

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA
COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES
THE DAILY HANSARD
WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER, 2023
Morning Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA
THE DAILY HANSARD
WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER, 2023

The house met at 9:30a.m.

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

PRAYER

PAPERS

**A REPORT BY THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE ON THE
AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE BUNGOMA
COUNTY BURSARY FUND FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019.**

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to table a report by the Public Accounts and Investments Committee on the Auditor General's Report on the financial statements of the Bungoma County Bursary Fund for the period ended 30th June 2019.

(Hon. Ken Wanyama laid the paper)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, a report by the Public Accounts and Investments Committee on the Auditor General's Report on the financial statements of the Bungoma County Bursary Fund for the period ended 30th June 2019 is hereby tabled and formerly it becomes the property of the House.

**REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON SELECTION ON THE ADJUSTMENT OF
COMMITTEES' MEMBERSHIP**

Hon. Anthony Luseneka: (Vice Chairperson, Selection): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to table a report by the Committee on Selection on the adjustment of the committees' membership.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, a report the Committee on Selection on the adjustment of committees' membership is hereby tabled and formerly becomes the property of the House.

(Hon. Anthony Luseneka laid the paper on the table)

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT BY THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE ON THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE BUNGOMA COUNTY BURSARY FUND FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019.

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give notice of a motion on a report by the Public Accounts and Investments Committee on the Auditor General's Report on the financial statements of the Bungoma County Bursary Fund for the period ended 30th June 2019.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, a notice having been duly issued by the PAIC on the Auditor General's Report on the financial statements of the Bungoma County Bursary Fund for the period ended 30th June 2019, I now direct the Table Clerks to share this report with the honorable MCAs as it will form business on our Order Paper in the cause of the week or once the same is scheduled by the HBC.

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON SELECTION ON THE ADJUSTMENT OF COMMITTEES' MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Anthony Luseneka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to give a notice of motion that this House adopts a report by the Committee on Selection on the adjustment of the committees' membership.

Mr. Speaker: A notice of motion having been duly issued by the Committee on Selection on the adjustment of committees' membership, I equally direct the Table Clerks to share this report with the honorable MCAs. The same will form business on the Order Paper in the cause of the week or once the same is scheduled by the HBC.

MOTION

A REPORT BY SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE STATUS OF SAMPLED VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES IN BUNGOMA COUNTY (RESUMPTION OF INTERRUPTED BUSINESS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.35)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, we are invoking Standing Order 35 on the resumption of business. I will now invite Hon. Ken Wanyama who was moving the moving the motion to proceed from where we had reached at the time the House adjourned due to a quorum hitch.

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to move a motion on the status of sampled vocational Training Centres in Bungoma County...

Mr. Speaker: It is a continuation. Go direct to where you had stopped and proceed. If you were in the middle of a VTC, you will begin afresh.

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am well guided. We start from no. 9 Sibakala Vocational Training Centre.

SIBAKALA VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Sibakala VTC is located in Kamukuywa Ward sitting on approximately 0.59 hectare registration number no. Kimilili/Kamukuywa/5140. The VTC is yet to be registered with TVETA as it lacks permanent structures.

The institution is secured with a fence and it has also contracted a guard. There is room for expansion as the neighbors are willing to sale land to institution if funds are made available.

Currently, it has a total of 62 trainees although the retention rate remains low attributed to lack of learning materials, insufficient workshops and equipment. Sibakala VTC enrolls trainees through sensitization done at public baraza's, and meetings, use of posters and visitations to nearby primary and secondary schools. The entry level is stand eight and above.

In terms of physical facilities and management, the institution has a single permanent workshop without any permanent classroom. Equally, it lacks a library. Further, they rely on borehole water, there are no accommodation facilities, no power supply and ICT tools and equipment are yet to be installed thus no ICT infrastructure in place to enable them integrate ICT in their programmes.

Sibakala VTC has 4 qualified instructors employed by the county government Bungoma instructing in masonry, electrical wiring, carpentry and plumbing.

The sources of funds for the institution include school fees, bursary from the county government and small scale farming. The above funds are utilized through purchase of training materials, administrative costs and payment of workers employed by BOM. Equally, they generate some revenues through admission fee of Kshs. 500 and lunch programme per term of Kshs. 5,000 per trainee.

Some of the challenges facing the institution include; nonpayment of school fees by parents, insufficient permanent structures to accommodate all courses and lack of training materials, power supply and playing fields for co-curricular activities.

LWANDA YOUTH POLYTECHNIC

Lwanda Youth Polytechnic is located in Kanduyi Constituency on 0.30 hectare plot. It is yet to acquire a title deed for this land and the management only has the purchase agreement. It is registered by TVETA registration No. TVETA/PUBLIC/VTC/0229/2018. Lwanda VTC is not fenced thus insecure therefore need for urgent fencing. There is room for expansion.

The enrolment currently is above 60 trainees, retention rate standards at 80 per cent regional balance is observed in its catchment area. Admission is done on termly basis and open to all prospective trainees.

Lwanda VTC does not have workshops therefore; practical and theory lessons are undertaken in two classrooms. One class room is in pathetic state therefore, require urgent repair. It does not have a library.

There are no co-curricular facilities in place. It is connected to piped water supply and a borehole though requires renovations. They have a security guard, power supply available although not reliable.

Lwanda VTC has 4 qualified instructors employed by the County Government and a support staff employed by the school BOM. They offer 7 courses namely; carpentry and joinery, hair dressing, masonry, electrical installation, garment making, agribusiness and ICT.

ICT support infrastructure has not been put in place therefore ICT is not incorporated in their programmes.

The institutions main source of funds is through capitation from the County Government of Bungoma. The funds are used to purchase tools and materials for instruction, paying salaries for non-teaching staff and repairs and maintenance.

Some of the challenges facing Lwanda VTC include; lack of proper infrastructure i.e. classrooms, workshops, administration block and sanitation facilities, lack of instructional materials, lack of proper tools and equipment needed to impart practical skills to the trainees and lack of funds to assist in the running of the institution.

SITABICHA VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Sitabicha VTC is located in Kimilili Ward on 6 acre piece of land registered as Kimilili/Kimilili 342 & 344. It is registered with TVETA registration number TVETA/PUBLIC/VTC/2517.

Currently, the VTC has 50 trainees while the retention rate stands at 80 per cent. Enrollment is done throughout the year from first term to last term. The entry level for NITA trainees is primary level and below while entry level for KNEC trainees is from KCPE to KCSE.

They have two functional workshops require to be renovated with a single functional classroom. They neither have a library nor a laboratory for I.C.T.

The reliable water supply at the institution was disconnected during road works and yet to be restored. It lacks accommodation facilities though require a boarding section to attract more enrollments. The institution does not have power supply and ICT has not been integrated.

It has 3 qualified instructors' employees of the county government with 5 courses being offered. ICT has not been incorporated in teaching and learning. Sources of funds include bursary, grants and farming for the lunch programme. Revenues to the institution are in form of admission fee of Kshs. 500 per admission and 5 bags of maize from farming for lunch programme.

They have well-wishers through Kimilili Rehabilitation Programme who supported in the purchase of land that is used for farming.

Challenges at the facility include; lack of electricity, lack of boarding facilities, insufficient tools and equipment and poor financing model.

ST. COSMAS KIMILILI VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

St. Cosmas Kimilili Vocational Training Centre sits on 3 acres of land and they are yet to register the land since they have a balance of Kshs. 1 million to the vendor. It is not registered with TVETA. The current fence requires repairs and there is room for expansion.

It has a total of 98 trainees while the retention rate stands at 60 per cent since some learners don't report back after attachment. They have 3 in-takes i.e. January, May and September. The entry level is either KCSE grade D and below, class eight or anybody willing to acquire the skills.

It has two temporary classrooms. They have a playing ground and a security guard. No accommodation facility, No human resource deployed, no support structures for ICT integration.

They have 6 qualified employees, 5 employed by the County Government of Bungoma and 1 employed on BOM terms. They offer 5 courses as follows; carpentry and joinery, masonry, plumbing, fashion, design and garment making, motor vehicle mechanics, agribusiness and electrical/wireman.

They get funds from the County Government of Bungoma in form of capitation and bursary. The funds are used to pay salaries for employees on board and running costs. A well-wisher namely Helping Hand Relief Water Harvesting (Rain) who supported the institution with 10,000 litres capacity tank.

Challenges facing this VTC include infrastructure development, tools and equipment, a computer lab and irregular releases of funds by the county government.

KIPTIROKO VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

The VTC is located in Kaptama Ward in Mt. Elgon Sub- County 4.8 Acres of land as provided by the Principal's response against the departmental report of 1.25 Acres. The Centre has a land Agreement as proof of Land ownership without a Title Deed.

Kiptiroko VTC is registered by TVETA with registration number TVETA/PUBLIC/VTC/0227/2019. It is secured by a fence and there is room for expansion.

The total number of trainees enrolled at the Centre is 84 consisting of 36 male and 48 female and regional balance is achieved within its catchment areas. Enrolment at this Centre is both full time and part-time, with two entry levels i.e. Level 1 for those with KCPE and level 2 for those with KCSE Certificates.

