

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Third Assembly (Second Session)

Wednesday 8th March, 2023

Assembly Building

The House met at 15:10 PM

[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage) In the Chair]

PRAYERS.

PAPER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ANALAT SECONDARY SCHOOL

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): I wish to welcome Analat Secondary School, you are welcomed, *karibuni sana*.

STATEMENTS.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): There is a Statement from Honourable Anthony Kamau.

Hon. Anthony Kanyere: Honorable Temporary Speaker, Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 47 (2) (c) I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Environment, Energy, Water and Natural Resources concerning stalled water pan project at Mzee Wanyama, Nakuru East Ward. Honourable Speaker, the National Government initiated this Project way back in 2017 as part of the programme to mitigate on flooding and to provide water for animal use and other use in the surrounding community. It is however worrying that many years later, the project remains incomplete and unattended.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, it is a great concern to the surrounding community owing to the danger it poses to both human beings and domestic animals. Several cases of animals drowning in the water pan have been reported. In addition, it poses serious threat to children and the general population around since this area has not been fenced off. While we appreciate this was a National Government project, there exists Intergovernmental Relations Framework through which the County and the National Government can work to resolve issues of this nature. I request the Chairperson of the Committee on Environment, Energy, Water and Natural Resources to urgently

issue a Statement on the measures taken by the County Government to ensure the stalled water pan project does not pose danger to the residents of Mzee Wanyama. Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): I commit the Statement to the Committee on Environment, Water and Natural Resources and should come up with a reply within 21 calendar days. There is another Statement from Honorable Ali Abdi Hassan.

STATEMENT

ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES (AGPO)

Hon. Ali Abdi: Thank you Honourable Temporary Speaker, Pursuant to Standing Order 47(2) (C) I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Finance concerning the implementation of Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) by the County Government of Nakuru. The AGPO program is grounded in Article 227 of the Constitution on the fair equitable, transparent and cost-effective Public Procurement of goods and services, Article 55 on Affirmative Action and the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act 2015. As we may be aware the aim of the AGPO program is to facilitate the enterprise owned by Women, Youths and Persons With Disabilities to participate in Government opportunities.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, Section 157 of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act 2015 states in clear terms that an Accounting Officer of Procuring Entity shall when processing procurement, reserve and prescribe a percentage of its procurement budget which shall not be less than 30% to the Disadvantaged Group and comply with the provisions of the Act.

Honorable Temporary Speaker, in this regard, I request the Chairperson Committee on Finance to provide a detailed Report on the extent to which the County Government has complied with the provision of Section 157 (5) of Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act 2015. Specifically all procurement reserved for youth, women and Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) in Financial Years, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Chair Finance.

Hon. John Maritim: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think two weeks; that is 14 days will be okay.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Your Report to the House be within 14 calendar days. Next order.

MOTION

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE

We are going to resume to the debate that we had in the morning. And the floor is open for debate. The Honorable Kamwana.

Hon. John Macharia: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I am not honorable Kamwana, I am Hon. CPA John Mwangi the Member for Turi.

(Laughter)

So I rise to support the Report concerning the Naivasha Sub-County Hospital because if we are going to pass the Report as the Assembly then the Department and the County Government will be able to implement the Reports and some of the charges that were being identified by the Committee when they visited the hospital can now be addressed. For example one of the findings that the Committee was able to identify is the issue of negligence as far as the personnel or the Human Resource who work there is concerned and therefore if this particular honorable House is going to pass the Report then the issue of negligence can be addressed by the concerned Department.

The other issue was the deficit in facility or infrastructural challenges. And therefore also the Department can finance and be able to do away with that.

Lastly, there was also the deficit in the Human Resource and therefore the facility was not in a position to offer quality services. Therefore, I urge this honorable House to pass the Report so that the Naivasha Sub-County Hospital can be accorded the necessary services and the major challenges of the maternal deaths can be brought to an end. Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): I think Honourable Rose you contributed during the morning session.

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: But this is another session Mr. Speaker. I am requesting you to give me another chance because I am a woman and today it is Women's Day.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): The floor is yours Hon. Rose.

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: Honorable Temporary Speaker, in the morning we had a lengthy deliberation. But again we have to talk about it because in the issue of maternal deaths, we have had many expectant mothers dying. Imagine after being expectant for nine months and later on you lose your child plus yourself. It is really painful and that is why I am contributing for the second time.

