

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY, 24TH APRIL, 2025

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

4th Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY, 24TH APRIL, 2025

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

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

PRAYER

PAPERS

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON LANDS URBAN AND PHYSICAL PLANNING ON THE VETTING OF THE NOMINEE FOR THE APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF THE BUNGOMA MUNICIPALITY BOARD

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. George Wasike Makari, member from Musikoma Ward.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to table a report by the sectoral committee on Lands, Urban and Physical Planning on the Vetting of the Nominee for the Appointment as a Member of the Bungoma Municipality Board.

(Report tabled by Hon. George Wasike Makari)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. George Makari. Honourable Members, the report having been laid by the Honorable member is now the property of the House.

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON LANDS, URBAN AND PHYSICAL PLANNING ON THE VETTING OF THE NOMINEE FOR THE APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF THE BUNGOMA MUNICIPALITY BOARD

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. George Wasike Makari, member for Musikoma Ward.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Once again I rise to issue a notice of motion that this House adopts the report on Sectoral committee on Lands, Urban and Physical Planning on the Vetting of the Nominee for the appointment as a Member of the Bungoma Municipality Board.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Makari. Honorable Members, a notice of motion having been issued, I now direct the same to be circulated to Honourable Members and it will form part of business that will be considered later after ratification by the House Business Committee.

Next item,

STATEMENTS

BUSINESS OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING TUESDAY 29TH TO WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL, 2025.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Cornelius Makhanu.

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I stand here to present tentative weekly programme of the Business of the County Assembly pursuant to Standing Order number 42 week commencing on Tuesday 29th to Wednesday 30th April, 2025.

Tuesday, 29th April 2025, 2:20 p.m.

Motions

1. Report by sectoral Committee on Lands, Urban and Physical Planning on the vetting of the nominee for the appointment as a member of the Bungoma Municipality Board.

Bills

1. The Bungoma County Livestock Yard Bill 2025; 1st Reading

Wednesday, 30th April 2025, 9:30 a.m.

Motion

1. Report by the sectoral Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the Receivers of Revenue Quarterly Report and Financial Statements for the period ended June 30th 2025

Wednesday, 30th April 2025, 2:30 p.m.

Papers

1. Public pronouncement of the budget and revenue raising measures pursuant to Standing Orders 237; That the County Executive Committee Member of Finance Economic Planning to make public pronouncement of the Budget policy highlights and revenue raising measures pursuant Standing Order 237 section 129 (2)(a) and 232(1)(2)

I beg to table.

(Hon. Cornelius Makhanu tabled by the statement)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Honourable Members, this is our tentative programme of the week commencing Tuesday 29th to Wednesday 30th of April, 2025. Members should acquaint themselves with the programmes so that we can actually plan for the next action point and contribute to it accordingly.

Next item,

MOTION

REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON REVENUE FUND QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2024

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Violet Makhanu,

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Before I start moving the report, I want to request members of the committee on Finance and Economic Planning to stand so that we are able to ascertain whether we have a quorum or not.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes they can arise...

(Members of Finance Committee rise in their places)

You can sit Honorable Members, the quorum is attained, Hon. Makhanu Violet, you can proceed.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: On behalf of the Chairperson of the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning, members of the committee; I am here to move a report on County Revenue Fund Quarterly report and financial statement for the period ended 30th June, 2024

Committee Membership

The Committee on Finance and Economic Planning as currently constituted comprises of the following members:-

1. Hon. James Mukhongo	Chairperson
2. Hon. Orize Kundu	Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Stephen Wamalwa	Member
4. Hon. Everlyne Mutiembu	Member
5. Hon. Vitalis Wangila	Member
6. Hon. Violet Makhanu	Member
7. Hon. Jack Kawa	Member
8. Hon. Francis Chemion	Member
9. Hon. Tony Barasa	Member
10. Hon. George Makari	Member
11. Hon. Aggrey Mulongo	Member
12. Hon. Godfrey Wanyama	Member
13. Hon. Everton Nganga	Member

14. Hon. Christine Mukhongo	Member
15. Hon. Jerusa Aleu	Member

Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to the members of the committee and its Secretariat for dedicating their time to analyze the County Revenue Fund quarterly report and financial statement for the period ending June 30th 2024.