It has a workshop which is currently under renovation, five Classrooms which are also being renovated and does not have a library.

The Centre engages in one co- curricular activity which is Volleyball; it has piped water which is not reliable. It has a reliable three phase power supply and ICT has partially been integrated.

It has a total of Seven Instructors, five (5) qualified instructors on permanent and pensionable terms and Two (2) On B.O.M terms and offers 7 courses which include; dressmaking, motor vehicle mechanics, electrical installation, masonry, I.C.T, agro- business and lastly food and beverage.

The Centre sources its funds from school fees, county bursary and proceeds from agri-business venture. It collects revenue of Kshs. 6,500 and has well-wishers who support its programs i.e. GTX and NARIDGE.

The VTC is faced with the following challenges; poor and inadequate infrastructure, inadequate qualified instructors, low and unreliable funding, lack of instructional materials and negative attitude towards VTC education by the community and potential trainees.

SIRAKARU VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

This VTC sits on approximately 0.4 hectare of public land and is registered by TVETA Reg. no. TVETA/PUBLIC/VTC/02337/2019. It is secured by fence and has room for expansion as the local community is willing to sale land to the institution.

Currently it has 26 trainees with 50 per cent retention rate. There is no regional balance because most of the trainees come from Sango and Pwani areas within Naitiri/Kabuyefwe Ward. The enrolment is continuous throughout the year targeting mostly class eight and primary school dropouts.

It has two mabati structures used as classrooms and doesn't have a workshop nor a library. It has a three-door pit latrine which is used both by the instructors and trainees. It does engage in any co-curricular activities. Has reliable water supply, does not have appropriate security and accommodation facility.

Further there no human resource development, no reliable power supply, no support structures for integration of ICT and doesn't have well-wishers to support its programs.

Main challenges facing this VTC include; lack of appropriate classrooms, lack of workshops for practical lessons, lack of an administration block, need to fence the compound in order to enhance security and there is equally need to purchase more land for expansion and co-curricular activities.

Additionally, there is lack of tools and equipment for instructions, low enrollment due to unavailability of proper physical structures and unwillingness by parents to pay school fees for the trainees.

It has 4 qualified instructors teaching carpentry and masonry, Agribusiness and hair dressing. It does not have power supply hence impossible to integrate ICT in its programs.

The Sources of funds include; county government in terms of bursary allocation which is partly used to pay staff on BOM and purchase of instructional materials. The VTC does not have any revenue generating activities.

WABUKHONYI VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Wabukhonyi VTC is located in Kamukuywa Ward accessible a few kilometers off the Webuye-Kitale tarmac road. It has 1 and ¾ acre of land and registered by TVETA. It is secured by a fence and there is also room for expansion.

At the moment it has 110 trainees with a retention capacity of about 65 percent. Regional balance is achieved through its wide catchment area. The enrollment is done through

mobilization during public baraza's, at funerals, church functions and posters. The entry level is from class eight to form four.

The classrooms and workshops at this institution require urgent renovations. It also requires an administration block, library and accommodation facilities. There is no water supply, power supply is available but the management is unable to pay electricity bills on time leading to rampant disconnections. In addition, human resource development is not well implemented due to unavailability of funds to support the activity.

It has 9 qualified instructors teaching 9 courses. ICT has been integrated in its programs. Sources of funds are through bursaries and grants from the County Government of Bungoma and school fees. The same funds are used to procure learning materials and equipment for trainees, paying salaries for staff on BOM terms and administrative costs.

They collect revenue in form of school fees about Kshs. 40,000 per year and used to get support from Harambee Foundation and Holland in terms of equipment but the support since stopped.

Challenges at this facility include lack of funds to procure learning materials and pay salaries for the staff on BOM terms, irregular funding from the County Government, un-motivated teaching staff for lack of promotions and development among others.

SANGO VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

This VTC is located in Khasoko Ward sitting on an acre piece of land without a title deed. It is registered by TVETA, fenced and there is room for expansion.

Currently, it has 35 trainees and regional balance is minimal as the trainees mainly come from within the ward. Enrollment is done through home to home sensitization targeting class eight and form four but it still remains open to anybody willing to acquire skills provided at the institution.

It has only one workshop, no library and no permanent classrooms. It does not have a reliable water supply, no accommodation facility, no power supply, no co-curricular activities and there is no ICT support structure for ICT integration.

The VTC has shortage of workshops to be specific the institution has one workshop

There is no library and no permanent classroom, No co-curricular facilities, No reliable water supply, no appropriate security No accommodation facility, no human resource development, no power supply and no support structures for integration of ICT.

It has 3 qualified instructors and offering 4 courses. ICT has not been integrated in teaching and learning programs.

Sources of funding is from the County Government of Bungoma and it does not generate any revenue. The funds are used to purchase learning materials and equipment, paying salaries for staff on BOM and for administrative costs.

Challenges at this VTC revolve around lack of power supply, shortage of training facilities and instructional materials, and unavailability of clean water supply and delays in disbursement of funds by the county.

KOONY VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

This VTC is located in Elgon Ward sitting on an acre piece of land. The process of acquiring a title deed is underway. The proof of land ownership at the moment is the sale agreement. It is yet to be registered with TVETA. Documents were forwarded to TVETA waiting for assessment to be done. It is not fenced and there is potential for expansion.

It has 29 trainees with a workshop that can accommodate up to 35 trainees. Regional balance is achieved in terms of enrollment and its catchment area. The enrollment is continuous targeting KCPE and KCSE leavers although still open to anybody willing to acquire the skills.

It has one incomplete workshop without either classrooms or a library. It engages in co-curricular activities due to available of playing fields for football and volleyball. The trainees participate in inter-zonal county competitions. There is no water supply hence the institution rely on water from a spring which is far away. There is no power supply thus ICT is yet to be integrated. Human resource development is not being implemented as a result of inadequate funding. Additionally, it lacks well-wishers to support its programs.

It has 4 qualified instructors 2 employed by the County Government of Bungoma and another 2 are on BOM terms. It offers 4 courses namely; tailoring, motor vehicle mechanics, ICT and general agribusiness. ICT integration has not been integrated due to lack of power supply.

The major source of funds is the County Government of Bungoma in terms of bursary allocation. The funds are used to procure learning/ instructional materials and equipment, paying salaries for staff on BOM and meeting the administrative costs. It does not engage in any revenue generating activities.

Challenges affecting operations at facility include; lack of enough proper infrastructure i.e. workshop, classrooms, electricity, toilets, fence and water supply. Other challenges are lack of enough trainers and insufficient and irregular funding by the County Government.

SINOKO VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Sinoko TVC is located in Ndivisi Ward on 1.2 hectare piece of land. It is registered with TVETA, fenced and there is room for expansion.

Currently, it has 96 trainees and the retention rate stands at 60 per cent and regional balance is achieved in regard to enrollment and its catchment area. The mode of enrollment is open throughout the year to class eight and form four leavers including drop outs and anybody willing to acquire the skills.

The available workshops are equally used as classrooms and it does not have a library. There is a dormitory facility for female trainees that lack beds and electricity is yet to be installed. Co-curricular activities are low as a result of unavailability of playing fields. Equally, the VTC relies on rain water harvesting which is not reliable and human resource is not being undertaken due to lack of funds. There is power connection and ICT support structure for ICT integration but the space is limited. It has well-wishers and friends who support their programs.

It has 6 qualified instructors spread across 8 courses that are offered at the institution. ICT has been integrated but they lack enough computers and projectors.

The major source of funds is the County government in form of bursary allocation, grants and schools which is used to pay wages to teaching and non-teaching staff hired by the BOM, purchase of instructional and learning equipment and administrative costs.

Some of the challenges facing Sinoko VTC include; inadequate capitation from the county government, lack of tools and equipment to facilitate proper learning, lack of a library, need for borehole for steady supply of water at the facility and enough workshops and classrooms.

MUTEREMUKO VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

The VTC occupies approximately 2 acres of land accessible about 400 meters off the Kanduyi-Musikoma dual-carriage way. It is secured by a fence and equally there is room for expansion.

Currently, it has 106 trainees with a 50 per cent retention rate and regional balance is observed in its catchment area. The enrollment is continuous at two levels i.e. class eight and above for KNEC exams and primary dropouts for NITA exams.

In terms of infrastructure, it has 4 workshops and a classroom but lacks a library facility. It does not have co-curricular facilities, insufficient water supply. ICT has not been integrated in teaching and learning and there is no human resource development. It has 7 qualified instructors spread across 9 courses being offered at the Centre.

The major source of funds for the Centre is fees and bursary which is used in running its programs and does not collect any revenue.

Among the challenges facing the institution include; lack of learning materials and equipment, irregular and insufficient funding from the County Government. It lacks of a library and inadequate instructors.

