

OFFICIAL OPENING OF SECOND ASSEMBLY**MOMBASA COUNTY ASSEMBLY****HANSARD REPORT**Tuesday, 26th September, 2017

The House met at 2:58p.m.

(Mr. Speaker (Hon. Aharub Ebrahim Khatri) entered the Chamber in a procession accompanied by His Excellency The Governor Hon. Hassan Ali Joho and three Table Clerks)

(Mr. Speaker (Hon. Khatri) in the Chair)

PRAYERS

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Khatri): Members you may be seated. Clerk?

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

(Mr. Speaker (Hon. Khatri) on his feet)

His Excellency, The Governor Hon. Hassan Ali Joho, His Excellency, The Deputy Governor Hon. Dr. William Kingi Kazungu, The Senator Hon. Mohamed Faki, Hon. Members of Parliament, Members of the County Assembly. I take this opportunity to welcome you all to the official opening of the Second Assembly. As we are all aware, the first sitting was held on 6th September, 2017 at 9:00a.m after His Excellency The Governor convened the first sitting of this Assembly and published the sitting in the Kenya Gazette. Your Excellency, I and on behalf of the County Assembly, congratulate you on your re-election as the Governor of Mombasa County for a second term...

(Applause)

Your re-election is a confirmation that residents of Mombasa have faith in your leadership and it is an acknowledgement that you were able to ensure that Mombasa becomes a better place. I wish to congratulate Hon. Dr. William Kingi for being elected as the Deputy Governor...

(Applause)

I further congratulate our Senator Hon. Mohamed Faki and our County Women representative Hon. Asha Hussein for making it to the Senate and National Assembly respectively.

(Applause)

May you always champion and protect the interests of Mombasa at the national level. Congratulations to all Members of Parliament and the Members of the County Assembly for making it to the National Assembly and County Assembly respectively...

(Applause)

Your Excellency, Standing Order No. 17 provides that the Governor shall address the opening of each new elected County Assembly. Today is therefore your day to address the Second Assembly for the purpose of setting the agenda that your administration has for the County for next five years. We, as an Assembly commit in supporting your agenda. We shall pass the necessary legislation to enable your administration implement the plans that you have for our great County. Your Excellency, in observing good governance we as a County Assembly will provide oversight to the executive. We will ensure that there is accountability in the exercise of power and use of resources on the part of those charged with the responsibility of service delivery. We however affirm that in exercising oversight, we shall observe mutual respect and separation of powers between the two arms of Government.

Your Excellency, we recognize that we are one government and as much as we are two separate arms, with different functions, our common goal is to ensure that the residents of Mombasa access services from the County Government as required by the constitution. The Assembly therefore commits to working in harmony with the executive for greater good of Mombasa. My hope is that at the end of the five years period the lives of Mombasa residents will be better than it is today. We are committed to ensuring that positive change is realized. It is now my duty and honour to welcome you to address this Assembly. *Karibu.*

(Applause)

(Mr. Speaker (Hon. Khatri) exited the Chair)

(His Excellency The Governor Hon. Hassan Ali Joho in the Chair)

(Applause)

OFFICIAL ADDRESS

His Excellency, The Governor Hon. Hassan Ali Joho: The County Assembly Speaker, Hon. Members of the County Assembly, Hon. Members of Parliament, distinguished guests. Once again, allow me to congratulate you Mr. Speaker on your election to head this House and also congratulate all the Hon. Members of the County Assembly on their respective victories. *Hongera Kweni nyote...*

(Applause)

It was a hectic battle for all of you during the campaigns and your resolve to win; I believe was driven by the urge to serve the great people of Mombasa County. Mr. Speaker of Mombasa County, the electorate has given us the opportunity to keep lighting the way and lead them to prosperity. To achieve this we need to play our distinctive and interdependent roles. The dawn of devolution comes with very high expectations from the residents of our beloved County. Together as leaders of Mombasa we must do all that it takes to meet these expectations. The role of the County Assembly in the devolved Governments is key in unlocking the unrivalled potential in our County. The County Assemblies are the watchdogs of the people. You are required by the Constitution to meet the following objectives of devolution.

1. Promotion of democracy and accountable exercise of power
2. Fostering of national unity by recognizing our diversity as a nation.
3. Give powers of self-governance to the people and enhance their participation in decision making.

As the Governor of Mombasa County I look forward to working with you in creating and making legislations that will be beneficial to the County.