The committee is grateful to the offices of Honorable Speaker and Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for the support received while discharging its mandate in the preparation of this report.

Lastly, the committee lauds the County Executive Committee Member of Finance and Economic Planning and his team for appearing before it and availing the necessary information that enabled the compilation of this report.

It is therefore my singular duty, on behalf of the Committee of Finance and Economic Planning, to table this report and recommend it to the County Assembly for consideration and adoption.

The report is signed by Hon. James Barasa Mukhongo Chairperson Committee of Finance and Economic Planning.

Examination of Bungoma County Revenue Fund Statement Fy2023/2024 for period ended June 30th, 2024

Financial performance

In the FY 2023/24 Kshs.15, 243,651,077 were approved during the 2nd supplementary budget. Out of this budget, Kshs.1, 162,071,383 relates to Appropriation in Aid. This money is used at source and therefore not transferred to The County Revenue Fund Account.

The County also expected to receive Kshs. 14,101,432,811 to finance operations of which Kshs. 11,111,986,608 is exchequer release as equitable share from the national Government, Kshs. 1,463,020,371 as transfers from other government Agencies, Kshs. 868,201,470 as own source revenue ,and Kshs. 638,374,245 (funds Kshs.213,023,948,Retention Kshs.150m,opening balance Kshs.275,350,297)from County funds balances.

National Government equitable share revenue continues to be the largest source of revenue for the County, contributing 87% while own source revenue is expected to contribute 13% .Actual contribution from equitable share was 78% while own source revenue was 6%

Actual total revenue received in the financial year compared to previous financial year –in the CRF Account

As at 30th June 2024, the county had received a total of Kshs.11, 335,327,216 from the various revenue sources against Kshs. 11,247,736,528 received same period the previous financial year, a positive variance of Kshs. 87,590,688.

The amount received include, Kshs. 10,287,024,920 as equitable share from National Government which is 93% of expected Kshs. 11,111,986,608. This is due to funds for the month of June was not released. During the same period financial year 2022/2023, Kshs. 10,659,435,192 was received.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Makhanu, kindly take any seat near you. Hon. Waiti, what is the point of information.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: (*On a point of information*) Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I seek to be informed if the former Budget Committee members were disbanded from attending the plenary sessions, because none of them is in the room.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order members. The committee was collapsed courtesy of your vote on this floor and the members have not been given any permission to be out of the precinct of the Assembly, so maybe they have their own issues as individual members wherever they are and it's not a window to open any debate.

We are not anticipating any debate on that, but Hon. Waiti be correctly advised that each of them has not been given permission to be out of the plenary, but maybe they have their own issues individually which the Office of the Speaker is not aware.

Hon. Makhanu proceed.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I continue.

Included in the amount received is Kshs.64m as conditional grants for Aggregated Industrial Parks Program.

Own source revenue collected was Kshs.388, 314,747 against a target of Kshs.868, 201,470 (45%).Out of this amount, Kshs. 383,998,952, was transferred to CRF Leaving a balance of Kshs. 4,315,794.90. During the financial year 2022/2023, Kshs.379, 212,866 was collected, Kshs.330, 427,054 was transferred to CRF leaving a balance of Kshs.48, 785,812.

Kshs.663, 696,364 was received as transfers from other government agencies against a target of Kshs.1, 463,020,371. Kshs.606, 980 was return to CRF issues.

Transfers from other government entities include

The total Grants Kshs. 727,696,364 entails:

- Development partners Kshs. 663,696,364
 - NARIGP Kshs. 4,729,897
 - NAVCDP Kshs. 195,112,952
 - KELCLOP Kshs 31,650,142
 - DANIDA Kshs. 16,227,750

- ASDSP II Kshs. 1,593,849
- FLoCA Kshs. 331,781,944
- KISP II Kshs. 82,599,830

➤ National Government Kshs. 64million for Aggregated Industrial Park program.