BUNGOMA TOWNSHIP VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

This VTC is located in Township Ward housed at Mpeli Primary School since it lacks its own land and not registered by TVETA. Currently, it has 3 trainees with zero retention rate. The entry level at this facility is KCPE certificate which is continuous throughout the year. It lacks basic learning and teaching infrastructure like workshops, Classrooms and Library facilities. In addition to that it also lacks Co-curricular facilities like playing grounds, no reliable water supply, security, accommodation facilities, human resource development, power supply and Support structures for integration of ICT.

It has 3 qualified instructors spread across the 5 courses i.e. tailoring, masonry, hairdressing, electrical wiring and motor vehicle mechanics with no ICT integration in teaching and learning. The source of funds for the Centre is from CEF which is mainly used to pay instructors. The VTC does not collect any revenue and doesn't have any well-wishers to support its programs. Challenges facing this facility range from lack of land to put up its structures, lack of workshops and classrooms and instructors employed by the County Government.

LUKHOKHWE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

This VTC sits on 1.5 Acre piece of land without a title deed. The process of transferring the ownership of the land to the VTC is ongoing. It is duly registered by TVETA registration no. TVETA/PUBLIC/VTC/0228/2019. Not fenced but with room for expansion.

It has 36 trainees with an average learner's retention capacity. Regional balance is not realized as majority of the learners come from neighboring villages of Binyenya, Bilibili and Mukuyuni. The enrollment is continuous throughout the year on full time, part time or on job targeting KCPE, KCSE, and school dropouts.

Currently, workshops, classrooms and a library are under construction and for now using two temporary structures for learning and teaching purposes. It does not have co-curricular facilities, insufficient water supply, no accommodation facility, no power supply, support structure for ICT integration currently under construction and minimal human resource development being undertaken.

The VTC has 6 qualified instructors 3 of whom are employees of the County Government and the rest hired by the BOM. They are spread across the following courses; agribusiness, motor vehicle mechanics, masonry, garment making and arc-welding.

Sources of funds for the VTC include school fees and from the County Government in form of bursaries which is used in paying wages for the teaching and non-teaching staff on BOM terms, RMI, local travel and transport and purchase of instructional and administrative materials.

Major challenges at the VTC include; lack of electricity, lack of sufficient funds for BOM and support staff wages, insufficient staff only 3 government employees, inadequate tools, equipment and instructional material. Other challenges are; lack of safe water system, lack of power supply and low trainees due to negative attitude by both parents and potential trainees.

MASAEK VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

This VTC is located in Kapkateny Ward on about an acre piece of land. It is accessible at Masaek junction along the Siundu-Kopsiro road. The process of transferring land ownership to the VTC is ongoing.

It has 28 trainees and the retention is not consistent without a regional balance in its catchment area.

The mode of enrollment targets school dropouts, standard 8 leavers and form 4 leavers which is open throughout the year.

In regard to physical facilities and management; it has incomplete classrooms and workshops and without a library facility. There are no co-curricular facilities, no reliable water supply, no accommodation facility, no power supply thus no ICT integration in teaching and learning programs and human resource development is hardly undertaken.

There are 3 qualified instructors in the institution in the following courses; tailoring and garment making, welding and fabrication and masonry.

The source of funds is from the County Government in form of bursary which is used for repairs and maintenance, paying wages for the support staff and purchase of school instructional and learning equipment.

The VTC does not collect any revenue and is not supported by any well-wishers in their programs.

Some of the challenges being experienced at the facility include; inadequate infrastructure, lack of power and water supply, lack of instructional and learning materials and land for expansion. Further, there is a low trainee enrollment attributed to negative attitude by the locals towards the learning facility.

MATULO VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE-MATULO WARD

Matulo Vocational Training Centre is located in Matulo Ward, Webuye west constituency along the Kanduyi-Webuye highway. It has pieces of land 50X100 which is yet to acquire a title deed and a separate two acre piece with Title Deed No. (NDIVISI/KHALUMULI/5621).

The VTC is registered by TVET. No. Public/VTC/0040/2016. It is not fenced but the two acres has room for expansion. The enrollment of trainees is seventy four (74) and the learner retention capacity is 50 (fifty trainees). There is no regional balance in terms of enrollment since the VTC has large catchment area but attract fewer trainees from the region it is situated.

The mode of enrollment is by issuing of admission letters in neighboring primary school after KCPE and use of posters and this is hampered by negative Attitude towards VTC education.

The entry level of learner is primary school dropout, KCPE and KCSE learner with D+ and below.

In terms of facilities the VTC has only two classrooms, whereby one is portioned in as an office, store and a computer room. The VTC has workshop and libraries. It urgently requires infrastructural facilities like classrooms, workshops, administration block and ICT laboratory.

No co-curricular facilities due to inconsistency in funding, the water supply is unreliable as it depends on NZOWASCO and rain water. In terms of security it is not appropriate as the VTC is not fenced and the security guard is not paid consistently. No accommodation facilities available and it has insufficient human resource structure.

Power supply is available from KPLC but no support structures for integration like ICT labs, computers for learning and teaching.

The VTC has seven instructors, five employed on permanent and pensionable terms while two employed by the Board of Management, the instructors are qualified in their trade areas and trained with pedagogy from KTTC.

The VTC offers Eight Courses which include: ICT, Masonry, Plumbing, Electrical Wiring, Motor Vehicle Mechanics, Food and Beverage, Hairdressing and Dressmaking and it boasts of ICT integration in teaching and learning.

The VTC sources its funds from the County Government and fees paid by Trainees which is used for payment of BOM instructors and purchase of Training materials. Revenue is collected in terms of fees with No well -wishers who support the VTC Programs.

Some of the challenges being faced by the Centre include; Lack of sufficient infrastructure like classrooms, Workshops and Laboratories, most trainees come from poor families hence unable to pay fees, inconsistent supply of learning and instructional materials, insufficient funding from the county Government, lack of capacity to engage in income generating activities and public perception that VTC is for Drop outs.

WEKELEKHA VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

The VTC is located in Musikoma Ward, on Approximately 2.5 Acres separately as E. Bukusu/S. Kanduyi/10566 and E. Bukusu/South Kanduyi/7056. And is accessible by road network in the area, registered by TVET but registration number was not provided. It is fenced.

The number of Trainees enrolled in the Centre are 102, majority having sat for Grade two and Grade three Exams and currently the Centre has 84 Trainees having a retention capacity of 80% with regional balance in terms of Enrolment and catchment area having a continuous mode of Enrolment with two entry levels at class Eight, primary drop outs and those willing to acquire a skill from the Centre are considered.

The Vocational Centre has a block that accommodates three classrooms but the roof is too low hence need to raise for proper ventilation, it lacks a modern Motor Vehicle Mechanic Workshop and there is need for more workshops to be built.

The Centre has Co- curricular facilities, water supply is by use of two tanks for harvesting and storage of water and two bore holes were dug without success, Security is okay, it has power supply on a single phase and there is need to apply for three phase. The Centre lacks accommodation facilities with Human resource development and ICT integration in progress as one class is being partitioned.

The Centre has Eight qualified instructors specializing in Masonry, Electrical, Garment making, motor vehicle mechanics, ICT, hairdressing and Plumbing and having integration of ICT in teaching and learning.

The Centre sources its funds from county bursary, Fees from trainees which is used for purchasing of instructional materials, exam booking and maintenance of machines.

The Centre gets its revenue from Admission fee, and other fees paid by Trainees and lacks support from well-wishers.

The Centre has challenges that need to be addressed and these include: Renovation of the existing blocks, construction of standard modern workshops, Capitation should be improved to cater for exam booking as majority of trainees cannot pay, need to upgrade from one phase to three phase electrical installation and need to drill a bore hole for reliable water supply.

Generally, the Centre has enough tools, equipment and machines for training.

MALAHA VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

The VTC is situated in Matulo ward occupying approximately one acre of land having two title deeds registered as Bokoli/Kituni/1829 and Bokoli/Kituni/1830 and is accessible by use of a feeder road from the highway, registered by TVET and secured by fencing and there is room for future expansion.

The Centre has a total of 48 trainees enrolled and the retention capacity is 30%-40%. There is regional balance in terms of enrollment.

Most of those enrolled are form fours who scored D- and below and wish to gain skills and also primary school drop-out who know how to read and write and those who wish to acquire certain skills.

The VTC lacks permanent workshops or classroom but we have a temporary mabati structures divided to act as workshops as well as classrooms. It lacks a library but the few available textbooks are kept in the office.

In Co-curricular we have volleyball and netball ring, for football primary field is used. It is guarded by one guard but there is need for one more. In terms of water we use neighboring borehole and spring water which is a distance. There is power supply line but the VTC is yet to be connected.

The VTC lacks the structure for ICT Integration. It has four qualified instructors and Eleven registered courses but only six are active due to lack of instructors, tools and equipment.

The source of funding is from Ward fund though not regular and is used for purchase of training materials, subordinate staff and BOM instructors' salary and other expenses.

No revenue collection since parents usually pay fees in kind like firewood, trees, maize, beans which are used on daily basis.

The Centre has no well-wishers who support its Programs.