The County Government of Nakuru should have proper mechanisms to deal with disciplinary issues; emerging issues from Medics in hospitals, when somebody just does something that is not good and somebody loses her life. Those people should be dealt with accordingly.

Another thing is about the Department to put clear channels of communication to the members of the public on matters affecting the hospital. We have the Committee in our hospitals and they should be taught on one or two things about the hospital; they should be trained and CHVS to be trained so that they can help the community so that women do not deliver at home. Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Hon. Alex Bor

Hon. Alex Bor: *Asante sana Bwana Spika, naunga mkono na kuwarai waheshimiwa wenzangu tuunge mkono Ripoti hii na pia nimpe kongole Mwenyekiti wa Kamati hii ya Afya na Wanakamati wake wote. Ningependa kusema ya kwamba yale mambo ambayo yalikuwa yakitendeka kule Naivasha ilikuwa ni kioo cha yale mambo ambayo yanafanyika katika hospitali zetu kote Kaunti ya Nakuru. Baada ya wiki moja ya yale mambo yalifanyika kule Naivasha, hata mimi pale kwangu kulikuwa na changamoto kama hizo. Nakumbuka baada ya wiki moja, tulipoteza watoto wawili katika hospitali ya Kuresoi, tukapoteza mama mmoja katika hospitali hiyo hiyo alipokuwa akijifungua.*

Kwa hivyo, nataka niombe waheshimiwa wenzangu kwamba tuunge mkono na tuweze kupitisha na tuhakikishe ya kwamba hospitali zetu zimeweza kuangalia na kuweka bidi kwa yale mambo ambayo Ripoti hii imeweza kutuletea kwenye Bunge letu. Nasimama na naunga mkono. Asanteni sana.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Hon. Mwathi, the floor is yours.

Hon. Grace Mwathi: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker sir. I also rise to support this Report because it has many things that are very important to our mothers. One, I thank the Committee of Health which I am part of because by visiting this hospital, we are going to learn so much on what is going on, even the hidden things are going to be known. I urge the Committee that we visit all the hospitals because as Mheshimiwa has said, we know that this is just but a mirror of what is happening in many hospitals and because these people cannot talk for themselves, they cannot represent them anywhere. I wish the Committee will visit all the Hospitals that are within the County so that we know what is happening to which hospital and the recommendations that are given by the Committee are very valid. Let us take our task, let us know what we want to do and let us keep women at heart.

Today being the International Women's Day, we have to have women because they are the ones who carry souls. They are the ones who give birth. We hold children in our wombs and then we bring life to this Country. If we play with our unborn babies, we are going to lose a generation. I want to say that the Report is so good and I want to support it totally and let the County and the Committee do what it is mandated to do.

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: [On a Point of information].

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Hon. Rose, whom do you want to inform?

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: Mr. Temporary Speaker sir, I want to inform Hon. Grace

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Hon. Grace, do you want to be informed?

Hon. Grace Mwathi: Mr. Temporary Speaker sir, let her inform me.

Hon. Rose Chepkoech: As the Committee of Health, we have a program that we shall be moving around within the County. We shall consider your request.

Hon. Grace Mwathi: Thank you very much Mheshimiwa Rose. I said when I started talking that I am a Member of the Health Committee and that is a very good thing that we are doing because

there are many people down there who cannot represent themselves. This is because there was something that happened in Naivasha and raised the alarm. The Committee is doing a very good job and we have to commend it for that.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Hon. Mutai

Hon. William Mutai: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker sir. Let me take this opportunity to wish the women in the House a Happy Women's Day. As we discuss this very important Report, I stand to support it and in addition, I have just seen part of the engagement with the Management and there is a Report there given by the Hospital Administrator which has attracted my attention. I have always been having in mind issues concerning the Administrators in Hospitals. In most cases, most of these people do not have the relevant knowledge and health skills. They might just be Administrators that are drawn from other Departments and they do not have the real managerial skills concerning the areas to do with health. I want to request that one of the recommendations that should also be put is to engage people in the administrative duties that have knowledge in health. If we do not do that there will always be a rift between the qualified Health Officers and the Management who do not have the required skills in health. That is my additional recommendation if it will be accepted by the Committee. Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Hon. Virginia

Hon. Virginia Gicanga: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker. I also rise to support the Report being a Member of the Health Committee and also a resident of Naivasha. In all our hospitals we have issues with Human Resource. In the HR Department we do not have enough staff; like in Naivasha we have less by 200. The staff there are being overworked. When we were listening to what happened, we had the person in charge of the maternity but she could not stay with us until we were done because she had a work load and she was alone.

