

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY, 13TH MARCH, 2025

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

4th Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY, 13TH MARCH, 2025

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, I have communications to make;

Visiting Delegation from Nan'geni Girls Secondary School

Today in our public gallery; we do have a visiting delegation. Hon. Members, I am delighted to welcome the visiting students and teachers of Nan'geni girl's Secondary School from West Bukusu Ward in Bumula Sub County to our Assembly today.

It is with great pleasure that we receive you for this educational tour which offers you a unique opportunity to witness first hand operations of County legislative and gain valuable insight into the process that shape the policies affecting our society.

The visiting delegation comprises of 36 history students. Kindly be upstanding, kindly be seated please!

(Applause)

They are accompanied by the following teachers; be upstanding when I call out your name;

1. Mr. Samuel Wanyama
2. Ms. Joyce Chepkwemoi
3. Mr. Abong Shadrack

Kindly be seated!

(Applause)

I encourage you to learn from the experience of the staff and the Hon. Members and further, the door of the County Assembly is always open for students who like to know or who have shown interest in a democratic process to have guidance on development.

Hon. Members, I will allow you to make some brief remarks about our visiting delegation in the gallery but as you are all aware we have four motions on our Order Paper. So I will allow at most six members. We will get guided Hon. Members. We have the Chair of Education and equally the host MCA; we will see what happens at that hour. Let's proceed please!

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the floor of the House by the Majority Leader Hon. Joseph Nyongesa;

1. Report of the Auditor General on the County Assembly of Bungoma for the year ended 30th June 2024.
2. Report of the Auditor General on the County executive of Bungoma for the year ended 30th June 2024.
3. Report of the Auditor General on the County Revenue Fund for the year ended 30th June 2024 County Government of Bungoma.
4. Report of the Auditor General on the Receiver of Revenue Statements for the year ended 30th June 2024 County Government of Bungoma.
5. The Annual report of the County Assembly Service Board for the period ended January - December 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, allow me commit the following documents as read out from number one to four

1. The Auditor General's report on County Assembly of Bungoma for the Financial Year ending 30th June 2024
2. The Auditor General's report on County executive of Bungoma for the Financial Year ending 30th June 2024
3. Report of the Auditor General on the County Revenue Fund for the year ended 30th June 2024 County Government of Bungoma
4. Report of the Auditor General on the Receiver of Revenue statements for the year ended 30th June 2024 County Government of Bungoma

Hon. Members, I commit the four documents to the committee of Public Accounts Committee for processing and reporting back to the House accordingly.

Subsequently, The Annual report of the County Assembly Service Board for the period ending January - 31st December 2024 is committed to the Committee of Labour and Social Services for processing and reporting back to the House accordingly.

**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE, ENERGY AND
INDUSTRIALISATION ON THE BUNGOMA COUNTY TRADE, DEVELOPMENT
LOAN FUND QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30TH 2024**

Mr. Speaker: Chair committee of Trade, Energy and Industrialization. The beauty of it is that we will find a way and get a member, we won't adjourn this matter. Yes chair, do you have a report? No, what will you be tabling? The order paper, you can't! Have the report please because ultimately Hon. Charles after tabling, you must bring it forward to the Chair, kindly proceed!

Hon. Charles Nangulu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table a report on the Bungoma County Trade and Development Loan Fund Quarterly Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 30th June 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, the report by the sector Committee on Trade, Energy and Industrialization on the Bungoma County Trade Development Loans Fund Quarterly report and Financial Statement for the period ending 30th June 2024 is hereby tabled by the committee and the same becomes the property of the House accordingly.

**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER
SERVICE AND FACILITIES ON ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUNGOMA COUNTY
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY -DECEMBER 2023**

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Martin!

Hon. Martin Chemorion: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir, allow me to lay a report by the sectoral Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on Annual Report of the Bungoma County Public Service Board for the period January- December 2023. I table!

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, the report by the sector committee on Labour Relations Member Services and Facilities on Annual Report of The Bungoma County Public Service Board for the period from January -December 2023 is hereby laid before this House. Accordingly, it becomes the property of the House.

**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL
TRAINING ON THE BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS
AT 30TH JUNE, 2024**

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Ipara!

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I have the privilege to table a report by the sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the bursary and scholarship Financial Statements as at 30th June 2024. I table.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, the report by the sector committee on Education and Vocational Training on the Bursary and Scholarship Financial Statements as at 30th June 2024 is hereby tabled by the committee. The same becomes the property of the House accordingly.

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE OF TRADE, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIALISATION ON BUNGOMA COUNTY TRADE DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Charles Nangulu!

Hon. Charles Nangulu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give a notice of motion that this House adopts the report by the sectoral Committee of Trade, Energy and Industrialization on Bungoma County Trade Development Fund for Quarterly Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 30th June 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, a notice has been duly issued by the sector committee, that this House does adopt the report by the sector Committee on Trade, Energy and Industrialization on the Bungoma County Trade Development Loan Fund Quarterly Reports and Financial Statements for the period ending 30th June 2024. The same report be shared to the Hon. Members. It is going to come up as a motion on our Order Paper once the same is scheduled by the HBC accordingly.

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BUNGOMA COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2023

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Martin, you proceed!

Hon. Martin Chemorion: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. I rise to issue a notice of motion that the House adopts a report by the sectoral Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on Annual Report of Bungoma County Public Service Board for the period January-December 2023.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, a notice of motion has been duly issued by the sector Committee that this House does adopt the report by the sector committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on Annual Reports of the Bungoma County Public Service Board for the period from January-December 2023. The said report be shared to Hon. Members so that you prepare for the same once it comes up as a motion on our Order Paper accordingly!

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE BURSARY AND SCHOLARSHIP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30TH JUNE, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ipara, you proceed and issue the notice accordingly!

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker Sir, I rise to issue a notice of motion that this House adopts the report by the sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the Bursary and Scholarship Financial Statements as at 30th June 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, lastly a notice of motion has been duly issued by the sector Committee that this House does adopt the report by the sector Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the bursary and scholarship Financial Statements as at 30th June 2024. The same will be shared on your gadgets and it is going to come up as a motion on our Order Paper once the same is scheduled by HBC accordingly.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

APPRECIATING NAN'GENI GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR VISITING THE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, allow me invite some few speakers to appreciate our visitors in our public gallery of our visiting school Nan'geni girls Secondary school from West Bukusu ward and Bumula Sub County. Yes Hon. Luseneka,

Hon. Anthony Luseneka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am standing in for Hon. Job Mukoyandali who is the area MCA for the school.

