needs. Disability arises from the interplay between health conditions, such as blindness or spinal cord injuries, and various environmental and personal factors. The Government of Kenya, recognizing the broad societal impact of disability, supports individuals with disabilities through services, grants and enabling environments, a commitment that dates back to post-World War II efforts by organizations like the Salvation Army. Kenya's Constitution defines disability as an evolving concept shaped by impairments and societal barriers, encompassing physical, sensory, mental and psychological conditions

that significantly affect daily activities. According to the World Report on Disability, people with disabilities worldwide face higher poverty and inequality exacerbated by limited access to resources and development opportunities, with disability prevalence increasing significantly in those over 60.

### **Status of Disability in Bungoma County**

Bungoma County has a population of 1,670,570 persons as per 2019 census with a density of 552 persons per square kilometres and an average household 4.6 persons. Out of the total population 812,146 persons are male, 858,389 are female and 35 are intersex. The County has about 467,171 youth (KNBS, 2019), of which approximately 40% left schooling with about 25% of them, majority being men, engaging in informal employment such as boda boda riders. The rate of unemployment in Bungoma County is 43.8%. In Bungoma County, 14% of the residents with no formal education, 10% of those with primary education and 19% of those with secondary or above level of education are working for pay. According to the 2019 census, there are a total of 46,043 people living with disability in Bungoma County. 0.7% of this population have seeing difficulties, 0.4% hearing difficulties, 0.7% Mobility difficulties, 0.4% Cognition difficulties, 0.2% self-care difficulties while 0.3% have Communication difficulties. Just like in many rural Counties under devolution in Kenya, people With Disabilities (PWDs) in Bungoma County are poor, face discrimination and stigmatization.

In Bungoma, individuals with disabilities are actively working to improve their standards of living despite being overlooked by some service providers and media. While they possess a strong desire to advance, their efforts are often hampered by limited resources and insufficient access to support. Many have formed self-help groups or community-based organizations to enhance their bargaining power and achieve economies of scale. Recognizing and supporting these initiatives is vital for fostering change in their rural communities. Although development agencies have made some efforts, they often focus more on urban areas, neglecting the rural population. Addressing issues in rural communities could alleviate problems in urban centres, highlighting the need for this policy to integrate disability considerations into County development planning.

### **Rationale for developing the policy**

The development of a disability policy is essential to fostering fairer, more inclusive societies in line with Kenya's Constitution (2010), the Persons with Disabilities Act (2010) and international conventions. Integrating disability into mainstream society and development programs empowers persons with disabilities to make their own life decisions rather than relying on caregivers. Engaging persons with disabilities in the development process is crucial for effectively addressing their needs, leading to greater effectiveness, ownership and sustainability of services.

In Bungoma County, the policy on disability mainstreaming is a strategic effort to address barriers faced by persons with disabilities, ensuring their full potential is realized. This policy aims to empower individuals with disabilities, promote their rights, and respect their dignity. It will guide other county policies and programs by enhancing the recognition of their roles,

strengthening support systems, ensuring access to essential services, and coordinating interventions. The policy also emphasizes the importance of self-representation, research, and protecting disability rights as fundamental human rights, aiming to integrate persons with disabilities into all public decision-making processes.

### **Policy scope**

The Policy ensures that persons with disabilities (PWDs) fully enjoy their human rights and freedoms by mainstreaming disability issues across all county departments and stakeholders. It applies to all county staff and partners, guiding ethical, procedural, and regulatory practices to be disability-inclusive. PWDs are required to register with the county and National Council for Persons with Disabilities to receive support services.

The Policy addresses access and equity in education, health, governance, and protection from discrimination, including Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

Monitoring, evaluation, implementation and review of the policy

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting are essential for the effective implementation of the policy, embedded within community programs and initiatives. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting will track the alignment of interventions with budget allocations and expected outcomes, providing routine monitoring of key elements. Evaluation will assess policy milestones and achievements, while reporting will capture lessons learned for feedback and improvement. Coordination will be managed by the Department responsible for disability mainstreaming, with participatory monitoring occurring at various levels, including County, Sub County, Ward committees, and the community.

The policy will undergo evaluation every 3 to 5 years to measure its impact and benefits for persons with disabilities (PWDs). The Directorate of Youth will develop a comprehensive communication strategy using various media to inform stakeholders about the policy and its implementation. This includes building the capacity of PWD organizations and facilitating annual reporting on PWD interventions. The policy will be reviewed every five years to assess its effectiveness, document lessons learned, and make necessary adjustments to meet evolving needs.

### **Committee observations**

#### **The Committee made the following observations in regard to Bungoma County Disability Mainstreaming Policy 2023**

1. The policy is not self-executing thus requires further laws to facilitate its implementation through programmes.
2. The data of People Living with Disability has been included in the policy.
3. The policy aims at promoting the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the social, economic and political development in the County as envisioned in Chapter 4 of the Constitution on the Bill of Rights.
4. The policy aims at enhancing respect, protection and promotion of human rights of persons living with disabilities as enshrined under Article 54 of the Constitution on the rights of persons with disabilities.