Grand total received from National Treasury in the period is Kshs.10,950,721,284 broken down as follows:

- Quarter 1 Kshs. 1,833,477,296
- Quarter 2 Kshs. 1,834,477,296
- Quarter 3 Kshs. 3,034,528,437
- Quarter 4 Kshs. 4,248,238,255.

Budget revenue against actual receipt as at 30th June 2024

Kshs.638,374,245 was expected as balance brought forward broken down as County fund balances Kshs.213,023,948, Retention account Kshs.150m, opening balance Kshs.275,350,297, but only Kshs. 251,506,622 was received. It was not clear why the other opening balances were not accessed and utilized.

Revenue classification	Revenue budget Kshs.	Actual Kshs.	%
Equitable share	11,111,983,608	10,287,024,920	93%
Own source revenue	868,201,470	383,998,952	44%
Grants /Transfers from other government agencies- (ASDSP)	1,463,020,371	663,696,364	45%
County Funds balance	638,374,245	251,506,622	39%
Return to CRF issues		606,980	
Other AIA	19,853,117		
Total	14,101,432,811	11,586,833,838	81%

Transfer to CRF in comparison with same period FY 2022/23

Revenue	June 2024	June 2023	Variance
Exchequer releases	10,287,024,920	10,659,435,192	-372,410,272
Transfers from other government agencies	663,696,364	256,762,319	406,934,045
Own Source Revenue	383,998,952	330,427,054	53,571,898
Return to CRF issues	606,980	1,111,963	-504,983
Total Receipts	11,335,327,216	11,247,736,528	87,590,688

Payments from County Revenue Fund (CRF)

Total payments from the County Revenue Fund account were Kshs. 11,500,844,136.

Kshs. 10,275,595,855 was transferred to the executive entities accounts. This is 80% of the expected Kshs.12,817,456,940 while Kshs. 1,225,248,2817 was transferred to the County Assembly which is 95% of the Kshs.1,283,975,880 expected.

Kshs.6,784,298,032 transferred to the executive was for recurrent expenditure, Kshs.2,373,979,682 was for development and Kshs.1,117,318,141 was for special purpose accounts. (*donor funds*)

Kshs.1, 132,238,166 transferred to County Assembly was for recurrent expenditure while Kshs.93, 010,115 was for development.

Item	Financial year 2023/2024	Financial year 2022/2023	Variance
	Kshs.	Kshs.	
Transfer to Executive entities accounts	10,272,595,855	10,607,250,104	-334,654,249
Transfer to County Assembly	1,225,248,281	1,256,268,326	-31,020,045

Total expenditure	11,500,844,136	11,863,518,430	-362,674,294
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Statement of receipts and payments for the period ended 30th June, 2024

At the close of the period, the County had a balance of Kshs.85, 989,702 in the CRF account.

	Period ended June 2024 Kshs.	Comparative period 2023 Kshs
RECEIPTS		
Exchequer releases	10,287,024,920	10,659,435,192
Transfers from other government agencies	663,696,364	256,762,319
Own source revenue	383,998,952	379,219,866
Return to CRF issues	606,980	1,111,963
Total receipts	11,335,327,216	11,247,736,528
PAYMENTS		
Transfers to County Executive	10,275,595,855	10,607,250,104
Transfers to County Assembly	1,225,248,281	1,256,268,326
Total payments	11,500,844,136	11,863,518,430
Net increase(decrease)in cash	-165,516,920)	-615,781,902
Add opening fund balance b/f	251,506,622	867,288,525
Closing fund balance for period	85,989,702	251,506,623

Own source revenue

Other sources of funds are the Local revenues and Appropriation in Aid (AIA). The county budgeted to receive Kshs. 2,030,272,854 representing 13% of total budget. Actual amount of money received in the period was Kshs.1, 002,947,217 which is 49% of target. Kshs.

421,890,395 was from own source revenue while Kshs.581, 056,822 from hospital facilities spent at source. Actual collection from local revenue transferred to CRF was Kshs.383, 998,952.

Kshs. 53,753,474 was transferred in the 1st quarter, Kshs. 59,060,039 in the 2nd quarter Kshs. 162, 932,787 in the 3rd quarter and Kshs.108, 252,652 in the fourth quarter.