Some of the challenges experienced in the Centre are; parents don't pay fees and bursary is not regularly disbursed and lack of workshops, classroom facilities in the VTC, Shortage of instructors according to the registered courses. The County Government should employ more instructors. There is lack of water, and the institution requests for drilling of a borehole. The county to help repair the short distance feeder roads to the VTC for easy of accessing the Centre, help put the ICT classroom, acquisition of modern tools and equipment and introduction of feeding program which can enable retention of trainees.

MILIMANI VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

The VTC has approximately one acre land which is still under the owner but on Succession process. The VTC is accessible but requires some improvement. The VTC is yet to be registered with TVET. It is secured by temporary fence and it has room for expansion.

The Centre has 29 trainees enrolled and retention rate is low since it is difficult because of the inadequate structures and facilities. There is regional balance as others come from within and outside sub-county. Enrolment is on a continuous process and enrolment for primary and high school dropout. One workshop is in good condition, no classroom and library. The VTC has no co-curricular facilities. No reliable water supply available. It has power supply mains, yet to be connected, it has four qualified instructors and six registered courses and has ICT has been Integrated in its Learning and Teaching. Funding is through Ward bursary for operational purposes, no revenue collection and no well-wishers to support its programs. The Centre faces challenges like lack of enough physical facilities like workshop, classroom, library and lack of enough training materials, poor or no payment of school fees; lack of storage facilities for the tools; poor and untimely financial support to facilitate the program. The institution lacks enough instructors to teach in some courses. To deal with the challenges the County Government should increase capitation per trainee from Kshs.10, 000 to Kshs.20, 000 for easy running of the institution; donate tools and equipment for easy learning; Ensure all VTCs are registered with TVETA to get financial support from the National government; Support the VTC with structures; Employ more instructors to gap the need of other courses offered in the institution.

TONGAREN VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

The Centre is constructed on approximately two acres of land and in the process of Acquiring its Title Deed, not easily accessible due to poor road network leading to institution and is registered by TVETA. Registration done on 14/07/2016. Not secured since the VTC is not fenced and security guard not reliable. It has 57 trainees enrolled and 48% retention rate due to lack of school fees and it has no regional balance since most trainees come from the local area having continuous Enrolment for KCSE, KCPE and both primary and secondary dropout as long as a person is able to write his name.

The workshops and classrooms are not available because some structures are incomplete, Library rooms, and reading materials/reference books not available and its ICT integration is a challenge due to lack of facilities....

It has only three qualified instructors without pedagogical skills and two unqualified employed by the Board of Management.

The number of courses offered are six; ICT, Motor vehicle mechanic, Electrical and Electronics, welding, masonry and Fashion & Design and ICT Integration very minimal.

The VTC Sources its funds from National government & County government and the funds are used for training purposes like personal emolument, repair and maintenance, purchase of training materials, tools and equipment and it has a minimal Revenue collection as parents are not supportive.

The Centre has Challenges that include: Lack of enough qualified personnel, only three

instructors employed by the County Government hence difficult to manage the work load. BOM staffs are not motivated to work because they go without salaries for long period of time; Lack of enough training materials, tools and equipment; lack of enough classrooms/workshops and in complete structures and lastly lack of support from the community as parents are not supportive because they don't pay fees for their children.

Recommendations and observations to be put in place; all the shareholders to come together and work in harmony for the betterment of the institution; Our leaders from both the National and County government to channel more funds to institution in order to enable run the VTC smoothly; The county government to employ enough instructors for smooth training; the institution to have qualified personnel to attend to matters concerning Guiding and Counseling; Co-curricular activities to be supported by the county government to help in trainees retention.

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

The committee of Education and Vocational Training observes as follows;

1. **THAT** there is no clear policy on VTC training and development to guide expansion, staffing, enrollment, leadership and management, ICT integration, equipping and quality standards and assurance catering for persons with disabilities.
2. **THAT** there is no proper capitation policy by the County Government to the VTC,s hence majority of them are unable to operate optimally and achieve their objectives due to insufficient and irregular disbursement of funds.
3. **THAT** many of the VTCs do not have proper physical facilities in terms of workshops, classrooms, libraries, accommodation facilities, sanitation facilities and if any are in pathetic conditions hence need for urgent renovations.
4. **THAT** most of the VTCs lack land title deeds, not registered with TVETA and require land for expansion purposes.
5. **THAT** majority of the VTCs have low enrollment and retention rates of the trainees due to negative attitude by the locals towards the VTCs in their localities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMNDATIONS

The committee recommends as follows;

1. **THAT** the County Department of Education and Vocational Training should come up with a policy to guide VTC training and development on expansion, staffing, enrollment, leadership and management, ICT integration, equipping and quality standards quality standards and assurance to guide human resource training ,development and career progression for the VTC instructors in order to motivate them and hence increase efficiency and effectiveness and cater for persons living with disability within 60 days after the adoption of this report and report back

2. **THAT** the County Government of Bungoma through the department of Education and Vocational Training should come up with a proper capitation and funding model to the VTCs, and those disbursements should be done timely to enable the VTCs operate optimally and achieve their objectives.
3. **THAT** the County Government of Bungoma through the department of Education and Vocational Training to come up with a robust plan for infrastructure development and periodic maintenance and renovations for existing structures for all the VTCs across the county as a devolved function.
4. **THAT** the department of Education and Vocational Training should intervene as a matter of urgency in liaising with the relevant bodies and assist VTCs without land title deeds to acquire them and be registered by TVETA.
5. **THAT** the department of Education in conjunction with respective VTCs to come up with regular sensitization programmes on the importance of TVET training to encourage and boost enrolment.

CONCLUSION

The committee confirms that this is the true representation of the status of the VTC institutions across the County and urges the House to approve this report with the observations and recommendations therein.

That the observations and recommendations were made from a sample of the vocational training centers that responded to the questionnaire that had been prepared by the committee through the ward offices to principals of various VTC's in the County .

Attached annexures are committee adoption minutes of the report on the status of sampled vocational training Centres in Bungoma County and department of Education, status report on vocational training Centres in the County.

We have the adoption schedule signed by all the membership of the committee.

Mr. Speaker: Kindly invite your seconder, Hon. Members, just discuss in low tones. Yours is gone too much and I thought you would be using common sense. Kindly invite your seconder!

Hon. Kennedy Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this juncture, I wish to invite my Chairman Hon. Otsiula to second the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Benjamin Otsiula!

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First of all, I wish to extend my touch and sincere appreciation to Hon. Kennedy Wanyama for eloquently moving the motion. He has done it well since yesterday.

This report is on the status of VTC's within the County of Bungoma. As read through members can agree with me that our VTC's are facing a myriad of challenges which are similar across board.

First of all, there is no clear policy on capitation and funding to the VTC's. Going around the entire County you realize we have VTC's which have as less as three instructors, some have instructors on board but they also do not understand how they are supposed to take care of those instructors employed in terms of board of management because parents do not pay fees in those VTC's therefore the department of Education must be obligated to come up with a proper model for capitation and funding of these VTC's.

Most of the VTC's do not have title deeds. This is prerequisite for registration by TVETA. If a VTC is sitting on a land that is not registered then it becomes difficult for it to acquire full registration status.

We also implore upon the County Government to move with speed and have a policy to ensure that all these VTC's within the County are sitting on land which is registered in their names.

If at all a VTC falls squarely within the mandate of the County Government then the County Government should channel their efforts and enough finances towards the development of these VTC's. If they do not take, it would appear 10 years after the County Governments came into place, our VTC's are still way behind and you wonder what has been happening in the last 10 years. Some of these VTC's, the students still learn in semi-permanent classrooms, poor infrastructure yet the department is there. I do not know what they are prioritizing if at all this is one of their core mandates.

We are talking about enrolment on VTC's as a key feature across all the sampled VTC's in the County; you will realize that the enrolment is very low. This is because there is poor infrastructure, students are not attracted to go to these VTC's because some see semi-permanent structures, there are no workshops, no training facilities, it becomes difficult for you to convince some of these students to join those institutions. Therefore, the department must come up with a policy to guide VTC training and development on expansion, staffing and enrolment. Otherwise, the situation is not very good as to what was witnessed during this exercise.

Finally, they say all work without play makes Jackson Wambulwa a dull boy.

Mr. Speaker: Do not expect my reaction! I have known him as a very active young man. Proceed!

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: I am sorry Hon. Speaker. Thank you. Most of these VTC's have inadequate facilities as far as recreation and sporting facilities is concerned. These students are supposed to be engaged in sporting activities to refresh themselves for growth but you find some VTC's sitting on half an acre piece of land, one acre, classrooms are there, some of them have workshops there, the students do not have chance to participate in this other co-curricular activities. We feel and as a committee realized that there is an urgent need for the department to consider making better allocations towards expanding of these VTC's to enable them acquire enough land for expansion to enable the learners partake in the co-curricular activities.

Finally, my final remark would be on the questionnaires that were disseminated. I know we also encountered a problem there. Some of the Honourable members did not return the questionnaires so it was a little bit technical but more or less we also had the report from the research department which confirmed that our VTC's are facing similar challenges across board. With those few remarks, I wish to second.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Otsiula

(Applause)

For seconding the motion moved by Hon. Ken Wanyama on behalf of the committee.