5. The policy outlines the County Government obligation under Article 21(3) of the Constitution which requires all the state organs and public officers to address the needs of the vulnerable groups within the society including persons living with disabilities

### **Committee recommendation**

**THAT** this House approves the Disability Mainstreaming Policy 2023

### **COUNTY CULTURE AND HERITAGE POLICY 2023**

#### **Background and Context**

Culture is a cornerstone of Kenyan identity, recognized in the Constitution as fundamental to the nation's civilization. The National Policy on Culture, developed by the Ministry of Culture, Youth, and Sports, aims to implement constitutional culture provisions and shape future legislation across areas such as heritage, languages, cultural industries, and human rights. This policy highlights Kenya's commitment to its diverse ethnic, cultural, and religious landscape, emphasizing peace, unity, and the protection of cultural heritage. It also addresses the intersection of culture with intellectual property and information technology, focusing on safeguarding intellectual property rights and fair compensation for the use of cultural heritage.

In Bungoma County, the government, through the Department of Disability, Culture, Youth, and Sports, is dedicated to embracing cultural diversity and leveraging culture, arts, and heritage for societal development. The county's cosmopolitan nature and history of peaceful coexistence among various ethnic groups reflect its commitment to cultural preservation and sustainable development. The policy framework aligns with global initiatives like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), recognizing cultural diversity as vital for economic growth and a richer, more fulfilling life for its citizens. Despite some criticisms that the policy may lack novel guidance on protecting traditional knowledge and cultural expressions, it remains central to promoting inclusion, democratic governance, and cultural integrity.

#### **Policy Goal and Objectives**

The policy aims to preserve, promote, and celebrate Bungoma County's diverse cultural heritage to ensure sustainable development and enhance community pride and well-being. Its objectives include safeguarding cultural heritage and historical sites, raising awareness and appreciation of local culture, and fostering cultural exchange with various partners.

The policy also seeks to develop educational programs for cultural knowledge and skills, promote sustainable cultural tourism, and enhance cultural infrastructure. Additionally, it integrates cultural considerations into urban planning and encourages community involvement and inclusivity. Support for research and documentation of cultural practices and the integration of culture into broader county policies further reinforce its comprehensive approach to cultural preservation and promotion.

#### **Rationale for the County Culture and Heritage Policy 2023**

The Bungoma County Cultural and Heritage Policy integrate the county's diverse cultural resources into national development efforts, addressing both modern globalization and historical injustices. It prioritizes culture as a key element for development, promoting community involvement and international collaboration. By mainstreaming culture into

public policy and setting preservation standards, the policy ensures sustainable management and the preservation of Bungoma's cultural identity. It provides a framework for operational strategies, resource allocation, and administrative practices to support cultural resurgence and heritage preservation.

### **Institutional Framework**

#### **Framework Overview**

All County Government of Bungoma Departments shall be integrated into the County Government of Bungoma action plan for the implementation of the County Culture, Arts and Heritage Policy. The following shall be the institutions that will manage the culture, arts and heritage sector at the County, sub- County and ward levels:

- i. County Level Technical Working Group (CLTWG)
- ii. Sub-county level Technical Working Group (SLTWG)
- iii. Ward Level Technical Working Group (WLTWG)

#### **Policy review**

The Policy establishes a framework for management of culture and heritage in the county. The practice, approach and tools for implementation will continue to evolve with time. As such this Policy will be reviewed through a participatory process after every 5 years in line with the implementation period for the Mid Term Plans (MTPs) for Vision 2030 and County Integrated Development Plan (CIDPs) so as to capture relevant developments and emerging practices and approaches. There shall however be a continuous review process of the Policy.

**Committee Observations**  
The committee having scrutinized the policy in its background, Policy goal and objectives, rationale, Institutional Framework and implementation framework, made the following Observations with regard to Culture and Heritage Policy 2023:

1. That the policy is consistent with the provisions of the constitution as required under Article 11(COK 2010)
2. The proposed policy is a replica of the Bungoma County Cultural and Heritage Act, 2023
3. Policy consideration as per the legislative consideration precedes legislation and not vice versa unless the act expressly provides for.

#### **Committee recommendation**

**THAT** the Culture and Heritage Policy 2023 as laid before this House and committed to the committee be rejected by this House and that the County Executive Committee Member for Gender, Culture, Youth and Sports to implement the Bungoma County Cultural Heritage Act 2023 as approved by the House since all the issues captured in the policy have been addressed conclusively in the Act.