First, I want to take this opportunity to welcome all the students and teachers to the County Assembly of Bungoma. I think they have come here to learn and I am very sure they have been taken through by our able Seargent from the start to the last point when the Assembly closes.

Mine is just to encourage the students to work hard in school and inform them that education is the only equalizer in life. Without proper education, your destiny may fall into bad hands. I just want to request the students to take their studies seriously, take advice from your teachers, at home respect your parents and even you have also to acknowledge that we have a living God who gives you that life to be in that school.

Disciplined students will go far, but if you are not disciplined at home and in school your life may be complicated, so remain disciplined.

Nan'geni is a very nice school. During our time it was one of the best schools in the County. We have students who may admire that school and they have never gotten that opportunity, so use that chance well and think about your future as you pass through that school. Mine is just to wish them the best as they prepare for this year's exams.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Luseneka, our Leader of Minority. Hon. Deputy Speaker Stephen Wafula, proceed!

Hon. Stephen Wafula: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also rise to make some few remarks touching on the entourage of our students from Nan'geni and their teachers. First of all, I want to congratulate them for choosing to come and inform them that this is actually as a result and fruits of devolution. You are here courtesy of the new Constitution which was promulgated in 2010 and brought about devolution and Counties. Of course you are aware that we have 47 Counties but we have 48 Governments that is 47 County Governments and one National Government but we are doing the work of serving the people of Kenya.

You have to be aware that we have devolved functions, which I am very sure your teachers have told you and now you are here practically to learn and interact with devolution itself. This is an Assembly and we are firm on ensuring that we deliver, represent you as our electorates, oversight the Government that is the executive and also legislate. Those are the premium functions of this Assembly.

When you come here therefore, I am very sure that the orderlies have taken you around; you have seen how the County Government and County Assembly of Bungoma is, when you go back to your school, interact and share with your colleagues who did not make it here. By doing that, you will be internalizing exactly what you learnt from here but remember you came here and we have to give you advice that take education seriously.

They say very many things about education. They say it's the key to the future, others say it's the greatest equalizer of our times and indeed it's true because you come from different families, some of you come from very rich families and others come from poor families but when you are in school you are at the same level. The teachers give you the same content. What you will get from that school after your season there, because you are there for a short season and reason, you will walk out of that gate alone carrying your own box or results and therefore take your education seriously so that tomorrow you can share a table with the sons and daughters of the high-ranking officials of this country.

So I want to wish you well because from what our Speaker said you are history and Government students and it is history that makes us know where we are coming from, where we are and makes us aware of where we have to go. So when you are here, we want to appreciate for your coming and when you go back keep on working hard and smart so that at the end of the season

you can take home good results that will also take care of your future. May God bless you and as you go back to your schools, may you have a safe drive back. Thank you and God bless.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, allow me on behalf of the remaining MCAs present, the Assembly Management and the entire staff to wish the students from Nan'geni girls all the best in their studies and as put by the Deputy Speaker that Education is the only equalizer in this life. Work hard because your education will make a difference in your future. We proceed.

Next item,

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE COUNTY FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I also have on my table the progress report from the Budget Committee. So allow me invite, Hon. Charles to prosecute the same.

Hon. Charles Nangulu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am here to give a report by the Committee on Budget and Appropriations, a progress report on the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the Financial Year 2025-2026.

The progress report to the County Assembly on the County Fiscal Strategy Paper Financial Year 225/2026

Pursuant to the Standing Order 202(2), the committee on Budget and Appropriation seeks leave of the House for the extension of time.

The County Fiscal Strategy Paper FY 2025/2026 was submitted to the County Assembly on Friday 28th February 2025 and tabled in this House on Tuesday 4th March 2025 at 2.30 PM sitting. It was committed to the Budget and Appropriation Committee and deemed to have also been committed to all sectorial committees to interrogate their respective sectors and make recommendations to the Budget and Appropriations committee as provided in the Standing Order 231 (4).

It is worth noting that the regulation 30(4) of the PFM regulations 2015 and Standing Order 231 (5) state that a County Assembly should adopt the County Fiscal Strategy Paper by 15th March. The Budget and Appropriations committee carried out the Public participation on Monday 10th March 2025 as required by article 196(1) and 201(b) of the Constitution of Kenya. However, the sector committees could not carry out the interrogations because they were engaged in interrogation of the First Supplementary Budgets FY 2024/2025.

It is on this background that the committees seek more time to consider the County Fiscal Strategy Paper FY 2025/2026 and table its report on or before 10th April 2025.

Mr. Speaker: So, the timeframe you require from now!

Hon. Charles Nangulu: You give us time before 10th April 2025.

Mr. Speaker: We will grant you that period sought but you make sure that you comply because the timeframe I have given in essence three more weeks from the deadline which is supposed to be tomorrow 14th. So you will be having nearly four weeks because like from 14th of this month to 14th next month it's basically four weeks. Kindly do the necessary and give us feedback accordingly. We proceed!

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

MOTION

REPORT BY THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2024

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. This is a report by the sectoral committee on Education and Vocational training on the consolidated financial statements for the period ended 30th June 2024.

Preamble

It is my duty to present the report by the Committee of Education and Vocational Training on the 4th Quarter Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2023/2024 for the period ended 30th June, 2024. The 4th Quarter Financial Statements was tabled in this County Assembly of Bungoma on 16th October 2024 and stood committed to all Sectoral Committees for their interrogation, input and recommendation through a report to this Honorable House.

Mandate of the Committee

The Sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training is constituted pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 217 of the County Assembly of Bungoma and has executed its mandate in accordance with number (5) of the aforementioned Standing Order that provides:

Committee Membership

The committee currently is constituted by the following members.