The report does not give amount of money collected from other facilities like Mabanga ATC, County Vocational Training Centres, Chwele Fish Farm, Chwele Chicken Slaughter House etc.

Description	Period ended June 2024	Comparative Period	Variance
	Kshs.	Kshs.	
Cess	50,186,769	50,547,482	(360,713.07)
Land/Poll rate	35,737,197	22,275,566	13,461,630.61
Single/Business permits	111,236,980	86,922,115	24,314,865.44
Property rent	13,913,695	11,977,860	1,935,834.38
Parking fees	60,789,609	75,695,516	(14,905,907.12)
Market fees	38,077,273	36,861,088	1,216,185.43
Advertising	7,571,814	13,185,001	(5,613,187.34)
Public health service fees	5,173,006	2,001,510	3,171,495.83
Physical planning and development	8,753,315	12,786,512	(4,033,197.40)
Hire of County Assets	220,915	7,990	212,925.21
Conservancy administration		4,069,567	

	13,024,689		8,955,122.24
Administration control fees and charges	27,658,925	13,724,867	13,934,057.73
Other fines, penalties, and forfeiture fees	567,222	371,980	195,241.90
Miscellaneous	11,087,544	-	11,087,543.74
Total	383,998,952	330,427,054	53,571,897.68

COMMITTEE OBSERVATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Committee Observations

1. Revenue collected in the financial year 2022/23 was Kshs.379m and not the Kshs.330 indicated in the report.Kshs.330m is what was transferred to the CRF leaving a balance of Kshs.49m that had not been swiped to the CRF and should have been declared as opening balance. Revenue collected in year 2023/24 was Kshs.421, 890,395 and not Kshs.383, 998,952, a negative variance of Kshs.37, 891,443.
2. The opening County fund balances according to the budget amounted to Kshs.638,374,245 broken down as funds Kshs.213,023,948,Retention account Kshs.150m,opening cash balance Kshs.275,350,297,yet the actual accounted for is only 251,506,622?.
3. The report does not give amount of money collected from other facilities like Mabanga ATC, County Vocational Training Centres, Chwele Fish Farm, Chwele Chicken Slaughter House etc.
4. The local revenue collected was not all deposited in the CRF account since Kshs.37m was the closing balance as at 30th June, 2024 not swept to CRF.
5. Substantial amount of revenue was captured under miscellaneous.

The adoption schedule is signed by all members of the committee.

The annexures are attached. I now want to call upon the able chair of the committee Hon. James Mukhongo to second the report.

(Applause)

The member has corrected. I want to call upon Hon. Makari who is a serious member of this committee to second this report.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Violet Makhanu for moving the report. The Hon. George Makari proceed.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to rise and second our Finance Committee report. As the heading says the County revenue fund quarterly report and financial statements; if there is any department going forwardand our leadership is here in this House, that we...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Point of information. Hon. Makari take your seat. Let's have the Commissioner, the Hon. Ali Machani Mutoka, Member for Maraka.

Hon. Ali Machani: (*On a point of information*) Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I didn't want it to remain on record. Is it in order or can I be informed when a very senior member calling any other member from a committee that I call upon so-and-so is a serious member. Does it mean that other members are not serious? So let it be expunged from the record.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mutoka, you have contested the same in your own format but it means he's a serious member of that committee because Finance Committee members are all serious. So he's one of the serious members of that committee. And I know you want clarification to go on record, also because led by their chair, they are very serious members. So a very serious member in the name of George Makari, proceed.

Hon. George Makari: And Hon. Speaker, even His Lordship the Mayor knows I'm a very serious member. Not only for the committee but even...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order member, Hon. Makari, who is the Lordship the Mayor? We don't know such a person here.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I oblige it is Hon. Ali Machani Mutoka.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well.

Hon. George Makari: Hon. Speaker, if there is any department to observe keenly in the remaining period is County Treasury. If you look at this report, you will find so many mismatches, and this is the same department that in their footnotes cited weak oversight by the County Assembly as one of the challenges they face.