### **GROUP REGISTRATION POLICY 2023**

#### **Introduction**

The policy seeks to facilitate the registration of various groups, including community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, self-help groups, cooperatives, and more. Thus the policy visualizes improving management of groups in the County to enable the realization of socio-economic and cultural stability for sustainable development.



### **County situational analysis**

It is stated in the policy that since registration of groups is conducted by the National Government in the County without a policy guideline it has impeded the attainment of self-advancement by the youth, women and persons with disabilities. In addition, groups experience frequent conflicts that have curtailed their sustainability and contribution to socio-economic development. The policy cites challenges like Non-registration and lack of funds, poor governance, absence of strategic planning, poor networking, poor communications, limited capacity, development approaches, relationships with international non-governmental organizations (Ingos) and political interference. These constraints necessitated the County Department to develop this policy that will guide the process of group's formation and registration in the County to overcome the inherent constraints.

### **Policy Goal and Objectives**

The main goal of the policy is to mobilize, initiate, register and regulate management of community groups to undertake community projects in Bungoma County. The specific objectives of the policy remain to be but not limited to:

- a) To empower, encourage the formalization and ensure prudent utilization of group resources to enable the community groups to be self-reliant.
- b) Provide a legal framework for the co-ordination of community groups;...
- c) Provide for the registration of community groups;
- d) Provide guidance for community groups mobilization;
- e) Provide guidance to governance structures within community groups, promote collaboration and linkages between community groups, State and county organs, financial institutions and other stakeholders;
- f) Create an enabling operational environment that promotes community empowerment, self-reliance and sustainability of groups and community projects
- g) Enable the County Government of Bungoma (CGB) to levy taxes on registration, supervise, monitor and evaluate community projects by community groups and on the request of an interested party investigate the community groups' activities.

### **Rationale for developing the policy**

The policy is geared towards providing a detailed data capture process to establish a data Collection Centre for groups that would aid the department in tracking groups and resolving conflicts effectively. This in turn will enable the County Government of Bungoma (CGB) to levy taxes on registration, supervision; monitoring and evaluation of community projects by community groups and on the request of an interested party investigate the community groups' activities.

Upon registration the group shall be issued with a county certificate as evidence that a group is registered in accordance with this Policy

### **Implementation of the policy**

The proposed policy creates a Directorate of Social Services with functions among many to register community groups and issue certificate of registration; renew or cancel a certificate of registration issued under this Policy framework; supervise, monitor and on request by an interested party, investigate a community group activities; coordinate community groups for

benefit of the community and establish and maintain a register of all community groups registered under this Policy Framework.

Further the CECM in consultation with other stakeholders shall form a nine (9) Members Community Group Management Advisory Committee (CGMAC) with functions such as:

- a) Mobilize communities to form and register Community groups to undertake community development initiatives and projects implementation;
- b) Make recommendations on groups that require support to the directorate
- c) Sensitize, mobilize, support, train and create networks to Coordinate groups and group activities at the County, Sub-County and Ward level;
- d) Appraisal of registered groups that cut across several Wards;
- e) Recognizing and recommending awarding of Community group achievements;
- f) Prepare and submit annual Gubernatorial Community Group Performance reports to the County Governor.
- g) To establish a database, streamline the operations, promote cohesiveness and assist transforming groups into investment entities of the community groups.

### **Policy review**

Hon. Speaker, the proposed policy states that it will be reviewed after every 5 years in line with the implementation period for the MTPs for Vision 2030 and CIDPs, so as to capture relevant developments and emerging practices and approaches. There shall however be a continuous review process of the Policy.

### **Committee observations on the policy**

1. The services being advanced to be executed through the policy on the registration of groups is not a devolved function as per the fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya.
2. The policy in its drafting form duplicates the functions already well highlighted in the national legislation and introduces new structures from the already established structures and thus making implementation mechanism problematic.
3. The policy provides another process of registration to the groups in the county, indicating that the groups in the county shall do registration twice (one at the national government in compliance with the national law and also according to the proposed policy at the county level) this is an expensive affair to the residents of Bungoma County.
4. Levying of taxes as a result of group registration under this policy conflicts with the national legislation on Community Groups Registration Act, 2022.
5. That the functions of the directorate formed in the policy usurp the roles of the Director at the National Level.
6. The Community Groups Registration Act, 2022 under section 5(1)(b) states that there is established, in every sub-county ,a committee to be known as the social development committee ,which shall comprise two representatives from the County Government ,one of whom shall be the officer responsible for social development in the County . This provides the roles of the County Governments and thus no need of the policy. In any case Article 191 of the constitution on conflicts of law, indicates



even if the policy is passed the national law prevails. In other words no need of the county policy on this area.

### **Committee recommendation**

**THAT** the group registration Policy 2023 as laid before this House and committed to the committee be rejected by this House and that the County Executive Committee Member for Gender, Culture, Youth and Sports in conjunction with the National Government Agencies to implement the Community Groups Registration Act, 2022.