1. Hon. Benjamin Otsiula	-	Chairperson
2. Hon. Stephen Kaiser	-	V/Chairperson
3. Hon. Joan Kirong	-	Member
4. Hon. Ali Machani	-	Member
5. Hon. Jack Kawa	-	Member
6. Hon. Hentry Nyongesa	-	Member
7. Hon. Christine Mukhongo	-	Member
8. Hon. Abraham Obama	-	Member
9. Hon. Aggrey Mulongo	-	Member

10. Hon. Jacob Psero	-	Member
11. Hon. Vitalis Wangila	-	Member
12. Hon. Timothy Chikati	-	Member
13. Hon. Charles Nangulu	-	Member
14. Hon. Franklin Simotwo	-	Member
15. Hon. Johnston Ipara	-	Member

Guiding principles in the Examination of the Bungoma County Government Quarterly Reports and Financial statements

In the execution of its mandate, the Committee of Education and Vocational Training is given a legal backing under the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Public Finance Management Act, 2012, County Governments Act, 2012. These statutory provisions include:

1. Constitutional Principles on Public Finance

Article 201 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 enacts fundamental principles that “*...shall guide all aspects of public finance in the Republic...*” These principles include, *inter alia*, that: **201(a)** *there shall be openness and accountability, including public participation in financial matters;* **201(d)** *Public money shall be used in a prudent and responsible way; and 201(e)* *financial management shall be responsible, and fiscal reporting shall be clear.*

Section 149(1) (a) and (b) of the PFM Act 2012 provides as follow... “*an accounting officer is accountable to the County Assembly for ensuring that the resources of the entity for which the officer is designated are used in a way that is;*

- a) *Lawful and authorized*
- b) *Effective, efficient, economical and transparent*

2. Direct Personal Liability

Article 226(5) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 is emphatic that “*If the holder of a public office, including a political office, directs or approves the use of public funds contrary to law or instructions, the person is liable for any loss arising from that use and shall make good the loss, whether the person remains the holder of the office or not*”.

3. Obligations of Accounting Officers

The Public Finance Management Act, 2012 section 166 states as follows;

- 1. *An accounting officer for a county government entity shall prepare a report for each quarter of the financial year in respect of the entity.*

2. *In preparing a quarterly report for a county government entity, the accounting officer shall ensure that the report—*
 - (a) *contains information on the financial and nonfinancial performance of the entity; and*
 - (b) *is in a form determined by the Accounting Standards Board.*
3. *Not later, than fifteen days after the end of each quarter, the accounting officer shall submit the quarterly report to the County Treasury.*
4. *Not later than one month after the end of each quarter, the County Treasury shall—*
 - (a) *consolidate the quarterly reports and submit them to the county assembly;*
 - (b) *deliver copies to the Controller of Budget, National Treasury and the Commission on Revenue Allocation; and*
 - (c) *publish and publicize them*

Acknowledgment

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Committee for dedicating their time to examine the 4th Quarter Financial Statements for the Finance Year 2023/2024, for the period ended 30th June 2024. The Committee would also like to appreciate the Secretariat commitment. Lastly, the Committee is grateful to your office and the office of the Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for logistical support received as it discharged its mandate.

It is therefore my privilege, on behalf of the Committee on Education and Vocational Training, to table the Report on the 4th Quarter Financial Statements with respect to the Department of Education and Vocational Training for Financial Year 2023/2024 for the period ended 30th June 2024.

The report is signed by Hon. Benjamin Otsiula, MCA Khasoko Ward who is also the chairperson to the committee on Education and Vocational Training.

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

The department of Education & Vocational Training had an approved budget of Kshs. 1,675,682,113 comprising of Kshs. 1,215,580,113 recurrent and Kshs. 460,102,000 as per the approved 2nd supplementary budget. The absorption of the budget was Kshs. 1,452,178,187 which represents 87% of the entire budget. Recurrent expenditure was Kshs. 1,136,025,651 representing absorption of 93% of recurrent vote while development expenditure of Kshs. 316,152,536 represented 69% of the development vote.

The recurrent expenditures were on the following programs and sub-programs;

- Salaries and allowances - Kshs. 1,091,005,099 representing 92% absorption.

- Administrative and support services with a cumulative allocation of kshs.26, 742,943 (i.e. Kshs. 18,936,951 Education and Kshs. 9,655,828 for VTCs), absorbed Kshs. 43,221,202 which translates to 86% of the allocation.
- Policy formulation expenditure under VTC had an allocation of Kshs. 765,902 with Nil absorption

The development vote realized absorptions in the following votes

- Education support program (bursary & Scholarship) with an allocation of Kshs.321, 700,000 in the approved budget absorbed Kshs. 191,312,575. However, the financial statement listed the allocations as Kshs. 205,000,000. On this, the Department submission was that only Kshs. 90,000,000 million was received by close of financial year while the balance of Kshs. 216 Million was remitted in August of this financial year. The Committee took note of these discrepancies in reporting and notes that absorption was therefore 59% and not 93% as projected.
- Ward based projects was allocated Kshs. 86,602,000 in the approved budget. The financial statement had put this at Kshs. 94,620,000 and an expenditure of Kshs. 83,528,176, thus absorption of 96%. However, from the submission of the Department, only Kshs. 18,961,300 had been spent translating to 22% absorption
- Infrastructural development under education had an allocation of Kshs. 9,400,000 and not Kshs. 6,000,000 as it appears in the financial statements. This allocation includes renovation of DICECE and construction of a toilet in the same facility at Kshs. 4,000,000, construction of ECDE classrooms at Kaptungurwo, Bunjosi and Sirende Primary Schools at Kshs. 5,400,000. With an expenditure of Kshs. 5, 973,705, the absorption is 64% and not 100% as reported.
- Pending bills had an allocation of Kshs. 18,000,000 which the Department submitted to have paid pending bills totalling to Kshs. 17,567,479.10. Additionally, the Department submitted to have pending bills and commitments totalling to Kshs. 253,477,282 with recurrent being Kshs. 10,409,841 and development being Kshs. 243,067,441.
- VTC capitation had an allocation of Kshs. 19,000,000 in the approved budget incurred an expenditure of Kshs. 18,277,610 translating to 96% absorption
- VTC infrastructure had been allocated kshs.5, 400,000 and not Kshs. 30,000,000 as presented. This was meant for construction of Masaek VTC classroom -Kshs. 1Million and Mwiyenga VTC administration block Kshs.4,400,000 ,whereas the Financial statement submitted Zero expenditure, the submission from the Department reveal an expenditure of Kshs. 4,449,895 which was the full contract sum for the construction works at Mwiyenga VTC.