On page 17, first paragraph. You will find that the declared amount of money brought forward is Kshs.638,374,245 was expected as balance brought forward broken down as County fund balances Kshs.213,023,948,Retention account Kshs.150m, opening balance Kshs.275,350,297. All that one totaling up comes to 638 Million, but going down to their report, you find that the only amount that was declared is 251,506,622 from a sum total of 638. Where did these other amounts go? That's why I'm telling you, if there's any department that you have to look at clearly with a tooth comb, is this department called Treasury.

If you look at the table of sources of revenue as the Hon. Violet has ably read, in the income you find that there's miscellaneous amount of KShs.11 Million not indicating the source. So if they can just put there KShs.11Million without saying this one came from Muanda, Dorofu market or Misikhu, if it is not indicated, which other amounts do they collect without indicating their sources? The report also doesn't give the amount of money collected from other facilities like Mabanga ATC and Chwele Fish Farm.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Makari, you can take your sit. Hon. Isaiah Busolo Sudi.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: (*On a Point of Information*) Honourable Speaker, I am not understanding if Hon. Makari is seconding the report or opposing. If you followed his contribution keenly, he's opposing the report and yet he is standing to second.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Milliah, member for Misikhu

Hon. Milliah Masungo: (*On a point of Information*) Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I want to inform this House that seconding a report and being a member of that committee does not stop a member from giving out his comments on the report. So Hon. Makari is rightfully putting his comments as a seconder of that report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Makari for guidance purposes...

(Loud consultations)

Order members! Hon. Makari is actually pointing out what is contained in the report; that is what the report is talking about. This report is highlighting on issues that are on-going and that's why you have to look at it from your own perspective and understand what these members are doing. They are doing their oversight, isn't it?

(Honorable Members answer in unison, yes)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: He is not opposing, he is just highlighting what is contained in the report. He is unbundling the report. Hon. Isaiah, we should have allowed him to proceed and get the insight of the report.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: (*On a Point of Information*) Then it means the report is wrong. What he is putting across, they are supposed to have invited the department and got the answers, so that when the report is brought here, those answers are there for us. Like now the KShs.11Million he is saying that it has no source, what are we getting from that? They need to have invited the Treasury to know the source.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order Hon. Isaiah, let us wait until the seconder finishes but at the same time, you wait until he clarifies those areas that he is mentioning. You are jumping the gun before even you understand where he is going to say. Wait for him to finish and then pick up from there. Hon. Jack Wambulwa.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: (*On a Point of Information*) Thank you, Honourable Speaker. We expect you to be neutral in this House. When a member rises on a point of information, it's good that you listen and make a right ruling. For one, this report was written by the Finance Committee members, of which Hon. Makari is a member. I'm very sure if these issues were in the report, then they could have been raised at the committee level with the Executive, other than coming on the floor then trying to oppose the same report. You want to say it is in order for him to oppose the report which he participated and signed. We must be neutral in this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order members...Order.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Don't make a ruling because you are a member of the Finance Committee...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Jack Wambulwa, you are out of order. I'm not being partial. I'm trying to guide the House to wait until the seconder finishes then members can pick up from there. Hon. Wambulwa, you are out of order. I am guiding the House.

Hon. Joan Kirong: But interjecting is allowed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That's why I'm giving you that window. Kindly allow the seconder to finish. The chair of the committee.

Hon. James Mukhongo: (*On a Point of Information*) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When you listened carefully from what Hon. Makari was saying, he said that there is a tag being used by the executive that as an Assembly we do weak oversight, so as Finance and Economic Planning, that is what we found out and we are giving you information. You should not curtail us because Hon. Makari is a member. We invited the Executive and they appeared before the committee, suppose they fail to clarify on some issues, what do you want us to do? Because this is what we are informing the House, that going forward and as he has just said, if there is any department that we must also look at is County Treasury; so there is no malice. He is only seconding what transpired in the meeting. That's what I can say.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ken Wanyama,

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to support Hon. Makari because I got a bit confused when Hon. Wambulwa said that he was in the meeting. My question is, if we are in a committee meeting and we have summoned the Executive, they have not given us information, does it mean I should not talk about the issue in the House? So I support Hon. Makari.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I want to imagine and believe that the Hon. Wambulwa is well-guided. Hon. Makari, you can proceed without disruption now.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I'm glad Hon. Milliah Masungo is around and she actually backed me. She's the only one from Budget that actually backed my report. You can read their mood but the rest are very hostile.