## **BUNGOMA COUNTY CHILDREN POLICY 2023**

### **Background information**

Kenya has made significant progress in upholding children's rights, particularly following the 2010 Constitution, which aligns with international treaties like the UNCRC and ACRWC. Since ratifying the UNCRC in 1990, Kenya has developed policies such as the National Programme of Action to address children's issues and has enacted various laws, including the updated Children Act, 2022. Recent efforts focus on protecting children from discrimination, abuse, and exploitation, emphasizing that children, defined as those under 18, are a priority for all societal stakeholders. The country's commitment is reflected in its adherence to international conventions and integration of children's issues into national development plans, as demonstrated by the 2019 census data showing substantial child and adolescent populations.

### **Situation analysis in Bungoma County**

As of the 2019 Census, Bungoma County's population stands at 1,670,570, with a gender distribution of 48.62% males and 51.38% females. Children under 18 years make up about 51% of the population, approximately 851,991 individuals. The County faces significant challenges with teenage pregnancies, with 18% of girls aged 15-19 either pregnant or already mothers, and around 25% marrying before 18. Rates of teenage pregnancy vary across sub-counties, with some areas like Cheptais and Webuye West reporting higher percentages. Recent statistics show over 26,000 teenage pregnancies from 2021 to mid-2023, highlighting the severity of the issue.

In addition to teenage pregnancies, Bungoma County struggles with a rising number of street children, driven by poverty, family breakdown, and insufficient access to education and social services. While exact figures are not available, there is a noticeable increase in street children, particularly in urban areas such as Bungoma Town and Webuye. These children, predominantly boys but increasingly including girls, are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Efforts to address the issue are hindered by limited resources, societal stigma, and the need for more effective, comprehensive strategies to address the root causes of child homelessness.

### **Policy rationale**

The Bungoma County Children Policy 2023 establishes a comprehensive framework for coordinating, planning, and monitoring children's programs, aiming to address gaps and advance children's rights in alignment with Kenya's Constitution, Vision 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Managed by the County Children Affairs Council

(CCAC) with support from various stakeholders, the policy integrates priorities and interventions based on extensive consultations and existing legal frameworks, including the Children Act 2022 and international recommendations. It emphasizes the core pillars of child rights—survival, development, protection, and participation—as outlined in the UNCRC, to ensure effective implementation and oversight of children's rights and well-being.

### **Policy Goals and Objectives**

The policy aims to safeguard and enhance children's rights and welfare through a holistic framework. It seeks to coordinate related policies and regulations, establish effective social protection mechanisms, and guide resource mobilization. Additionally, it provides criteria for evaluating and monitoring the implementation of child-focused legislations and programs.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation strategies**

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a continuous management function to assess if progress is made in achieving expected results, to spot bottlenecks in implementation and to highlight whether there are any unintended effects positive or negative from a programme or project and its activities.

The process of monitoring and evaluation makes up the Result-Based Management approach, which is intended to aid decision –making towards explicit goals. M&E facilitates learning from past successes and challenges and those encountered during implementation. The strategic interventions in the policy shall be monitored and evaluated to ascertain the progress of the implementation. The department responsible for children services in the county shall carry out comprehensive monitoring and Evaluation twice in a year and come up with reports that shall inform the interventions in reviewing the targets set.

### **Policy Review**

The children policy may be reviewed at least once every three years and in line with other government policy statements.

### **Committee Observations**

1. The policy outlines an elaborate supporting legal framework for child protection, including the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the Children's Act 2022, the Sexual Offences Act 2006, the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act 2011, the Employment Act 2007, the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010, the Marriage Act 2014, the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act 2015, the Basic Education Act 2013, and the Refugee Act 2006.
2. The policy places significant emphasis on the well-being of children, aiming to ensure accessible, quality health services, promote child-friendly environments, and support the specific needs of vulnerable children, including those with disabilities.
3. The policy aligns well with international standards by referencing Kenya's commitments to the UNCRC, ACRWC, and other relevant conventions, demonstrating a strong foundation in global best practices for child rights.

4. The policy aims to address child welfare holistically by integrating various aspects such as child protection, child development, and child survival, which is essential for addressing the multifaceted issues facing children.

**Committee recommendation**

**THAT**, this House approves the Bungoma County Children Policy 2023

We have the adoption schedule with us .Am grateful that the 14 members appended their signatures which means they all attended the report writing. We are 15 Honourable members. We have annexures, adoption minutes, public participation notices and public views. You can find time and go through it.

Up to that point, with a lot of honour and humility as a chair of this committee, allow me call our Leader of Majority, MCA representing Tuuti/Marakaru Ward, Bishop Hon. Joseph Juma Nyongesa to second this.

**Mr. Speaker:** Today I'm wondering why are you unleashing all these statuses? Hon. Majority, proceed!

I don't understand what Hon. Kawa took in the morning. Let me reserve my comment.