On Accounts receivables in the department, Kshs.5, 626,575 was reported in the Financial Statements as being the outstanding imprest with one of the imprest appearing to have been taken outside of the period under review i.e. 15th July 2024. However, the Department submitted to have surrendered all imprests amounting to Kshs. 5,326,575 while the imprest taken in the month of July was a standing office imprest that are usually surrendered when depleted and applying for a new one.

There is a declaration of Kshs. 14,985,000 as transfers to various VTCs accounts while consolidated bank balance of all VTCs as at the end of June 2024 was Kshs. 4,455,723. The money relates to the VTC capitation as captured above. Other bank balances in the accounts of the Department include;

- a. Bursary account at KCB – Kshs. 243,234,110
- b. Bungoma County Village polytechnic project account at CBK – Kshs. 140,646
- c. Bungoma Vocational Training consolidated account – Kshs. 4,455,723
- d. Bungoma County Education support scheme account at CBK – Kshs. 3,687,425

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee Observations

The committee made the following observations;

1. There were a lot of discrepancies between the allocation for programs in the financial statement and the approved budget. For instance the financial statement provide for education support scheme of Kshs. 205,000,000 and VTC capitation of Kshs. 64,944,080 while the approved budget had education support scheme at Kshs. 321,700,000 and VTC capitation at Kshs. 19,000,000. Additionally, the figures of expenditures tabled by the Department appears to be different from those figures submitted by Treasury in the Consolidated Financial statement pointing to erroneous entry by the Reporting Unit at Treasury or submission of different figures to Treasury and County Assembly by the Department
2. There were low expenditures on the Department's capital expenditures such as Ward Based Projects where most projects were submitted as Not Completed yet there were funds available in the budget from the approval of the annual Budget in June of 2023. It is from such low absorption that the County ends incurring more pending bills as these funds once available and re-voted in the Supplementary budget, do end up being taken to other emerging projects and program.
3. There was very low uptake of Educational Support Scheme fund allocation and this has greatly affected most beneficiaries who end up being at home when schools are in session. This negates the very objective for which the funds were set up to do which is to

ensure that needy and deserving learners do not miss a chance to pursue their education due to lack of fees.

4. The County Treasury did report a pending bill for the Department as Kshs. 13,160,777 at the beginning of the financial year 2023/24 where it managed to clear only Kshs. 1,657,500 leaving a balance of Kshs. 11,503,277. While the approved budget had an allocation of Kshs. 18,000,000 which the Department submitted to have utilized in paying up pending bills to the tune of Kshs. 17,567,479.10. Additionally, the Department reported a huge pending bill of Kshs. 253,477,282 with recurrent being Kshs. 10,409,841 and development being Kshs. 243,067,441. This discrepancy is what makes the County Assembly not have a clearer picture as to the exact pending bill situation in the County for it to appropriately appropriate funds to offset them.
5. There is lack of clarity on the utilization of office standing imprests by the Department. What the payments relate to were not disclosed

Recommendations

The Committee made the following recommendations;

1. **THAT**, the Department should liaise with the treasury to prevent discrepancies between the figures in the financial statements and the approved budget.
2. **THAT**, the department should increase absorption of ward based projects as funds are available in the approved annual budget. This will reduce on the pending bills as unused funds are reallocated in the Supplementary Budget
3. **THAT**, the department should ensure timely disbursement of funds to ensure that financially disadvantaged learners can pursue education without fee-related barriers.
4. **THAT**, the department should provide a comprehensive list of the pending bills for the County Assembly to get a clear understanding of the pending bill situation for proper allocation of funds to address the outstanding debts.
5. **THAT**, the department should provide a clear list of outstanding imprests.

The adoption schedule is signed by all members and other attachments are attached. At this juncture let me call upon Hon. Jacob Psero to second this motion.

Hon. Jacob Psero: Mr. Speaker sir, I want to thank you for this opportunity to second this motion. First of all, I want to thank my colleague Hon. Ipara for reading the report, he has been audible enough and I believe all members were listening and they have gotten the point.

It has been noted in the report that there is improvement in imprest surrender as far as this department is concerned because we have been told that most of the imprest has been paid despite some small areas and this is an issue that should be emulated by other departments.

The issue of pending bills is still a problem as far as this department is concerned and we are asking the department to ensure that these pending bills are paid at the right time. At the same time, initiated projects should be completed so that the intended purpose is considered, for example, if it was an ECDE class room we must be able to complete so that the learners can be able to utilize these classes and be able to do good learning.

The issue of budgets has been discussed deeply in this report and we must be strict when it comes to budget implementation so that we don't get cases of pending bills or balances which proceeds to the preceding year. I wish to appreciate the department for the good work done and I urge this House to pass this motion the way it has been read. I second

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, allow me be able to propose a motion for debate

(Motion proposed)

Hon. Anthony Luseneka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Before I declare whether I am supporting or not because you even saw the seconder was not even sure whether he was supporting the report or not...I want to appreciate the mover of the motion and the Committee on Education but from the report you can see some loopholes.

This House on 15th June 2023, if I can remember, we approved a budget of KShs.320 Million for scholarships and bursaries, Scholarship was KShs.140 Million while bursaries was KShs.180 Million which translated to Shs.4 Million per Ward totaling to around KShs.320Million which was supposed to be spend during the financial year 2023/24.

From the report, only KShs.190 Million was used as at 30th June 2024. Last year August, after having several meetings in this plenary, this House moved a motion of County importance whereby it unlocked the release of KShs.130 Million as bursary money but from the report we have gotten it is not clear whether the KShs.10Million that was released in August was falling under 2023/24 financial year or not. From the explanation from the CECM Finance, this money was utilized under the financial year 2024/25, so what happened to the balance of 2023/24 which was KShs.130Million? It seems that money was lost somewhere, so when this House appropriates money for a certain project, let that money be used for the budgeted use.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Leader of Minority, why can't you be very systematic because I am lost, as I and you are aware, in the year 2022/23 before elections, the Governor was able to access Kshs.140Million spend even before we approved the expenditure, I hope you are aware.

Hon. Anthony Luseneka: Hon. Speaker, I am talking about 2023/24, this House allocated KShs.140Milion for scholarships and KShs.180Million for bursaries and that is a total of KShs.320Million. From the report, only KShs.190Miillion was utilized leaving a balance of KShs.130Million, this KShs.130 Million was released last year August after this House approving a motion of County importance but from the report we are not being told if this KShs.130Million was under financial year 2023/24.