(Members shout who is hostile?)

Hon. George Makari: Honourable speaker, I am on the floor and I don't want to...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, members. Hon. Makari, you can withdraw that hostility.

Hon. George Makari: Honourable Speaker, I withdraw.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Honourable members, he has withdrawn it. He is guided.

Hon. George Makari: Honourable Speaker, I have withdrawn that and I want to proceed.

My mandate as a seconder is just to unbundle the report and point out issues. Actually, we raised the issues with the Executive and we don't have arresting powers so even if we get such blunders, we don't have the powers to arrest even the CECM in our committee. So we have to bring to the floor for you to understand this.

If you say I was in the committee and I'm opposing, I'm not opposing the report. I'm trying to elaborate on what we found out and this is what I'm doing. Then because certain quarters are not very comfortable, I want to second the report and stop there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Honourable members, allow me now to propose a motion to the House

(Question proposed)

We have the Hon. Waiti,

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I have been keenly following the report, and remember, I'm a member and a chair on the Agriculture Committee. I want first of all to thank the mover of the motion, as well as the seconder of the motion.

I am very particular on the recommendations and observations of the Finance Committee, where they have cited something to do with Mabanga and Chwele Fish Farm that touches on Agriculture Department. The committee members of Finance have put it clearly that the Department is disorienting other departments, if that language can be allowed. Because, we are in charge of committees where we interrogate the departments, we have to oversight as committees but when the concerned officers appear before us, they are always pointing fingers to Finance department and here is a committee that oversight the same department that have come out very clearly indicating the wrongs that that department does to other committees.

I want to laud Hon. Makari for opening up that report, to my understanding. He has brought out openly for us to see the dirty things that that department does to other departments, especially on Agriculture.

In that report, Mabanga has been mentioned that it is always being left out on revenue disclosure, which is true because, where we sit as committee members including Hon. Isaiah Sudi, we always ask this question; why Mabanga and Chwele Fish Farm, apart from being allocated some money, they don't bring revenue at all. We have always been asking these questions but the departments of Finance always give targets to these departments in terms of revenue collection but the revenue collectors are domiciled in Finance. So, as much as they collect money from Mabanga, they don't report because it ends up to whoever that sent them.

I want to congratulate this committee for the work done and going forward, as other committees, now we are appealing to you, that you oversight those people concerned to release those collectors to the various departments, so that we can come up with clear information on how revenue is collected.

Otherwise, I want to support the report with its recommendations.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you, Honorable Speaker for allowing me also to add more flesh on this report. First of all, I want to thank the members of the Finance committee for giving us this report on the area which is the backbone of this County. When the budget has been approved in this House, the Finance committee is given 90 days within the law to come up with the raising measures on how they will collect revenue to supplement or to actualize the budget making process that has been approved in this House. So it's a mandate of this committee to oversight after putting some measures and make sure that whatever they collect is within the guidelines at the finance level.

I have seen Members raising issues. We are in this House to oversight. Over sighting does not mean that when you see something negative, you just support because you are a member or you oppose because you are there to oppose. I want to thank the members of this committee for raising a red flag on key areas that this report has highlighted that need to be addressed.

I have been listening very keenly, I came in when they had already started and can remember at one given time, Hon. Mukhongo was very keen to see Chwele Slaughter House funded. He has been advocating much on Chwele area. Why was he advocating for more funding to be given to the area, so that it can be strengthened and generate revenue to our County.

Honourable Speaker, we are failing as a county because we are dependent much on equitable share from National Government and yet we have more areas that can facilitate or can operationalize our budget. Any quarterly reports will always highlight on areas that are supposed to be supported and also some grey areas need us to oversight.