Honorable members, a motion has been moved and seconded that this House adopts the report by the sector committee on Education and Vocational Training on the status of sampled vocational training Centres in Bungoma County laid on the table of the House on 1st November 2023.

(Question proposed)

Yes, I have seen Honourable Majority Leader on line,

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you Mr. Speaker. First, let me appreciate the mover of the report Hon. Ken Wanyama and the Chairman for the committee. Indeed, it's a good report that is actually showing the status of our polytechnics. The only challenge am having I may be one of those who did not return but I did not see it because I have not seen my two vocational centres but if I got the information I could have returned but the good thing is that it cuts across.

As I start the issue of maybe ownership, indeed actually we urge even the department of lands also to liaise with Education so that at least we have ownership of these institutions.

You know it's a great challenge; an institution lasting for more than 20 years but doesn't have ownership so through the chair Education we can liaise with the department of Lands to ensure that at least we have this ownership. We shall be heading somewhere.

There is another big challenge in terms of instructors because some VTC's you hear that they only have three instructors but they are offering more than 5 courses. That shows you that at least two courses maybe they are not very sure of it because what I know every instructor is just entitled for one course so if we only have three instructors and they are offering five courses then it means our students are at risk.

I have two VTC's in my ward but the greatest challenge is these instructors also because you can get that a course being offered like mechanics but the student after maybe training for two years they won't even change a tyre so we also urge the committee to look into it.

The credibility of these instructors, are they sure of what they are teaching or not because comparing the prisoners and our VTC's because I have seen one of the challenges they are saying they only depend on the County Government for facilitation and maybe running of the VTC's but if we could come up with the policy to ensure that through these VTC'S we also have the revenue issue like the one the prisoners are doing because they are teaching like carpentry,

mechanics etc. but again the same VTC's are still in problems because if I am an industry then why should I cry.

The best way is maybe this House we come up so that we instruct the department to come up with the policy to ensure that at least it becomes a generating institution and by doing so we shall be also motivating our learners to join them because he knows when I am here what I have to produce will earn me a living and by so doing we shall be improving our County.

Otherwise, I support but let's also ensure that we be hands on so that these VTC's become more industrious than what they are doing now. I support the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Allan, You will all speak!

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. From the report read, it is clear that most of our VTC across the County are in a sorry state. It is high time the department reconsiders its core mandate as a department. You can imagine a situation where the instructors are sharing a toilet with the trainees. We are having mabati structures in our VTC's across the County. The world is going digital but its unfortunate we cannot offer ICT courses in our VTCs due lack of equipment and power supply.

I want to urge this Honourable House that we reconsider this issue of scholarship. It is the one affecting our VTC's. Why I say so is because most of the funds channeled to Education department go to funding of scholarship, so if possible I want to urge this House we reconsider the issue of scholarship, we equip the department with the mandate to run its core mandate. Even the scholarship issue itself even after allocating a lot of money on scholarship still the fee is not cleared so at the end of the year the department has no success story to tell. It's high time the department reconsiders its core mandate. I support the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Allan Nyongesa. Hon. Sudi,

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me chance to also add my voice on a report that has been read well by Hon. Wanyama. You have listened; actually the problem is affecting all our VTC's. There is no VTC that we can say is better than the other and I remember in the last regime there was an issue of saying VTCs of Excellence like the one for my brother George Musikoma ward, there was a ECDE of Excellence and then we had one in Khalaba but after listening to the report that has been read when I compare with my VTC there is no difference and yet a lot of money was pumped in those two areas because the department does not work with elected leaders. They just chose to do their own things like Musikoma was making during Covid-19 masks and now to hear that there is no revenue where did those masks go because you remember very well the first masks that we were wearing came from Wekelekha VTC, so to say that it has no other source of revenue, we wonder.

A VTC teaches technical skills and if they are well positioned they should be generating their own revenue because like now am constructing four classes for the VTC,I expect that VTC will take a centre role because they are teaching carpentry, when it comes to roofing they should do it.

They are teaching masonry, they need to work with the contractor so that they also raise some revenue but as the Majority Leader mentioned, most of our trainees and trainers also have no knowledge on what they are training and like a student you know when you train and you cannot change a tyre as the Majority Leader has put it, I think that is why the communities around are not very positive about our VTC's because those who are there are not seeing and those who have not been there they are just the same. I want to urge the department that they also have a mechanism of making a follow up and seeing what they are teaching.

On the issue of titles, Bungoma County has a problem. You are a lawyer, you know most of our titles are in succession and as a County maybe you must do something because even if you make a recommendation without financial support. I do not think it will change anything when it comes to acquiring titles and you being a lawyer you know the process of getting a title has changed if you go to lands office things are getting very tough, so maybe this Honourable House should make some allocation to ensure that all the Government lands are processed within a certain period of time. There is what they call virement; I do not know what we shall do because most of our lands not even VTC alone like you want to buy land and put an ECDE there is no title, you struggle for three, four years to buy two or one acre of land so as a County we are doing very poorly in terms of title processing.

I would wish that the Committee on lands look at it and see how we can improve on title acquisition or succession. You should make succession easy by allocating money so that we have clinics where lands with succession problems are put together and assisted so that when you process a title deed it becomes easy. Otherwise, I support the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Caleb!

Hon. Caleb Wanjala: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me an opportunity also to contribute over the same. First of all, I would like to appreciate the committee for their wonderful report that they have given us today. I want to agree with the Honourable members on what they have contributed towards our VTC. When we talk of VTC, we are talking of skills that can really transform majority of our young people who are not able to go to colleges or Universities and these are the people that are needed to transform the economy of this County because you realize that most of the *Jua kali* artisans majority of them especially this County they come from other counties like those who are doing metal works, carpentry, a good number of them come from other regions so we have an opportunity to make sure that our VTC's are working and for me I would urge that the department of education they need to prioritize what is needed in our VTC.

We cannot have a VTC without a workshop because not just a workshop but a full equipped workshop. This will enable our students to get skills and also be well equipped so that when they come out they cannot be the same just like Hon. Sudi said that you cannot differentiate those who have gone to the VTC's and those who have not gone to the VTC.

I do not know if we have had any graduation taking place in these VTCs because yes they are learning but have we had any graduation? Have we had students graduating out of those VTCs? I am sure that one is not happening.

Mr. Speaker: If the Chair of Education is laughing, what do you expect out of me?

Hon. Caleb Wanjala: If that is not happening, what does that mean? It means that even the community will not have any confidence to take their children to our VTC's and that's why when you go to the VTC's outside this County, majority of the students there come from Bungoma County.

Our tutors or the teachers in those VTC's are demoralized sometime they go even for three six months without salary, how do you expect somebody who is not paid to teach the students. What happens is that they will just go there, sit, have a story with the students and go home because they are demoralized and also if we can have a policy that all the students who are not captured to go to the technical colleges we come up with a program on how we can capture them and make sure that each and every one of them goes through the VTC, that will help a lot as it can also help to reduce the rate of crime because when they get knowledge and skills that can help them to begin their own small businesses.

Even though my two VTC's were not captured; the Sudi and Kongoli VTC, I support this report.

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

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this time to contribute on this very important report. VTC's today were called village polytechnics way back in 1979 when Mzee Moi..

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Mulongo, stop saying those years to scare some of us who were not yet born. Just stick to the issues please!

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: This is 44 years since the polytechnics started so its history. When VTC's started in 2013 when we got this devolution, devolved functions started from there.

Currently, the report indicates there is no electricity, water and title deeds in almost all the VTC's. There is no County Governments contribution or enough bursaries to allocate towards the VTC's and yet it's our core mandate. There are no workshops or tools or rather if the workshop is there, there are no tools.

This House especially 45 elected MCA's who come from these VTC areas, let us tell the department to come with a policy so that we can all have our core mandates operational. Let us pay the bursaries but with this thing of scholarship we can stop and at least equip all the VTC's that we have today or let them look for any other sponsors because we used to have 76,000,000 shillings that was being given as a grant in all the VTC's. I do not know where it went to.

If we are not keen enough, all those polytechnics that are there are going to die in the next few years because any child who comes from within that locality doesn't want to join those polytechnics because of the infrastructure.

Sometimes we have invested in National functions especially like now bursaries we pay then they come up putting up their classrooms and labs in secondary schools. Why can't we divert that money into these VTC's so that they can employ more people on the same?

This is a workshop that has no electricity. It's not even supposed to be called a workshop, it is just a building. Once you enter, if it means fabrication now minus electricity what is that House therefore? I support the report fully and let the department develop a policy to come up with supporting of the VTC's.

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

Hon. Frankline Simotwo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, allow me to appreciate the mover of the motion Hon. Ken who has read the report eloquently. Again, allow me also to appreciate the committee on Education on bringing this issue of VTC's on the limelight.

I would also say something about how the questionnaire that some of us never had but because most of the issues that have been put across cut across all VTCs. This is one of the mandates of the County Government to ensure that we streamline this issue of VTC's.