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, allow me also appreciate my Chair on Gender for taking his ample time to take us through these policies. It wasn't an easy task, but he was equal to the task.

Again, allow me also appreciate the members of the committee for taking their time to scrutinize every statement to ensure that actually it suits the people of Bungoma. As you are aware, policies are the guidelines on how to run programs in our County and mostly, as the gender department, we have lagged behind purposely because of lack of policies and we do appreciate because again, these policies shall also help us to allocate funds and run some programs that will be touching our people. So, we do appreciate a lot for the commitment from the committee.

As a committee, we really worked tirelessly to ensure that actually we come up with the directives that can help our county move and touch the key lives of our people that's why you see gender mainly deals with the issues that actually concerns the common Mwananchi.

As we were dealing with these policies, we also had time to compare and contrast what happens in the National Government and what happens in other counties so that at least we come up with something that can be of good value. Out of five policies, we saw that there is need because as we were comparing, we came up and found that policy on the registration of groups was really very okay to us but when we are comparing, we saw a lot of duplication and saw it necessary to reject that one and continue following what the National Government is doing for us.

One thing we were looking at was the issue of taxation because most of the issues we shall be now overburdening our groups because we shall be registering in the county and again at the national level also, we shall be registering but looking at the issues that the policy was

going to handle, we saw that actually it was the issue of duplication of duties. Otherwise, having reached there, I will also urge and request humbly this house to approve because our able Chairman eloquently took us through and I think every member here is aware of what we are approving and passing. How I wish even Hon. Jeremiah could be around because he was really advocating on how these street children should be taken care of and you can see the policy on children especially the vulnerable ones advocates for equality in terms of education, life and valuable things that any child could get or gain from this county. Otherwise, I do request the house to approve. I second.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members, I wish to appreciate the mover and the seconder.

*(Question proposed)*

It appears the mover did a good job and it sank well and there's nothing to contribute for the same.

So thank you very much Hon. Kawa, you don't have a right of reply because there was no contribution arising from that.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

The ayes have it.

The report and all the policies that it's carrying are hereby approved by the house accordingly.

Next item,

Hon. Majority, proceed,

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me move a motion on alteration of House calendar.

Aware that standing order number 31(1) of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders provides that the House Business Committee shall, with approval of the County Assembly, determine the calendar of the County Assembly. Further aware that paragraph four provides for the alteration of its calendar, acknowledging that Bungoma County Assembly illuminated the just concluded County Assembly Sports Association (CASA) games, with an impressive Games 2024 champions.

Further, acknowledging that County Assembly of Bungoma scooped at least nine trophies that have left a lasting mark on the history of CASA competition. The football team, men and women volleyball teams, the dance team, tug of war and the County Assembly choir.

Noting the outstanding performance of the CASA games is a show of hard work, unity, and passion that drive the County Assembly of Bungoma.

This house adjourns the Wednesday 30th October 2024 afternoon sitting to officially receive the trophies and also celebrate and appreciate the teams that have done the County Assembly proud in the fifth edition of CASA games held in the County and resume its seating on Thursday 31st October at 2.30 p.m. Mr Speaker having read there, allow me call upon the Chief Whip of the Minority, Hon. Milliah Masungu to second.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Milliah, you have the honor of seconding this motion. You proceed.

**Hon. Milliah Masungu:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also rise to support the motion....

**Mr. Speaker:** That is why I like the slogan that sometimes I hear from Hon. Ali Machani, that 'niko tayari', proceed.

**Hon. Milliah Masungu:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to support the motion on adjournment of the House just to celebrate our participants in these just ended CASA games.

It's always good and in order, Hon. Speaker, to give credit to even your own son or daughter who has performed very well at home. So, we are not going against anything adjourning this house just to celebrate and thank our participants, especially the Honourable Members and our staffs. So, I rise to support.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Stephen Wafula:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I'm on my feet to support this motion of adjournment so that we can celebrate our gallant men and women of substance who ably represented this County Assembly and left a mark, a huge history in the games, in the bonanza, in the gala of CASA. Hon. Speaker, we are proud to be associated. We are proud to be part of this County Assembly for having achieved that milestone. And Hon. Speaker, I think it's exciting when the Majority Leader was reading here the number of trophies, Hon. Speaker, and there were nine, but I heard him mention ten because of tug of war, which is not mentioned here. Hon. Speaker, this is exciting, and I'm very sure that this excitement can exceed the expectations, and that's why you can hear the Majority Leader even mentioning tug of war.

I want to appreciate the Volleyball team. We are lucky that we have very tall Members here like Hon. Masai, who could spike very well. Not forgetting, even the short ones, like Hon. Vitalis, who is your classmate.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Stephen, I'm worried because he may be able to give you the instructions that you are saying he is very short. Shortness it's not inability, and he showed that on the field. Proceed.