From the explanation of CECM Finance, this money that was released last year August was part of the financial year 2024/25, so I am asking what happened to the balance of 2023/24, the KShs.130Million, it seems it was lost somewhere because there is no proper explanation. We didn't utilize all the funds yet the KShs.130Million has eaten into this year's kitty so even if the Controller of Budget had approved that Bungoma County goes ahead and gives bursaries as budgeted, we could not manage to give out the 4 million per Ward and 45 million for scholarships. So my question is what happened to the balance of 130 Million for the financial year 2023-2024 and what prompted the CEC Finance to utilize the current financial year's funds for the bursary that was meant for 2023/2024. The committee should come out clearly and tell us because we are losing money somewhere.

Every project that is approved by this House and budgeted that money should exactly be used for that particular purpose but from the look of things money is being diverted to other things so the committee should come out clear and tell us this money that was released in August last year was for financial year 2024/2025 or 2023/2024. That is my question.

Mr. Speaker: Yes it appears there are no contributors. Hon. Ipara you replied the motion accordingly.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker, I want to thank Hon. Luseneka for the statements that he has made and I want to be very clear here. The money that were released by the exchequer through the motion of county interest were released in the subsequent year and the report that was tabled here for adoption has all the details and it will spell out how the balances are and it will also indicate the balances that are supposed to be brought forward. So it is well addressed on that and in this one, we only talked about money that was available and the department was not able to spend by that.

With that I want to plead with the Hon. Members that we adopt this report as it is so that we also compel the executive to comply with the good recommendations and observations that we have made. I submit

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Ipara for the reply to the motion. Hon. Members allow me now proceed and be able to put a question to the motion beforehand so that the House may be able to make a decision over the same.

(Question put ad agreed to.)

Ayes have it.

(Applause)

The report plus its recommendations are hereby adopted by the house accordingly. The next item on the Order Paper

**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE ENERGY AND
INDUSTRIALIZATION ON THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE ENERGY AND INDUSTRIALIZATION FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-2024**

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti Wafula, you proceed on behalf of the committee and move the report accordingly.

Hon. Waiti Wafula: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand here to move a motion on Trade Energy and Industrialization Committee, a report on the consolidated financial statements for the department of trade energy and industrialization for the financial year 2023-2024. Page two is the table of contents.

Preamble

It is my duty to present the report by the Committee on Trade, Energy and Industrialization on the consolidated Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2023/2024. The document was tabled in this County Assembly of Bungoma on 16th October, 2024 and stood committed to the Committee for interrogation, input and recommendation through a report to this House. The committee invited the department to appear before it within the precincts of the County Assembly of Bungoma vide a letter REF CAB/ADM/6VOL.V (16). The committee carried its interrogation on 8th November 2024, at 9:00 am.

(a)

Committee Membership

The following is the committee membership as currently constituted;

1. Hon. Bernard Kikechi	Chairperson
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2. Hon. Joan Kirong	Member
3. Hon. Milliah Masungo	Member
4. Hon. Wafula Waiti	Member
5. Hon. Kimeta Polycarp	Member
6. Hon. Jack Wambulwa	Member
7. Hon. Alfred Mukhanya	Member
8. Hon. Ali Machani	Member
9. Hon. George Makari	Member
10. Hon. Cornelius Makhanu	Member
11. Hon. Tony Barasa	Member
12. Hon. Godfrey Mukhwana	Member
13. Hon. Charles Nangulu	Member
14. Hon. Jerusa Aleu	Member
15. Hon. Stephen Kaiser	Member

Guiding principles in the Examination of the Bungoma County Government Quarterly Reports and Financial statements

In the execution of its mandate, the Committee on Trade, Energy & Industrialization is given a legal backing under the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Public Finance Management Act, 2012, and County Governments Act, 2012. These statutory provisions include:

1. Constitutional Principles on Public Finance

Article 201 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 enacts fundamental principles that “...*shall guide all aspects of public finance in the Republic...*” These principles include, *inter alia*, that: **201(a)** *There shall be openness and accountability, including public participation in financial matters;* **201(d)** *Public money shall be used in a prudent and responsible way; and 201(e)* *Financial management shall be responsible, and fiscal reporting shall be clear.*

Section 149(1) (a) and (b) of the PFM Act 2012 provides as follows... “*an accounting officer is accountable to the County Assembly for ensuring that the resources of the entity for which the officer is designated are used in a way that is;*

- c) *Lawful and authorized*
- d) *Effective, efficient, economical and transparent*

2. Direct Personal Liability

Article 226(5) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 is emphatic that “*If the holder of a public office, including a political office, directs or approves the use of public funds contrary to law or instructions, the person is liable for any loss arising from that use and shall make good the loss, whether the person remains the holder of the office or not*”.

3. Obligations of Accounting Officers

The Public Finance Management Act, 2012 section 166 states as follows;

- 5. *An accounting officer for a county government entity shall prepare a report for each quarter of the financial year in respect of the entity.*

6. *In preparing a quarterly report for a county government entity, the accounting officer shall ensure that the report—*
 - (a) *contains information on the financial and nonfinancial performance of the entity; and*
 - (b) *is in a form determined by the Accounting Standards Board.*
7. *Not later, than fifteen days after the end of each quarter, the accounting officer shall submit the quarterly report to the County Treasury.*
8. *Not later than one month after the end of each quarter, the County Treasury shall—*
 - (a) *consolidate the quarterly reports and submit them to the county assembly;*
 - (b) *deliver copies to the Controller of Budget, National Treasury and the Commission on Revenue Allocation; and*
 - (c) *publish and publicize them*

Acknowledgement

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank the office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the willingness to facilitate the Committee during its assignment. I also acknowledge the Honourable Members and the secretariat for their utmost commitment towards the compilation of this report. I further do confirm that the recommendations of the Committee in this report were unanimous.

It is therefore my pleasant privilege and honour to present to this House the report of the Committee on Trade, Energy and Industrialization on the consolidated financial statements for the financial year 2023/2024.