If you do a serious survey you find that most of the technical people who are working within Bungoma come from neighboring counties. If you find those ones building these Houses if you ask them most of them may come from Kisumu, Kakamega and elsewhere maybe because they have established training centres and this is a wakeup call for the Bungoma Government that if we are not very keen we are not going to have a manpower because manpower comes from this technical institutions and if there is no proper VTC's who can bring up this manpower?

Remember even transporting manpower we will be having more revenue because our people will be earning money through this.

Secondly, you find that across all the VTC's you will find that they have no examination centres. I remember one of the days the principal who is in one of the VTC's calling me that the examination they want to do but now they have to go to Kakamega where the three or four students will go and sit for exam. Now you wonder where is Bungoma? If we cannot have a centre for our students to sit for this examination then it means we are still too far so we need to be serious on this issue. This is something that should put to be one of the priorities so that in future we have our own sons and daughters doing this works within the County.

It is a serious issue that these VTC's should be supported fully in terms of Finance, What we have heard from the report.

It is shocking that even the few that have title deeds, have not been processed because of unknown reasons. The government is not doing its best to ensure that they put these things in place. It is a serious issue, the department has to work on this issue so that we move a step and make this County great otherwise if we continue like this we are not moving anywhere. You find somewhere an instructor is just seated he has no students in a VTC; you wonder no one is making a follow-up.

I want to commend that we have to be on record that the committee on education, we wish that we could be receiving this information as our leader has said, the questionnaires you talked about some of us never had. Otherwise, I could have presented, I have two VTC centres in Chepyuk.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Simotwo. Hon. Barasa,

Hon. James Mukhongo: Thank you, for the opportunity also to say something about the report before this House which was presented by my brother Ken Wanyama. I had gone through and I was following very keenly when the mover was reading this report.

The critical issue here and it applies to all our VTC's when he took us through Malaha Vocational Training Centre, The last item, motivating principals and instructors by promoting them and helping them to go for refresher courses and to disperse development funds, so that each VTC can plan on what to do with the funding. It's an elephant in the room. When we were passing our budget of this financial year, the element of training was removed but there was nothing towards the vocational training centres. I stand to be challenged, if there was anything captured within the department then I stand to be challenged but we need to do so. I am saying it.

I have one of the biggest vocational training centres that is Chwele which has more than two hundred and something learners. It is one of the biggest and we have the sponsors those are rotary club sponsors, they are helping teen mothers, those girls who maybe be by coincidence they have given birth before reaching the age.

When you visit that institution, you will be so impressed, if it were not the sponsors, I do not know what I can say today in this Honourable House and I want also to thank the former regime of the former Governor that is Hon. Wycliffe Wafula Wangamati. That is the only thing I can say and I can laud him during his tenure, Chwele was earmarked to be a centre of excellence.

There is structure being constructed and I stand also to be challenged because in this year's budget there are no funds directed to the same institution and yet we are the representatives of the people and the key mandate of the County Governments is vocational training. I have gone through the report where they have made a recommendation and observation to be put in place ;all the stakeholders and even the committee is urging the National Government and the County Government to put resources together so that we can assist. It is a challenge to us.

I have made several visits to the CDF offices looking for funding of the learners of the vocational training centres and they said this is a devolved function, you should not be coming here and you have been given money to take care. I have just done my little arithmetic and I have seen the 3%, I think so...

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, I think that contract that is on-going is out of place.

Hon. James Mukhongo: When you go through the bursary...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Mulongo Aggrey, that one cannot go unnoticed. If you want to engage in fighting in the House, I will send all of you out! As simple as that .Proceed!

Hon. James Mukhongo: When you go through the regulations, 3% is for vocational training centres and when you calculate each ward was given 4,000,000 for bursaries in our wards. When you calculate that is 120,000,000 for vocational training centres and I have said here I have more than 200 and if you calculate with 200 that means each learner will get 600 shillings and this is a core function. We are giving a lot of attention to the bursaries and forgetting the vocational training centres, so it is a wakeup call and I am expecting because we are almost starting the

budget process, we are working on some documents. The chair is seated here, he is the one who has mentioned here and given some observations so we start from here.

We should not be going out crying and yet we have a budget so it is a wakeup call during budget cycle this issue of giving a lot of bursaries to secondary education we must move away of it so that we can also enhance and support our vocational training centres. I am telling you for free, I am forced to give some bread to my school that is the Chwele VTC's just to motivate the teachers. Just recently when we were doing re-vetting and a lot of money got lost around 15,000,000 if 15,000,000 was put in good use some of these learners would have received some assistance from the County Government of Bungoma.

Otherwise, we are recruiting ECDE teachers and I am also urging my brother Chair of the committee to also give preference to the instructors because it has come up in your report that you will find a VTC with three instructors and they are offering five courses so it's not budget committee, it starts from the sector department. They are the ones who must show the wheel so that the budget committee can give them some money and we are here today and tomorrow we will support it because the system of Education in Kenya is changing. This issue of scholarship is not going to be there so we need to concentrate our efforts on the vocational training centres. I am aware we have other two motions ahead of us, let me rest my case as I support the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mukhongo. Hon. Ipara,

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Let me take this opportunity to laud the mover of the report and the seconder particularly. They have exposed how rotten our vocational training centres are and in their report what they have clearly revealed is we as a County have refused to plan and when we refuse to plan the report tells us the following;

One, we are planning to fail, two, we are creating a society that is lazy, three, we operate without a budget, four, we have no clear vision when it comes to vocational training centres where our core function is and this informs me personally that actually we are not operating within the core functions of the County Governments and before I move further than that, allow me to laud Honourable Mukhongo. You will accept with me Mukhongo is one of the visionary thinkers of this House besides human weaknesses.

The report clearly tells us that in those institutions, they are either poor or lack of infrastructure and the representative of the people and what are we doing? In this coming budget, let's make sure that we do not make the Chair of Education a slave of the County. We must facilitate these Honourable members so that they can also hold accountable the CEC of Education. It is something that disappoints when you tell your mother to give you food and you know very well that there are no vegetables or flour to make that food.

In this department, actually there is insufficient funding so what we should do Honourable members and this one I want to appeal to all of us, let's make sure that the coming budget we must make available funds to run those programs. We have run away from the core function as it has been repeated by all of us. We spend a lot of money, over 500,000,000 shillings on the bursaries and when you look into it, it is a core function of the national government. We have run

away from supporting vocational training centres and ECDE classes and every time we come here, we just cry and yet we have the power to ensure that everything is in place.

Why can't we as the oversight, as the appropriators of the budget, appropriate funds intended purposefully for purchase of land for vocational training centres for those that do not have and acquire ownership documents of ownership for those that have. If we follow the way of the Hon. Mukhongo, we shall get our things right and we are lucky Hon. Mukhongo is the chair of Finance and I think he will facilitate this particular department.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ipara, there is a clear difference between the Chair of Finance and Economic Planning and Budget and Appropriation, so Chair Finance collects funds then Wambulwa appropriates and approves approval. So there is a difference in those two chairs

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker, he plans, Wambulwa appropriates we use but they are interrelated. If you looked carefully they are interrelated

(Laughter)

Lack of mandatory equipment and tools for training, you can't purport that you are training a mason and this particular mason does not have equipment that will expose her or him on what they use on practical sessions. This is the time we must stand and we must run away from the saying that this is our government, let's allow it to do things the way they want or we are in the position let's leave the government do the things because it is not our government.

All of us belong to this county, None of us wants to run away from this county, so we must make sure that we get our priorities right. I have never seen in any budget that we have allocated Kshs 100 million for vocational training centres across the County. There is nowhere and how do you expect to get results? Even if you want to plant sugar, you must plough that part of the land, do furrows and get the right product seeds to plant and do the weeding but before this one; our expectations are so high where we have not invested. How would you expect the good returns? That is where I say we failed to plan and we are failing, .

I want to thank the Honourable chair for getting the facts right. We went to Tongaren and found that an administration block had been put at a cost of 6 million Kshs. Next to it, we also had another block and thought that the priority at this particular time was workshops, where practical was to be done but this was done from the department headquarters without the input of the vocational training centres managers.

In your home, you are the one who knows what your needs are and you have categorized them in a series, the first then to the second to the last. I think is good if we can ask the user what are your priorities? If we do that, we shall change this county and when we change the history will judge us not harsh, I submit by supporting this report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ipara. Hon. Evelyn Anyango

(Applause)

Hon. Everline Anyango: Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir, for catching my eye. First of all, let me applaud the reader of the motion for being so eloquent. These are the centres that catch the common *mwana nchi* on the ground and this is the core mandate of the county government. In most of the vocational centres we find that okay, infrastructure might be there, the trainers are there but the department does not make a follow up on what the trainers do in these vocational centres.

Most of the learners that come out empty handed and this is a place where another goes to get skill and with a skill which need to be imparted by a trainer. So when you go out to the world, you are also going to sell that skill and what they sell in this skill is services. Nobody will buy a service that is not perfect from the seller.