In our Report we are going to include an addition of two or three people in charge of maternity because we have maternities which are very busy. It is very painful to carry a pregnancy for nine months then not going back home to family is a very big loss. On the same, it is our duty as a Committee and as a Department during this budgeting season we make sure that we allocate money for hiring more professionals. I rest my case and I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): I will now call the mover to reply then I will put it to question.

Hon. Njuguna Mwaura: I am much obliged to give a reply to the House on various issues that have emerged from this Report. Mr. Temporary Speaker on the issue of Beyond Zero Campaign, it is true that the former Administration that is the Office of the First Lady had that Program and in fact the materials that were used for that program are just within the County. They are at Bondeni maternity and they were doing a very good work. Maternal deaths had reduced for the last 10 years but currently we are seeing some things bubbling and it is like we are going back to the old days. We are going to further engage the Department so that we see whether they can also fund such kind of ventures so that at least we can save our mothers. We usually say a mother carrying a child

is not a punishment as it has been philosophically been said but it is a gift of nature that our mothers have been given and therefore they should not be punished just because they are women.

On the issue of Community Volunteers, as I mentioned earlier this is the first group of the Health Department that usually is the hospital's number one. Therefore we cannot find them in Level 3, 4 and 5. They can at least be equipped with some information so that they are able to address the members of the public on issues post-natal and pre-natal services that we have in our facilities.

On the issue of the Boards, we are going to review on that issue specifically about the Board that was dismissed, we would wish to also know what it knew about the issues that were happening at the facilities so that we have an informed decision that will address the budget implications in the future as far as that facility is concerned. The issue of the budget, one of the Members said we have been given Kshs 7 billion as a Department. It is true that the Department has been allocated Kshs 7 billion but the need for the services is growing day by day and therefore even as we are talking today, we are saying the Department is constrained and as I mentioned in the morning, I said 50 percent of the Medics who were working in our facilities, are contracted and thus makes them to walk on their knees. If the facility can be given enough funds; if the County Government of Nakuru can hire more staff, we can generate enough revenue to even support other Departments and that is why we say Kshs 7 billion might not be enough but what could be enough is the better services that the people of Nakuru would wish to have. Allow me to say that a healthy County is a wealthy County.

Therefore if we are going to invest in a better way that we have enough funds for the Department, we are going to score. The other issues of disease burden in the County, you realise that due to lifestyle diseases which I am also a victim, we really need to invest there and make sure that the Public Health Department is working so that we can address our people.

Finally on the issue of Health Administrators, these Health Administrators that we have in our facilities some of them are Ward Administrators or Sub-County Administrators and they do not have any knowledge though they have gone to the Kenya School of Government. It would be prudent for the Department once somebody has been taken to that Department to go and have a tailored program where they can understand issues of Health Administration so that when they are discussing these issues they can agree on some of the issues raised.

Article 46 of our Constitution talks about or describes the rights of a consumer. The standards of service cannot go below the standards given by the Constitution. You know the structures of our Constitution is supreme and therefore service delivery and standard service delivery in our Departments ought to be checked and Health Department ought to work efficiently to make sure the people of this County are going to have proper services that they deserve.

If today somebody does not go to the hospital, tomorrow they are going to land in our facilities and that is why we need to come up with an approach to make sure that the Committee of Implementation and Committee of Lands, because there are some issues that have been raised here today to make a follow-up on these matters. Once this is done they are going to see the implementation being tabled as far as these issues are concerned. I wish to request this House to consider and pass this Report so that it can be forwarded to the Department so that they implement

this Report. I beg to move and I am grateful for the contributions of the Members. Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Elijah Murage): Thank you

(Question proposed that this House adopts the Report of the Health Services Committee on maternal deaths at the Naivasha Sub-County Referral Hospital tabled before this House on Tuesday 7th March 2023 during the afternoon Plenary)

(Question put and agreed to)

The House stands adjourned until Tuesday 9.30am

The House rose at 3.35pm