Report signed by Chairperson, Trade, Energy & Industrialization Committee

Department of Trade, Energy & Industrialization Expenditure Analysis

The department of Trade, Energy & Industrialization had a budget of Kshs. 836,274,599 comprising of Kshs 68,931,358 recurrent and Kshs. 767,343,241 for Development as per the approved 2nd supplementary budget 2023/24. During the period under review the department had an absorption rate of Kshs. 355,721,294, translating to 43%.

2.1.1 Budget execution by programmes and sub-programmes

Budget execution by programmes and sub-programmes provided under the recurrent vote reveals the following;

i. Trade sub-section

Under Trade, the allocation as per the approved supplementary budget was Kshs. 25,637,165 while the absorption was Kshs. 24,983,629 translating to 97%. The sub programs that incurred expenditures are; salaries absorbing Kshs. 21,188,073 of the allocated Kshs. 21,316,482 (99%), and operations and maintenance Kshs. 3,152,235 of the allocated Kshs. 4,320,683 indicating (73%) absorption.

ii. Energy sub-section

In the Energy sub-sector, the allocation as per the approved supplementary budget was Kshs. 36,222,416 while the absorption was Kshs. 20,750,187 translating to an absorption rate of 57%.

The sub programs that incurred expenditures are; Human Resources development which includes basic salaries and personal allowances paid as part of salary which absorbed Kshs. 2,351,397 (56%) of the allocated Kshs. 4,219,452. Planning and support services recorded NIL absorption of the allocated Kshs. 587,361. Further, administrative services in the sub-section absorbed Kshs. 18,398,790 (59%) against an allocation of Kshs. 31,415,603. Electricity expenses had an allocation of Kshs. 26,000,000 and incurred an expenditure of Kshs. 13,832,660, indicating (51%) absorption.

iii. Industrialisation sub-section

In the Industrialization sub-section, the allocation as per the approved supplementary budget was Kshs. 7,071,777. During the period under consideration the section absorbed a total of Kshs. 3,523,500 translating to 50%. Administrative services had a total allocation of Kshs. 5,185,857 while salaries had Kshs. 1,885,920. The salaries vote under the sub-section had NIL absorption.

The committee observed low absorption in the salary votes; the Energy sub-section absorbed Kshs. 2,351,397 (56%) whereas Industrialization had NIL. During interrogation, the department elaborated that the low absorption in the salary vote in the Energy sub-section occurred because one officer was transferred to a parastatal and other four engineers were due for promotions. However, CHRAC (County Human Resources Advisory Committee) did not fulfil the department's request with regard to the promotions.

Budget execution by programs and sub-programs under Development

The development budget with a total allocation of Kshs. 767,343,241 realized absorption of Kshs. 306,463,979 translating to 40% of the entire development budget. Further, Ward Based Projects with an allocation of Kshs. 48,336,000 realized an absorption of Kshs. 42,405,382 (88%).

The execution by programs and sub-programs under Development were as follows;

Trade Sub-section

a) Market infrastructure development

There were absorptions under Market development of Kshs. 85,639,736 from an allocation of Kshs. 124,000,000 translating to (69%) absorption rate. The allocation is broken down as follows; Kipsigon market had (Kshs. 5,000,000), Chwele market (Kshs. 27,000,000) and Kamukuywa (Kshs. 92,000,000).

Documents submitted with regard to market infrastructure to the County Assembly for interrogation of budget performance reveal payments made to a tune of Kshs. 76,834,818. A total of Kshs. 4,802,350 contract sum was paid for fencing Kipsigon Market, Kshs. 72,032,468 a cumulative of 3 payment certificates honoured for the construction of Kamukuywa Market and NIL payment for Chwele Market infrastructure.

With regard to the status of absorption/payments made to construction of Markets with a total allocation of Kshs. 124 million i.e. (Kamukuywa - 92M, Chwele - 27M and Kipsigon - 5M), the department submitted as follows:

Kipsigon market had absorbed 100% of the total allocation since the initial scope of work had been done. Chwele market infrastructure development was estimated to be at 90% complete with regard to scopes of work. It was noted that the remaining works are drainage works; however, there was Nil absorption. The department submitted that payments with regard to Chwele market were processed but due to exchequer delays, the contractor was not paid. Further, the committee was informed that the idea of the National government taking up the Kamukuywa market was at the discussion stage.

b) Bungoma County Trade Development Loan

From the financial statements, there was an expenditure of Kshs. 39, 631,856 on the Business loan program which is indicated to have an allocation of Kshs. 165,673,533 yet the approved supplementary budget had allocated the program Kshs. 125,679,933. However, during interrogation, the department submitted that the discrepancy was an erroneous entry that was meant for REREC grant under Energy whose allocation was Kshs. 90,000,000 in the budget and not Kshs. 50,006,400 as submitted in the financial Statements submitted. Therefore, the expenditure on the Bungoma County Trade loan was for REREC co-funding.

The department highlighted that the Bungoma County Trade Development Loan had not incurred any expenditure by the end of financial year on 30th June 2024. Further, it was noted that the only disbursement that was made during the period under review was Kshs 10,000,000 that was received during the current financial year and was being disbursed to all the 45 Wards.

Energy Sub-section

Energy access (purchase of Energy equipment) with an allocation of Kshs. 6,000,000 had absorption of Kshs. 4,999,170 translating to absorption of 83%. REREC program meant for installation of transformers across the County whose allocation was stated as Kshs. 50,006,400 but corrected to Kshs. 90,000,000 had an absorption rate of Kshs. 46,958,300 (52%).

The department submitted that they had plans to launch the project once there is a budget. It was highlighted that the first phase would only cover the 21 wards. The department submitted that REREC did mapping based on the cost and the number of users.

Industrialization Sub-section

Industrialization sub-section had only one program of Industrial development with an allocation of Kshs. 350,000,000 (Kshs. 100 Million from County and Kshs. 250 million County Aggregated Industrial Park (CAIP) grant). From the financial statements, the absorption by end of financial

year under consideration was Kshs. 66,889,347 representing 19% of the entire budget. Documents from the department revealed an expenditure of Kshs. 50,011,448, i.e the first payment certificate of Kshs. 40,000,000 was made on 8th April, 2024 and the 2nd certificate of Kshs. 10,011,448 paid on 7th June, 2024. Additionally, the CAIP bank account at CBK had a balance of Kshs. 87,785,732 as at 30th June 2024.