Most of the vocational centres are just like my area of hairdressing. We find that most of the learners that come from these vocational centres, there is a problem. When they come to the market world, they come empty handed. What is happening and what is the department doing to see to it that these vocational centres can be attractive to both the learners and the parents who might be requested to pay something little? So that to see to it that the vocational centres are running there must be a follow up and refresher courses may be offered, should be offered for these trainers.

There is a concern also when it comes to examination centres as one of the senior members cited on the floor. Most of the areas do not have exam centres. There was one time that I had students that were supposed to do the KNEC exam all the way from Kanduyi we went to Kabuchai that is Kisiwa youth Polytechnic. That was the only centre that was nearer for the students from Kanduyi to sit for the exams. In our communities we are having especially girl child and those ones who drop out of school or early pregnancies can only be made profitable to the community, if our vocational centres will be upgraded.

Given facilities that can be of importance to these students, we can see that technology is changing day after day and if we don't go with the technology, that's why we are finding that the students who drop out of school especially boys and girls who drop out in class six and class eight or class seven, it is only a vocational centre that can make a person who is profitable to the community from this drop out. It is my prayer and request to the committee that it makes a follow up with the Department of Education and this is the core mandate of the Department of Education in the county so that our vocational centres can be functional and well equipped. I rest my case,

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Everline Anyango. Hon. Makari,

Hon. George Makari: Thank you Speaker maybe briefly because we have around two motions following. I want to applaud my chair and the mover of the motion Hon. Ken for such a relaxed presentation and the eloquent presentation thank you. I come from in a world where there was a centre of excellence called Wekelekha VTC. I want to inform you that Hon. Sudi was one of the beneficiaries of this mask. Mr. Speaker, you remember when we were lining up to go and test Corona outside there, I was in between Hon. Sospeter of West Bukusu and Hon. Sudi of South Bukusu, unfortunately, they came out positive and was negative. I was not a user of those masks that came from my Ward.

The core mandate of this County Government actually is upside down because you find that as Hon. Mukhongo said that we have invested so much on things that are not our core mandate and no one is speaking about VTCs home craft centres because the concentration is elsewhere. I think it's time we came back and checked at our core mandate which is among the VTCs

Most of the VTC have dilapidated buildings. They have very clueless tutor and nothing is done. They just come waste away time and walk away any time they want. We put up a very state of the administration block with the workshops. The principal of VTC sits in a very, In fact, she rivals the office that you sit in she has a very nice office But nothing is happening there.

As the Honourable Majority put it you walk to prisons, you find prisoners are doing things that they are even exporting to other counties but our VTC's. I don't know if the tutors are the ones that are a problem or are they are just hiring people on political grounds because there is nothing they are teaching these people.

I was very amazed when we went for devolution conference. Do you know all the things that were shown on the stall of Bungoma were artifacts that were bought elsewhere and then they cheated the people that this devolution stole for Bungoma County these things are produced within our VTCs. There's nothing that is produced from our VTCs unless Honourable Speaker you were there you saw something that is produced in Bungoma County you can tell us but me I never saw anything and they could not disclose that this thing come from Khalaba Ward at the Mutemko VTC centre nothing completely.

So as we support the report, I think the Education Department must actually come back to its core mandate. We should stop this idea as Hon. Mukhongo said we are dwelling so much on bursary of secondary schools and whatever and then we are leaving this VTCs. This current moment in time, You find that a child reaches standard eight and then it drops out of school and the next thing is they cut out a parcel of land from their ancestral land and buys a motorbike to begin running around on the road carrying passengers but if you tell them now go to a VTC they can't go there because there's nothing good that comes out of VTCs. There is no production, there is no point of reference that this so and so son has come from a VTC and he is a plumber is an electrician, is a mason nothing completely. So we must rethink our core mandate as I support the report thank you,

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Cornelius

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First of all, I would like to appreciate the mover of the motion Hon. Ken Wanyama for a very good report. Our core mandate ECDEs and VTCs which are giving life skills to our people but we are not giving enough attention to those centres. For example, we have talked to so much here but our tutors who are on Permanent and Pensionable (PnP) most of the time when other workers have been promoted, our tutors have remained in one grade for ages. If we do not motivate them they are not going to perform as we wish, I wish also when promotions come let us also consider those tutors and those who are employed on Board of Management as you have heard they are never paid on time they are crying if we mean business let us remind this VTCs so that we get full performance from them.

Otherwise even on the side of Learners, we do not have enough awareness for our people. Most of our people they do not know what VTC does. When I was elected, I have a single VTC in my ward, called Muteremko. The students were 25 in number but because I have been going out even in funeral to tell them what VT C's are all about. Right now we have more than 130 students. So awareness is lacking. We have to make awareness, go out there so that people know what it is he does and even on those students they need also to be motivated.

When I walked in one of the plumbing classroom, I got three girls, even a young mother, below 20 years with that kid on her lap learning and the two were pregnant almost due. So they are eager to learn but what lacks is motivation. They asked me even for lunch I had to give some maize so that they get that lunch mixture of maize and beans. We need also to motivate these students.

Otherwise, they will go there for two days, three days they drop out because there is nothing to motivate them. As I told you these are life skills, you cannot retire unless you will go blind. Or maybe you are incapacitated; we need to put more efforts in those centres. That is where the world is going. Even as the country now we have changed our curriculum to competency based curriculum and that is where we are going now. As my colleagues have said, we have focused so much on scholarships, if we channel enough money into those centres; this country is going to move forward.

Lastly, we know these centres are giving technical courses. Our core mandate as MCAs we have ECDEs and VTC's, we have some members, I included who sometimes make chairs and tables for our ECDE children. If we can get these contracts to these VTCs to make those chairs and tables, we shall be also giving them a way of generating some income for those centres. So I support the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Jeremiah

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think most of what I wanted to say has been exhausted but just a small input. I think we should as a team emphasize mainly on availability of land. The bureaucracy that is there in acquiring land is an issue. For instance I wanted to buy a

piece of land last year, up to now it is still hanging. So we should come up with measures to buy land and I think from that report, it is a good report. Though, Township is the only place, is the only ward with one VTC that doesn't have students. It exists but it doesn't have students. It is not registered. So I think we should come up we should make follow ups over the same. Lastly..

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Jeremiah, if the VTC exist, does not have students that means there are no tutors, have no land so you have nothing.

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: Yes, that's what I'm saying.

(Laughter)

That's what I'm saying. It has no land, it is not registered. It has three tutors. It has no students.

Mr. Speaker: Tutors to do what? The report they are saying is domiciled in Mupeli primary school

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: It is not there.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Tutors eat where?

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: under a tree and in that compound and they go in the morning and go away in the evening. For those ones who graduate from VT Cs, let's make a follow up of the graduates. So that those who want to join can see the importance, those ones who came from VTC, how they have benefited. We should come up with the policies, where we can even use our own CEF money to come up with projects for this VTC graduates. Otherwise, I support the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kuloba. Honourable Members, allow me invite the mover of the motion to respond accordingly. Ken you will have a chance of responding from where you are seated. There is no objection to that.

Hon. Ken Wanyama: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to reply to the motion on the status of VTCs in the County of Bungoma. First, I want to respond to one or two specific concerns. That is from *Mheshimiwa* Simotwo and *Mheshimiwa* Nyongesa the Majority leader. We distributed these questionnaires through our records office and we thought that is the most effective way because usually they even send messages to Honourable members. So for those who didn't get the questionnaires, we apologize. We don't know where the gaps came from. So, I will go to the main issues raised by other members.

As per part two of the fourth schedule of the Constitution, the core mandate of devolved units is actually VTCs and ECDEs but as you have clearly seen from the contributions from members and as senior *Mheshimiwa* Makari has put it, it seems our focus is actually upside down. And I want to demonstrate this by just reading to you the budgetary allocations towards VTCs from the Department of Education.

In the 2020 /2021 budget, there was a grant over 62.1 million from the National Government and yet there was zero allocation towards VTC. 2022/2023 there is zero allocation. When you look at employment of staff as well, the year 2020 /2021 that was zero allocation, 2021/ 2022 Zero allocation, 2022 /2023 Zero allocation. This is evidence that as a department, they are really not focused on ensuring that the core mandate for devolved units that is VTCs and ECDEs is actually taken care of.

I believe there are many other ways you can take care of school fees for our brothers and sisters. And I know there is a discussion going on to increase CEF allocation. With CEF you have more accountability and control and I want to tell you why. Just yesterday as we were interrogating the department of Education and Vocational Training, we are told that their entire budget of 521 million for scholarships has been disbursed. But I am sure as you are sitting here, you have students whose school fees have not been paid. So that tells you that in terms of accountability for this scholarship fund, we really don't have much accountability. So let's look at other ways to ensure that we take care of our brothers and sisters' school fees. From their submissions, it's clear that we need enough resources for robust development of VTCs. We need enough resources to cater for staffing needs. We need resources for equipping the VTCS .

I urge the department to engage the national government on ways to get more funding to support these VTCs and like I have already mentioned, you can see the year 2020/ 2021 there was a grant of 62 million, so that means funds are actually available from the National government and it's the department that is not putting in effort to get funding.