**Hon. Stephen Wafula:** Hon. Speaker, it is exciting, and actually we have all the reasons to be happy and celebrate this occasion. Hon. Speaker, when we are preparing for CASA, the Majority Leader himself was worried about this tug of war, and he invited the likes of Hon. Ipara. Hon. Speaker, I don't know if Hon. Ipara participated in the tug of war. Because the Hon. Leader of the Majority was trying to say that tug of war is actually for disciplined forces, people who have gone through the system of administration and training in disciplined forces like police, like armed forces. Hon. Speaker, Hon. Ipara has been a leading member in that department, having been a commander of the entire County, and we remember even the case when Hon. Oscar Sudi was being sought. We remember very well. He has been a leader of the Northern Corridor. Hon. Speaker, we don't know if he participated or not, but anyway, we want to appreciate and encourage the Leader of the Majority that despite your cries, you pulled and pulled, and you almost even took the trophy.

Hon. Speaker, we want to appreciate every department, even the cheering squad. Although Hon. Speaker, the Leader of the chairing squad was always absent, but we want to appreciate those who supported him, the likes of Hon. Alice Kibaba, they were dancing in shorts,. I wish you could see them. So the cheering squad is not left behind. We want to appreciate everybody, of the teams that I didn't expect to win a trophy; it was the football, because I was worried of Trans Nzoia.

**Mr. Speaker:** No, they were abiding by my warning. They kept off the hill. So that's where the energy came from.

**Hon. Stephen Wafula:** So Hon. Speaker, it is so amazing that when you talked of not touching the 'murima', the members of the football team led by the captain, the advocate of the High Court, Hon. Benjamin Otsiula, respected and heed the call not to 'guza mlima'. And courtesy of that, Hon. Speaker, we are celebrating this occasion. And so because others have to contribute, let me stop there and congratulate wholeheartedly the deserving, gallant men and women of the County Assembly of Bungoma. May God bless you.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Job then i will have Chemion. Job Proceed.

**Hon. Job Mukoyandali:** Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want first to congratulate all the soldiers who fought for this County. And they have put us on a very different map, Hon. Speaker. I was just reading the comments from Hon. Members from across the country on the MCAs Forum Kenya. And Hon. Speaker, I'm proud Bungoma MCA today because of those comments that we were receiving. They rate us so highly in terms of organization and actually how we hosted them here in Bungoma.

We are on the right trajectory and I urge that we keep on moving forward. After such an event bonding is necessary. So as we sit, you see we just came from the CASA games, a lot of fatigue and with my young age, you can see I'm struggling even to come here to the Assembly. But now that it's a duty, I have to heed to it. In future, when we hold such an event



and we succeed then bonding should come immediately so that we allow Members can bond, and relax for at least a week, so that when they come back they are rejuvenated. It's good that the leadership is also here, it's not late, you can think about it. These members, the way you are looking at them, you can see my patron is very tired and he seriously needs some relaxation. He seriously needs to go out so that some massage is done on him, so that when he resumes this House, his body is in good condition to push even for the next two months. So I think the issue of bonding is not late, we don't just finish our tea from here, we can extend it to somewhere else.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Job. Let me have Hon. Chemion,

**Hon. Francis Chemion:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First, I want to thank CASA and CAF for organizing the event, it was well organized and you did your best. Our coordinating team from the County Assembly you did your best, although we didn't meet, but we were seeing everything flowing. So as a patron, Hon. Speaker, we thank you. The Chair, Hon. Violet, we also thank you for the well-organized event, plus the leadership of this County Assembly, you did us proud.

During that week, we launched a system called QMS, it is a quality management system that is now operational in the County Assembly of Bungoma and if you look at that system, you will realize that in the system they say if there is any success, any type of success, it is celebrated and rewarded, that is what the system entails. I'm very sure that is the reason why we are adjourning, so that as we receive these trophies from the various teams and they are also supposed to be rewarded and rewards come in very many forms, it can be verbal it can be material.

Hon. Speaker and the leadership, you are trying to ensure that the system works, the QMS works, so that the nine teams can be rewarded through any other means that you deem fit. If there are people who are very happy also, with the CASA Games is a community of this area, the boda boda riders, the tuk-tuk riders, the owners of rental houses and hospitality areas. In that one week, all the joints were full to the brim and Honourable Speaker, it was not just a question of Bungoma town, it extended to Chwele, Webuye, Ndengelwa and Bukembe, almost all parts of this county and others even went beyond our county. I have been sharing with the boda boda riders and they say that even new stages were established and business boomed. If you talk to them now, they say you really did a very good thing. We would wish that even the devolution conference, if it is possible, should be brought to Bungoma, so that our people continue enjoying. They left us with some coins and it improved the economy of Bungoma.