The department highlighted that CAIP situated in Sang'alo is matching fund project between the National government and the County government with a total of Kshs 500, 000,000 and a contract sum of Kshs. 474,000,000. The department submitted that as at 30th June, 2024, the National government had so far remitted Kshs 122, 000,000 to the special purpose account and the total sum paid to the contractor is Kshs. 50,011,448. It was reported that Work was in progress and it entailed doing 5 go-downs and an administrative block. Further, slabs for one of the go-downs, an administration block and abolition block had been put up.

It was also noted that the counterpart fund from the County Government funding shrunk from an initial allocation of Kshs. 250,000,000 to Kshs. 100,000,000 as per the 2nd supplementary budget 2023/24 leaving a deficit of Kshs. 150,000,000.

Supplier Credit

There was a budget provision of Kshs. 36,327,308 in the second supplementary budget meant to offset some of the pending bills with Kshs. 13,000,000 being recurrent (electricity bills) and Kshs. 23,327,308 being development under Ward based projects. As at the end of financial year, Kshs. 84,793,391 had been paid (Kshs. 16,052,471 being recurrent and Kshs. 68,740,920 development).

During interrogation, the department submitted that Kshs 12,000,000 out of Kshs 27,000,000 meant for Chwele market infrastructure development was used to clear some of the pending bills. However, the department did not account for the source of the remaining 36.3 Million.

The Kshs. 12,000,000 sourced from Chwele is 44.4% of that votes allocation with is contrary to the provisions of section 154 (2) (c) of the PFM Act, 2012 which states that:

An accounting officer for a county government entity may reallocate funds between programs, or between Sub- Votes, in the budget for a financial year, but only if the total of all reallocations made to or from a program or Sub-Vote does not exceed ten percent of the total expenditure approved for that program or Sub-Vote for that year.

Staff receivables

The Department has no Pending staff receivables/outstanding imprest holders which points to proper adherence to PFMA provisions on imprest management.

County Funds

The department administers the Bungoma County Trade Loan Fund that has an allocation of Kshs. 125,679,933 with Kshs. 10,000,000 being allocated in the financial year 2023/24. By the end of the financial year, the balance at the Trade loan account at the Central Bank of Kenya was Kshs. 10,740,295. The fund's collection account and operational account domiciled at Equity Bank had closing balances of Kshs. 44,403 and Kshs. 3,123 respectively. With regard to the balance in the Bungoma County Trade Loan bank accounts, the department admitted that the loan had two accounts i.e. the operation account and the collection account. The operation account was closed in January 2024 and the Kshs 3,123 balance transferred to Central Bank Special purpose account. The Department informed the committee that the balance in the collection account was Kshs. 1,955,066.20 and not as submitted by the County treasury.

COMMITTEE OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee observations

The committee observed the following:

1. There were no pending outstanding imprests.
2. The department recorded an overall budget absorption rate of 43% indicating significant underutilization; salary votes in Energy recorded an absorption of (56%) and NIL under Industrialization.
3. There were absorptions under Market development of Kshs. 76,835,118 from an allocation of Kshs. 124,000,000 (61.9%); Kipsigon market had (Kshs. 5,000,000) for fencing, Chwele market (Kshs. 27,000,000) for laying of cabros and drainage works and Kamukuywa (Kshs. 92,000,000) for construction. Kipsigon had Kshs. 4,802,650 absorption, Kamukuywa had absorption of Kshs. 72,032, 468 and Chwele had nil absorption.

4. Industrial development under County Aggregated Industrial Park recorded only a 19% absorption rate. It was also noted that the counterpart fund from the County Government funding shrunk from an initial allocation of Kshs. 250,000,000 to Kshs. 100,000,000 as per the 2nd supplementary budget 2023/24.
5. The REREC program co-funded by the National government and the County government showed an absorption rate of 94%.
6. The department's total expenditure on pending bills was Kshs. 84.8 Million against an allocation of Kshs. 36.3 million with the extra expenditure having been sourced from other votes within the development vote;

Committee Recommendations

The committee recommended the following;

1. **THAT**, the department should develop and implement strong planning and monitoring mechanisms to improve the overall budget absorption.
2. **THAT**, the department should streamline payment processes to prevent project stalls and ensure timely contractor payments affecting i.e. Chwele Market that had NIL absorption despite 90% project completion.
3. **THAT**, the department should engage the relevant stakeholders to fast-track implementation of the County Aggregated Industrial Park. Additionally, the department should put measures raise Kshs. 150,000,000 deficit meant for co-funding of the project. The department should also submit a status report with regard to Sang'alo industrial park within 30 days from the date of adoption of this report.
4. **THAT**, the department should expedite completion of the REREC transformer installation program. Additionally, the department should consult with the Members of the County Assembly in the implementation of the program in respective wards and furnish the committee with a status report with regard to the program 30 days from the date of adoption of this report.

5. THAT, the department should always adhere to provisions of section 154 of the PFM Act, 2012 on the limited powers of an accounting officer to reallocate appropriated funds since the reallocation done on pending bills from Kshs. 36.3 Million to Kshs. 84.8 Million was more than 100% yet the law provides for only 10%.

There is adoption schedule where all members of the Committee appended their signatures and also attached are the annexures to support the report. I believe they are in the gadgets of the Hon. Members in the House for perusal.

At this point, let me call upon Hon. Joan Kirong the Deputy Majority Leader of this House to second the report.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Kirong, you do have the honor of seconding the report.

Hon. Joan Kirong: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to second the motion.

First, let me thank the mover of the Motion for reading it eloquently and also to thank the Committee of Trade Energy and Industrialization for sitting down for about for more than two days and came up with this report of Consolidated Financial Statement.

I think the Hon Members have this report on their gadgets and they have seen how we have been guided very well in that report and we have looked into fund management, absorption on development and recurrent in the department. So Mr. Speaker because the report is well guided I ask this House to adopt it the way it is.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, a Motion has been moved and it has been seconded. I propose that this House adopt the report by the sector Committee on Trade Energy And Industrialization on the Consolidated Financial Statement for the Department of Trade Energy and Industrialization for the financial year 2023/2024, laid on the table of the House on Tuesday 4th of March 2025.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Members, I will proceed in view of no response. Hon Waiti you will not be called upon to reply to the motion since there is no debate on it. I will now proceed and be able to put a question to the motion before the House.