(Applause)

In fulfilling Article 185 of our Constitution you have a huge responsibility in ensuring that we deliver the promise of devolution. To this end we shall be presenting to this House various Bills that are set to concretize the Mombasa Vision 2035, as you be aware this is a common vision crafted rigorously through people participation and in summary it is meant to achieve ten important transformative programmes. Programme number 1:

1. Addressing youth employment and empowerment through skills training, engaging the youth in employment through innovative design of our public works programmes, support for youth cooperative, talent support programs and addressing threats posed by drugs by enhancing rehabilitation programs, community outreaches and surveillance.
2. We aim to maintain and develop a sustainable environment by investing in an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan at Kibarani. We will provide incentives to the youth to engage them in garbage disposal and waste management practices. We will work with communities to improve public health and environmental management.

3. We will continue to invest in the improvement of security in the County through support to community policing, revamping of the Social Services Department in order to identify, counsel and support youth at risk of social vices. Together with partners, we will implement the Action Plan for Countering Violent Extremism. These initiatives will help build up a more secure environment in which to conduct business.
4. In the water & sanitation sector we endeavour to institutionalize rainwater harvesting to not only meet demand but also limit flooding. We will invest in water infrastructure in all settlements. We aim at working with neighbouring Counties to develop the bulk water infrastructure. We will look at opportunities offered through adaption of desalination technologies, this is to utilise seawater into human consumption. We will build public toilets and baths in selected areas and invest in both drainage and sewerage systems
5. Further to the gains already registered in the Health sector, we hope to strengthen primary healthcare by upgrading facilities and equipment in our institutions. At all times, our health facilities will have essential drugs and other medical supplies. We will also work with communities through outreach programs to minimise disease risk. We will roll out a health insurance program for the elderly and women in informal settlements.
6. In the social sector, we also hope to revamp our investment in Quality Education by developing a Centre of Excellence in every Sub County while continuing to support post-secondary bursary programmes. We will invest in Information Technology to support research and management services in the education sector.
7. Business is the cornerstone of our city. A vibrant economy is in the heart of business. To spur business activities and investment in Mombasa, we will offer incentives for business through support for entrepreneurs, deregulation and targeted reduction of levies and taxes. We will modernise the Marikiti and Segla markets while working on a program of weekly markets for informal traders in the CBD. We will develop Business Information & Incubation centers in the Sub-Counties to support youth entrepreneurship. The Government procurement system will focus on local goods and products to boost local business. In collaboration with other stakeholders we will deepen our investment in fisheries; especially deep sea fishing. To increase the ease of doing business in Mombasa we will have zero tolerance for corruption among County Government workers.
(Applause)
8. Reliable infrastructure is the backbone of any modern and vibrant city. We will work with the National Government, the private sector and other stakeholders to develop and implement the Transport & Mobility Master Plan. We will construct new access roads in Likoni, Kisauni, Changamwe and Jomvu while maintaining estate roads in all areas. We will construct a multi- storey car park at Baluchi Street and a multi-storey terminus at Likoni Ferry Station.
(Applause)
9. We will maintain and develop sustainable tourism as we target new tourist sites such as Shelly Beach, Mtongwe, Tudor Creek and Mtwapa Creek plus the Miritini-Mwakirunge Corridor. We will ensure 24-hour surveillance and security in all tourist areas, enhance cleanliness and revitalize cultural centres like the Swahili Cultural Centre.

10. Our vision of a modern and prosperous Mombasa will not be achieved if we do not enhance Urban Planning, Housing Development and Lands Management.

To this end we plan to upgrade seven informal settlements using low cost building materials and construction techniques. We will support development of housing for low and middle income earners, create a County Housing Development Fund and establish more commercial areas for retail trade. We will also stop the proliferation of informal settlements and address historical land injustices.

Mr. Speaker, The first County Assembly was tasked with the duty of laying the foundation for this devolved government. That done, we now have the responsibility; to deepen and broaden the gains of devolution in our beloved County.

Mr. Speaker, finally I would like to remind this Hon. Assembly that the laws you enact are considered part and parcel of the laws of Kenya in your jurisdiction.

You are not subordinate legislators and therefore you must take your crucial role to ensure proper public participation.

The County Government has a responsibility to respect and enforce national laws and equally the National Government has the duty and responsibility to respect and enable the enforcement of County laws.

Therefore incidences as have been witnessed in the recent past where National Government Representatives have disregarded County laws and mandates is truly uncalled for. For this reason we want to make it clear that, that is against the Constitution. Article 191(4) of our Constitution protects legislations passed by the Counties.

To this end Mr. Speaker, I call upon this Hon. House as well as the Senate to address this very dangerous emerging trend.

I thank you Mr. Speaker

(Applause)

(His Excellency The Governor Hon. Hassan Ali Joho exited the Chair)

(Mr. Speaker (Hon. Khatri) in the Chair)

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Khatri): Hon Members the House stands adjourned until Wednesday 27th September, 2017 at 9:00a.m.

The House rose at 3:14p.m.