Mr. Speaker, the problem is that you belong to that committee. When a report has come to this House, you should not be seen as if you are protecting some interests. I think that is the biggest worry and when I am a member of Budget, which I'm not a member currently, that if a report comes to this House, then I will be seen as if I must protect it to the latter. If a report comes from Agriculture, when the CECM has missed some areas, I should not be seen as if I am defending

him. We should not forget that we have been elected to this House to play three roles of oversight, legislation and representation. I'm not a member of Finance but have never admired to be in Finance because my senior Hon. Mukhongo and the Leader of Majority are there.

(Laughter)

I'm praying for the Leader of Majority to be there, take this as a well wish.

I'm saying that Finance department should assist us to raise revenue so that whatever that is allocated there should be reflected. The Finance committee is just trying to assist us that as much as we are approaching another financial year, we need to tighten some loopholes that will make this county not to collect enough revenue. And that's why this report has come to this floor so that we come up with ideas that will prosper our County.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ali Machani. Hon. Kennedy Wanyama,

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to talk about own source revenue. All of us know that own source revenue is a game changer in counties; what we receive from the exchequer is fixed based on the formula that is applied by CRA. This means counties that are serious in managing their own source revenue are actually doing better than counties that are lagging behind and this starts all the way from Own Source Revenue projections, which you must base on historical data to avoid budget shortfalls.

I want to draw your attention to what is in this report, the target for own-source revenue was put at Kshs.868,201,470 but the actual achieved was only 45 percent, which is Kshs.388,314,747. What kind of budgeting are we doing? We have professionals in this department, but year in year out; we are just getting it wrong. We have very high projections, yet actual performance is below par. I also want to bring to your attention the PFM Act, that is Section 125, which clearly outlines the budget preparation process for the County Governments, requiring the development of a County Fiscal Strategy Paper that includes revenue projections. Then Section 132; mandate counties to specify revenue-raising measures in their annual budgets by ensuring that these measures are credible and justifiable. So I want to urge the Chairman of the Finance Committee, right now we are in the budgeting cycle, kindly put these people on task to have realistic projections so that we don't have these variances every year.

Secondly, I want to talk about Appropriation in Aid. When you go to page 17, there is a subheading on budget revenue against actual receipts. When you look at the budget column, there is Kshs.19, 853,117 but actual is indicated as nil. Maybe as the mover of the motion comes to reply, let her clarify, does it mean that we didn't have any AIA collections at the year under review? I support the report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kennedy Wanyama. Hon. Jackson Wambulwa,

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. First of all, I want to applaud the mover and the seconder of the motion. When we rise up to try and challenge the contribution by

Hon. Makari, it is not that we are against it. I know Hon. Makari is one man who does not just believe in endorsing what is not right and being a senior member in this House, I always respect his decision either to reject or support but as much as he was supporting, these are the main challenges that are hindering us to meet our own source revenue.

It is like now the Finance department is trying to manipulate the figures on behalf of other departments. What do I mean manipulating? A report says that Mabanga does not give any revenue and I'm very much aware that Mabanga sells a lot of milk, maize, seedlings and even cattle. It also offers accommodation to government institutions and the public. This tells us that we are losing a lot of revenue, yet the department wants us to agree with it that indeed there's no revenue generation from Mabanga.

I'm aware Chwele Fish Farm also sells the fingerlings. However little they get, they are supposed to be accountable and report to the County Treasury. We are being taken back that this department is not ready to reveal all sources of revenue in this county. Look at the target 800 million plus and then what they are raising is only 388 Million and they are very happy reporting that they achieved Kshs 388 Million. If their initial aim was that having revenue managed by finance and there are not getting the target, whereas previously when departments were collecting directly we could meet the target, then as a House we need to resolve and have powers taken back to departments so that these units can collect on their own and be able to meet targets.

When you look at the miscellaneous amount of Kshs 11million is not little amount. A whole department with PFM officers telling us this was miscellaneous how? No own source? How can such money sneak into our accounts and then it is not taken to County Revenue Accounts? So I want to call upon the leadership of finance led by my brother Hon. Mukhongo to prove to them that they have strong oversight because they said that the Assembly does weak oversight. Finance Committee should further their recommendations and call the CECM and his team to explain where they got the 11 million.