Finally, as a captain of the volleyball team, I want to thank my colleagues, Hon. Wafula Waiti, Vitalis, Museveni, Jacob Psero and Hon. Simotwo here. For the ladies, now that maybe the captain may not say something here, maybe she will speak outside there, we had Hon. Ndasaba, the captain of the ladies, Hon. Joan, Hon. Alice Kibaba, and others who came; they all really worked to ensure that we had the trophy.

This is the first time men's volleyball team is bringing the cup home, for the ladies, they were just maintaining, and we want to thank them, because they maintained the trophy. Hon. Ndasaba and your team, even the lady seated next to Hon. Ndasaba was also very close to us, ensuring that we won. So we have those two trophies, we participated in watching football finals, and we were also very proud for the last penalty kick where the referee missed and took the ball from inside of the goal and brought it back. He thought we were not seeing and because it was home ground, things ended and there were a few members who wanted to bring issues, but we have the trophy with us.

For the other teams, like choir, it is an obvious thing, we have been winning all along so we thank them also for maintaining. And the tag of war, though it is not in the motion, per se but it was introduced by the mover, it was supposed to be there also, becoming number two in a tug of war is not a joke, it is like they were number one because they were fighting the defending champions. Nyandarua has been there from 2017, it has been taking this, and maybe they could have been having even people from the armed forces doing it. Like us, we had Marakwet, and we told them, you field, even if you have brought the GSU men, and Hon. Ipapa can confirm, the coach was a GSU fellow, we even shared after the match, the coach of Elgeyo Marakwet, we even have his details, he served under Hon. Ipapa but we told them, you come we were circumcised at 10 a.m. That's what I told them. We were encouraged by Hon. Ndasaba, she said, you are men, enough so why should you fear these fellows? And we brought the cup home, we were very happy. As the County of Bungoma, everybody is happy, even the cup that we are going to take, we will take it with a lot of honor,

**Mr. Speaker:** On that point, Hon. Ipapa, you will have to be very brief, because we are supposed to have some speeches the other side before we go, for what we have arranged for you. Proceed, please.

**Hon. Johnston Ipapa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Let me start by lauding you in person. When the mind and the body concentrated on the game I was playing, you just walked around and said '*mzee Pongezi*', that made me have a lot of energy to play around. And I wonder where the Deputy Speaker was, if the Speaker, who is the patron of the whole game was able to walk around, I wonder where the Deputy Speaker was.

I found that during that time, I was the hot cake around and across. When I was just playing the game you found me playing, the people who were playing pool were calling me saying 'where are you? Come running, please' you can imagine how marketable I was by that time.

When we finished final of volleyball, and I was driving towards where football was, Hon. Catherine called me, that the things are hot here, Marakwet are going to do wonders against our team just come and identify these enemies., I abided by that order and I went running, when I was stopped at the gate, I said no.

**Mr. Speaker:** So you stopped the vehicle and just took off on heels?



**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** I took off and left the vehicle. I don't know how Hon. Martin was able to drive the vehicle to where I was, and we were able to save the situation. One thing that makes me also happy, the majority leader led from the front, when I was at the Kibabii University at around 8:00a.m, the Leader of Majority had already packed his vehicle waiting for the Tug of war team and that is the leadership that we admire and urge that we must lead from the front, show the people the way. I don't know if you saw the attire they were putting on that day. Were you around?

**Mr. Speaker:** I was there.

**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** That was a wonderful team; it was a military in the making. Hon. Leader of Majority and your team, we love you. What made my day on that day is how Hon. Waiti, and Hon. Alice Kibaba, were dancing, Hon. Waiti was just letting the stomach dance alone, I had never seen that and he uttered the words which were '*Wenyala emaliki*'.

*(Laughter)*

**Mr. Speaker:** For today, I will not rule you out of order, just proceed and finish.

**Hon. Johnston Ipara:** Hon. Speaker, if you paid a visit at where we were at the final of volleyball, you could see the material and the type of the person Hon. Alice Kibaba is. She was all over and everywhere and that is what made the volleyball team win. I expected the Hon. Chemion to say those details, but he intentionally refused to say.

The reason why we want to celebrate today is to remind ourselves of the hard work that the Hon. Members, men and women, of this County Assembly put together to make sure that at least we came out with those several trophies. When people were hearing that '*Businde Bubi*' they were relating '*Businde Bubi*' with where I come from. But I was saying, this is not about me, it is about how we can collect more trophies and five trophies were brought by that particular group. We celebrate them and that's why I support you've done it right and it is good to adjourn. We celebrated that achievement that has never been achieved in this county. I support.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Otsiula you wind up.

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.. First of all, I also want to appreciate the mover of this particular motion because, it goes to the root cause of celebrating a historic moment. This is the third County Assembly, hosting the fifth edition of the CASA Games.