Question put and agreed to

The report is adopted by the House

ALTERATION OF THE HOUSE CALENDAR

Mr. Speaker: Yes Hon. Joseph Nyongesa, you proceed.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa (Leader of Majority): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to move the motion on the alteration of the House calendar. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 32, aware that the current House calendar 2025 includes a short recess from Friday 21st March to Monday 31st March 2025, noting that the removal of this short recess is necessary to facilitate the consideration of the 1st Supplementary Budget and the important business.

Now therefore, this House resolves to remove the short recess originally scheduled from Friday 21st March to Monday 31st March 2025 and to designate Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday as the sitting days, allowing the House to continue sittings during this period to consider the 1st Supplementary Budget and other essential business. I beg to move. Hon. Speaker, having reached there let me call upon the Deputy Chief Whip, Hon. Vitalis Wangila to second.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Vitalis, you have the honor of seconding the report and the motion beforehand.

Hon. Vitalis Wangila: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I second the motion.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, allow me be able to propose a motion for debate. Hon. Members, a motion has been moved, and it has been seconded Pursuant to Standing Order No. 32, that this House therefore, resolves to remove the short recess originally scheduled from Friday 21st March to Monday 31st March 2025 and to designate Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday as sittings, allowing the House to continue sitting during this period to consider the 1st Supplementary Budget and other essential business.

(Question proposed)

We proceed, Hon. Members, a motion has been moved and seconded, that this House alters its calendar, Pursuant to Standing Order No. 32, to remove the short recess originally scheduled from Friday 21st March to Monday 31st March 2025 and to designate Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday as sitting days, allowing the House to continue sitting during this period to consider the First Supplementary Budget and other essential business to be scheduled.

(Question put and agreed to)

The ayes have it. The motion is adopted.

The calendar is hereby altered accordingly as per the motion moved by the Leader of Majority, and as seconded by the Deputy Chief of the Minority.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

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

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa (Leader of Majority): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, allow me again move a motion on adjournment of this House, pursuant to the Standing Order No. 64(b), as read together with the Standing Order No. 34(1), to allow members to participate in the upcoming 5th Legislative Summit in Nairobi, scheduled to take place from 14th to 19th March 2025.

However, the 5th Legislative Summit in Nairobi is a significant event for members to engage in vital legislative matters. Now, therefore, this House resolves to adjourn from today's sittings Thursday, 13th March 2025, and to resume the sittings on Tuesday 25th March 2025 at 2:30p.m. I beg to move.

Hon. Speaker, allow me now to call upon the Whip of the Minority, who is Hon. Milliah to second.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Milliah Masungo, you have been called upon to second the motion. Proceed.

Hon. Milliah Masungo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I second the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Accordingly, I will proceed and be able to be able to propose a motion for debate. Honorable Members, a motion over the adjournment of the House has been moved and has been seconded. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 64(b), read together with Standing Order No. 34(1), that aware that the 5th Legislative Summit in Nairobi is a significant event for the members to engage in vital legislative matters, this House resolves to adjourn from today's sittings Thursday, 13th March 2025, and to resume its sittings on Tuesday, 25th March 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo,

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, sir, for giving me this chance to contribute towards this motion. Mr. Speaker, we are very happy that we are going to adjourn. We are going to adjourn in the next 2 or 10 minutes to come. Mr. Speaker, our pockets are empty.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I beg you...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Mulongo, the matters of welfare can't go on HANSARD. You are so senior to engage in such things.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Such things are engaged behind the tent.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Talk about what you will be doing in Nairobi. You may get lost and you may require some young people to take you around. Proceed.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I take this opportunity now to come back in my normal senses and say that when I am going to Nairobi as old as I am, I have somebody here whom I will take care of when I am in Nairobi once you give me the money. That is Hon. Anyango.

(Laughter)

Hon. Anyango knows Nairobi. She stayed in Nairobi, so she will take care of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Leader of Majority you reply to the motion, you are the mover. It was seconded by Hon. Milliah Masungo and we have a contribution from Hon. Aggrey Mulongo on.. so, that is a contribution however he's promising somebody for some serious war, so don't worry about it.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa, proceed.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa (Leader of Majority): Thank you, Hon. Speaker, first allow me also appreciate the seconder and Hon. Mulongo for supporting. Indeed Mr. Speaker, it is necessary for us to be Nairobi and as we are aware Mr. Speaker, the earliest bird catches the worm. So Mr. Speaker, I wish Hon. Mulongo the best as they travel well with Hon. Anyango so that at least...

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Joseph Nyongesa don't mention anybody here, Hon. Joseph Nyongesa, Hon. Majority he didn't mention anybody here, he just said... he mentioned, proceed then.

(Laughter)

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa (Leader of Majority): ...and as they enjoy Mr. Speaker, they ensure that they also attend those meetings. Otherwise Mr. Speaker, I wish everybody journey masses to Nairobi, let's meet in Nairobi and do what is necessary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Leader of Majority. Honorable Members, allow me now to put the last motion to a vote so that you now formally make a decision and allow people like Hon. Mulongo to advance the agenda accordingly. Honorable Members, a motion over the adjournment of the House has been moved and has been seconded and the debate having ensued that pursuant to Standing Order No. 64(b) and read together with Standing Order No. 34(1) that aware that the 5th Legislative Summit in Nairobi is a significant event for the Honorable Members to engage in vital legislative matters, this House resolves to adjourn from today's sitting Thursday 13th of March 2025 and to resume its sittings on Tuesday the 25th of March 2025 at 2.30pm.

(Question put and agreed to)

The ayes have it. The motion is adopted.

This House in its wisdom has adjourned its sittings from today and will be resuming on 25th of March in our 2.30pm session. As we are planning Members, we are going to have a brief

meeting with the Clerk and Majority, but importantly we are working because we have had challenges with insisting on clearance of every County before participation.

So we are working by the end of today evening or tomorrow morning we will be doing the communication, but I'll urge Members that going forward as we are all aware, this facilitation of the DSA is based on individual claims, which you must support by your attendance. There is no attendance of a block, attendance where you are going to tick your name in that register that you are the one present. So I am urging you that basically, be there for that meeting, learn more from that meeting, interact and connect.

ADJOURNMENT

So with those brief remarks, I think that was the last item on our Order Paper. We will adjourn this sitting today and resume on 25th of March 2025 in our 2.30 p.m. sitting.

The House rose at 5:33 p.m.