There is a lot in this report but I have been assured by my senior member Hon. Barasa that there is another report that is coming next week because as much as they have finalized this report, I expected them to say a lot on CESS. Nobody is talking about CESS maybe part of this miscellaneous is coming from CESS which we even never know what CESS does and wherever a member comes up with a statement on CESS, it never comes back.

I just want to request this House that this time round, let us oversight the County Treasury so that they can be accountable for every cent. I support the report but I ask the committee and the larger House to follow up on what County Treasury is doing to other departments. I support the report.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jackson Wambulwa. The Hon. Isaiah Sudi,

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for an opportunity, so that I can also add my voice on the report before us. If you listen very carefully on our local radio stations, you will hear that

the public are complaining all over, that in our markets there are no latrines and street lights thus they are not able to do business until late, and in the long run not able to get returns

As a House, there is need for the leadership overhaul in the department so that things can be done differently. I'm very sure years to come we shall realize that because the finance leadership, we need a serious change. I think there is a Liaison Officer who will take our proposals to the Governor that he must make changes in the Finance Department, if he wants this county to go somewhere.

In the just concluded Supplementary Budget, there was an over budgeting on salary worth 178 million then they just comfortably say that they over budgeted salaries and they see it as normal. The department has many professional accountants and auditors, and yet they over budget on salaries. We are interrogating the first and second quarter financial statements; you will see there is no salary for May and June. There is nothing for those two months, why? Because May and June of 2024 was paid on this financial year, so we need to see that the gap is there and raise questions. Nobody can explain because money for June and May came in July and August last year when we had started the new financial year.

There is a problem in County Treasury. They need to provide records to prove the expenditure of the money meant for salaries for the months of May and June. If it was used to pay for projects then let them provide those records. They said the Assembly does weak oversight; they must prove to us on whereabouts of Kshs 888 Million meant for salaries for the months of May and June.

The Compliance department calls Kshs 11million miscellaneous. Even if you are here *Mheshimiwa* Makari for 5 years, you will not get 11 million. How do you call it miscellaneous unless you do not know what miscellaneous means? We are not lay people just because we did different professions.

If you go to Mabanga, the County Government owes it a lot of money and that is why it is not included in sources of revenue; because they do their conferences, eat and they do not pay. How do you run like that even in your own supermarket that you just walk in pick things on the shelf and you don't pay, then how will it generate revenue.

Even the cows that you have said they sell, what I know is that they don't sell but someone will authorize that give it to so and so and no revenue is received. So there is need to carry out a serious fact finding to unravel this issue of revenue in Mabanga ATC.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, the Hon. Isaiah Sudi. I welcome the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to appreciate all members that have contributed to this report. It is high time we deal with this issue of calling Honourable Members as doing weak oversight; we are not doing our oversight and that is why things are going the way

they are. As a Committee on Finance, we look at these things seriously and according to me, we need to report to this House what is happening in matters revenue.

We looked at the issue of Mabanga, Chwele Slaughter House and Chwele Fish Farm are some of the grey areas that we need to inform this House that something should be done to ensure that we get revenue from all those facilities. As a committee, we identified grey areas to inform this House so that we are able to play an oversight to the executive to ensure the County gets enough revenue to run various projects and programs. As a County, we have a lot of unaccounted for revenue and we need to wake up as Honourable Members to ensure that all revenue is collected.

I want to urge this House that kindly let us wake up and ensure that we do our oversight even in other departments to find out what is happening in those departments, so that we get money from Mabanga, the hicken slaughter house and many others that are not reported.

The issue of CESS is under investigation and we do not need to discuss it because it is under the Ad Hoc Committee.

Otherwise, I want to appreciate all members that have contributed to this report and as a committee we will continue to put the County Treasury on their toes so that we get enough revenue as a County Government. I urge this House to pass this report as it is.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Violet Makhanu member for the reply.

(Question put and agreed to)

The report together with its observations and recommendations is adopted. The Committee clerks will disseminate the same to the relevant offices for action.

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable members, this is our last item on the Order Paper. We shall adjourn and we resume on Tuesday the 29th day of April, 2025 2:30 p.m.

We adjourn accordingly.

The House rose at 4:10 p.m.