Last year, when we came back from Nakuru, there were murmurs that only the choir members were celebrating and poking fun, especially to the members of the football team saying that when we arrived in Nakuru and we saw brown people, we got confused and embarked on other duties. This time, we lived true to the spirit and fought for this County Assembly.

First of all, on behalf of the footballers in this House, Hon. Iddi Chamawi, the Hon. Allan Nyongesa, the Leader of Minority Hon. Anthony Lusenaka, Hon. Jack Kawa, Hon. George

Makari, Hon. Aggrey Mulongo and the Hon. Everton Nganga, these members worked very hard.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Edwin Opura,

**Hon. Benjamin Otsiula:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for that timely reminder. I want to appreciate their efforts and their sacrifice despite the several injuries they sustained, but they persevered until the crowning moment when you arrived at the stadium for people to feel the Speaker of the third County Assembly of Bungoma and you never disappointed. You kept on showering praise and reminded us before the match kicked off that the trophy must remain at home and actually we ensured through all means that we retain the trophy.

I want to appreciate those members and the leadership team. But the most important reason why I'm speaking is before these games, the mood in this county was very low, people appeared not sure of themselves, people were not excited, people were gloomy but when the game set in, people were rushing to Kibabii, people were dancing, others were coming to witness what was happening across the town and the mood picked up. This shows, if we prepared ourselves very well, through sports we can unite this county and take this county to the next level.

My question is if the County Assembly of Bungoma has set the record straight and demonstrated that through sports we can bring this county from where it is to another level, what is the Department of Youth and Sports doing? What are their plans? Because a question that was being posed to us as Hon. Members at the stadium, they were saying, 'now Hon. Members, we have seen you are dancing very well, you are promoting culture, volleyball has won, football is now here during the finals, what have you planned for the other members in the county?'

As we celebrate these heroes here today, as we are going to hand over trophies here today, I think I want the Department of Youth and Sports, that is in the County Government of Bungoma, to pull up their socks, make budgetary provisions to ensure that as much as we as Hon. Members are lifting this county up, they are also doing something to nurture the talents of our young people who are at home. There are very good footballers, there are very good volley ballers down there, but when we are going to break during the December holidays, you will realize that these Hon. Members are going into their pockets to run tournaments.

A Hon. Member is going to sacrifice Kshs.400, 000 or KShs.500, 000 to run a tournament, but as the executive, what are they doing? They celebrated our sweat. In fact, the *Waziris* were there, they were very happy shaking our hands and feeling very good as we struggle to put this county on the map. This is a timely reminder that next year, we want to see them do something. Otherwise, I support..

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you, Leader of Majority

**Hon. Joseph Nyongesa (Mover):** First, let me appreciate Members for your support to at least join and officially receive the trophies. I have received a very humble request from the

Leader of the Minority that how he wishes that we extend the celebration up to 9:00p.m so that we take care of some members who are always active from 7:00p.m to 9:00p.m. and I know, with your good heart at least, you will have to put it into consideration.

Again, I also want to appreciate Members, you know, when we had joined it was majorly to practice for these games but now we are seeing the results. In future, we should take it seriously. I have taken note of what Members have said, especially the Department of Gender to take note, so that as we aged people are doing practice we should also take care of our young ones.

These games have really changed the face of Bungoma because the level where Bungoma is just another level even most of the counties were celebrating Bungoma, especially Kakamega. We should keep up and the proper organization from the Assembly, you won't compare it with the Executive. Even the Liaison officers are aware also that the level where the Assembly is different.

We have really marketed our county, and we know through also our forums and speakers, they are also encouraged to do their retreats in Bungoma. You see, we have a lot of facilities and again, we should not also forget that when we were doing the corporate work in our town, members of the public were very happy. I wish that as leadership of this Assembly, we keep on with the corporate social responsibility either monthly or quarterly so that we get in touch with our people. We have our key towns here; Bungoma, Webuye, Kimilili, Chwele, so that we shall be rotating to ensure that the people feel the presence of the Assembly. Another request is that when we enter into the celebration room, I wish members could be given enough time to express their happiness and share their experiences in various fields, so that we can see how we can bring out the happiness in them.

**Mr. Speaker:** Thank you Leader of Majority and the beauty part of it is that Hon. MCAs will be handled by you so see what will happen to bring out the happiness in them. Members allow me now be able to put a question to the motion that has been moved by the leader of Majority and seconded by deputy whip of minority

*(Question put and agreed to)*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Speaker:** Members I have heard that you want to go and express happiness and give speeches, my request is one, from here we go to the hall directly and we start the exercise by team captains giving brief remarks then the leadership, we receive trophies and have lunch. We have enough lunch, around 8 *mbuzis* just to eat, we are having lunch for 300 comprising of members of staff, Hon. Members and our support staff because they were part of us.

Allow me adjourn the House so that we go to the hall directly. Chair Sports we are proud of you. We adjourn.

*The House rose at 11:21 p.m.*