Last but not least, the department needs to put in place proper capitation and funding models. So unless we have a proper capitation and funding model, then we will still continue having problems of low enrollment, we will continue having problems of low motivation from the trainers, and then we also need to put in place a policy for continuous assessment and quality control.

Like Honourable Members have mentioned, some of the graduates from these VT C's cannot even change a tyre. So that tells you about the quality of the training that they are getting. So unless we have a continuous assessment and quality control, then nothing will change.

Lastly, the department needs to ensure that all these VTCs have title deeds. It's only when they are fully registered with TIVETA that they will be able to get funding from the National

Government. So I take this opportunity to urge the Honourable members to adopt the report with the recommendations.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ken Wanyama for your response to the motion before the house. Hon. Members, a motion was moved and seconded and debate having ensued that this House do adopt the report by the Sector Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the status of the sampled vocational training centres in Bungoma County laid on the table of the house on first of November 2023.

(Question put and greed to)

The report is observations and recommendations are hereby adopted by this house accordingly. Next item,

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE, COHESION AND LEGAL AFFAIRS
ON THE SCRUTINY OF THE NATIONAL COHESION AND INTEGRATION ACT NO
12 OF 2008**

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Everline Anyango, you have the honor of moving the report on behalf of your committee. Accordingly you proceed

Hon. Everline Anyango: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir

Mr. Speaker: For guidance purposes and for time management you will give us 1.1 then you go to 1.4 then you go ahead

Hon. Everline Anyango: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir for that guidance

Preface

On behalf of the Committee on Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs, it is my pleasure and duty to present to this House the Report of the Committee on the Scrutiny of the National Integration and Cohesion Act, 2008

Committee's Membership

The Committee as currently constituted comprises of the following Members:-

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Hon. Jacob Psero | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Everlyne Anyango | Vice chair person |
| 3. Hon. George Makari | Member |
| 4. Hon. Francis Chemion | Member |
| 5. Hon. Everlyne Mutiembu | Member |
| 6. Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba | Member |
| 7. Hon. Timothy Chikati | Member |

8. Hon. Edwin Opwora	Member
9. Hon. Sheila Sifuma	Member
10. Hon. Idd Owongo	Member
11. Hon. Linda Kharakha	Member

Acknowledgement

The Committee is thankful to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical support accorded to it during the report writing as it executed its mandate.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Honorable Members of the Committee for their resourceful input that informed the content of this report. My sincere gratitude also goes to the members of the Secretariat for their dedication towards compiling this report.

It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Committee on Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs to table this report to the Assembly for deliberation and adoption.

Thank you.

Signed by Hon. Jacob Psero Chairperson Committee on Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs

Introduction

Peace is the path we take for bringing growth and prosperity to the society. If we do not have peace and harmony achieving political strength economic stability and cultural growth will be impossible. It enriches our communities and individual lives as it directs us to embrace diversity and support one another to the fullest extent possible through caring generosity and fairness which are fruits of peace, It provides a cornerstone for attaining a sustainable just meaningful vibrant and fulfilling personal and community life.

Peace is important for smooth running of any institution—peace removes fear and anxiety from the lives of the people, it promotes growth and development of society, it brings about happiness, promotes tolerance and understanding amongst people, encourages peaceful co-existence among people which results in a lack of conflict and encourages good trade ties and relationships amongst other great benefits.

A Brief on Peace Lapse in the County

The preamble to the Constitution of Kenya (2010) underscores the aspiration for Kenyans to live peacefully and in harmony as one undividable, independent nation, irrespective of existing religious, ethnic and cultural diversity.

The post-2007 election crisis made many regular Kenyans more mindful that the peace they enjoy is fragile. Hence, they have become more alert to hate speech and are often the first sentinels to call for the investigation and prosecution of its author's. Incitement and hate speech is a trend that increases in politically competitive circumstances especially during elections.

Bungoma County is currently among the most peaceful counties in the Country where co-existence of communities is witnessed across all the sub-counties. Bungoma as a County historically is inhabited by the Bukusu, Tachoni, Batura, Sabaot, Iteso and other Kenyan communities who reside peacefully.

The major cause of conflict historically in the County is due to ethnicity as groups compete for the same goals, struggle for power, and access to resources or territory. The interests of the elites play an important role in mobilizing ethnic groups to engage in ethnic conflicts.

Other causes have been groups competing for resources, i.e. land which is becoming scarce especially for farming activities; lack of alternative sources of livelihood especially among the youth as accessing job opportunities has greatly narrowed amongst other factors.

Intertribal conflict in the County has led to deaths, suffering of children and women, loss of property, mental and psychological torture within the community and families amongst other social-economic problems.

the Mabanga peace Conference held between 16th to 21st October 2011 among the elders of the ethnic groups in Bungoma provided resolutions to several issues including Land conflict, loss of property, political incitement, tribalism, political & administrative boundaries, squatters, completion of Chebyuk scheme, sabaot land compensation, culture of political domination, discrimination on resource sharing, political intimidation, national resources, educational institutions, proliferation of small arms and light weapons, distorted history, prejudice and inclusivity.

There have been initiatives both from the National government and the County government to promote peace across the entire county which has been positive over the years. Peace initiatives have been advocated through from house to house, meetings in the public gatherings and visiting churches with the message of living in peace and harmony with others.

There has been a lot of interest on the peace initiative in the Country and in the many Counties cross the republic especially after the last general election. In the Bungoma County too

initiatives have been there though the County has been relatively peaceful, conflict in a number of counties have trickled down to Bungoma County too as counties border each other.

In that perspective the Committee made a resolution to enlighten itself and members on the National Cohesion and Integration Act, 2008 which is a Corner stone law on peace in the Country and encourage members of the house to be peace champions .A number of Counties are coming up with Peace Bills as peace initiatives cutting across the National and the Counties since the two level of Government complement each other as per Article 189 on co-operation between National and County governments.

The following is a summary of The National Cohesion and Integration Act, 2008

Part-I-Preliminary

Section 1 is on the short title – The Act is cited as the National Cohesion and Integration Act.2008, **Section 2** is on the interpretation on words like ethnic group and employment

Part -II-Discrimination

Section-3 -elaborates on Ethnic discrimination –circumstances and scenarios that entails ethnic discrimination,

Section-4-is on the discrimination by way of victimization if one acts or does acts that are injurious to the well-being and esteem of the person by treating the victimized less favorably than ,in those circumstances he treats or would treat other persons.

Section-5-is on Comparison of persons of different ethnic groups be on relevant circumstances and not in a discriminatory way.

Section-6 -is on the harassment on the basis of ethnicity if one engages in unwanted conduct which has the purpose or effects of-violating that persons dignity, creating intimidations, hostility, degrading etc.

PART III ON THE ACTS, CONDITIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES DEEMED DISCRIMINATORY

Section 7- discrimination in employment –i.e. need diversity representation at all work places- No establishment shall have more than one third of the staff from same ethnic community amongst other provisions.

Section 8- is on exception of discrimination in employment field example; is a job involving cultural entertainment, ethnic group with personal services promoting their welfare in a capacity for which a person of that ethnic group is required for reasons of authenticity.

Section-9-Is on the discrimination in membership of organizations- for instance it is wrong to refuse to admit someone to be a member of a certain group due to his/her ethnic unless his or her religious persuasion or profession dictates so.

Section-10 is on discrimination by other agencies- applies on authorities, employment agencies, training units, to discriminate one in the provision of services.

Section- 11 is on discrimination in access to and distribution of public resources-that is public resources shall be distributed equitably as far as is practicable geographically to take into account Kenya's diversity population and poverty index.

Section- 12-is on the discrimination in property ownership, management and disposal –is unlawful for one to discriminate against another person when one is disposing ,or transfer a property or issues to manage a property.

Section 13-Is on hate speech that is a person who-uses abusive, threatening, insulting words, publishes, directs programmes to stir up ethnic hatred. Ethnic hatred means hatred against a group of persons by reference to color, race, nationality or ethnicity or national origins.

Section 14-Is on the exceptions to the part III –The clause gives provisions that that are unique in nature i.e. the proportion of persons of that group among those doing that work in Kenya was small in comparison with proportion of persons of that group among the population of Kenya, for balancing there is need to pick the disadvantaged group to create more harmony in terms of ethnic representations amongst other examples cited.

PART IV –ESTABLISHMENT, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

Section 15 establishes the National Cohesion and Integration commission, which is a body corporate **Section 16** Is on the headquarters which is in Nairobi and branches at any place in Kenya

Section 17 is on the Membership of the Commission, the chairperson is appointed by the president, eight commissioners nominated by the National Assembly, Chairperson National Commission on Human Rights, the Chairperson of National Commission on Gender and Development and Chairperson of public complaints standing committee (ombudsman).

Section 18 is on the qualifications of commissioners; should be a Kenyan citizen, person of high moral and integrity.

Section 19 is on the term of the office which is three years and eligible for re-appointment.

Section 20 is on the Secretary to the commission to be appointed by the commission who is responsible for day to day administration and control other staff of the commission.

Section 21 is on the oath of office which shall be subscribed before the Chief Justice .

Section 22 is on the Vacancies in case one dies resigns and bankruptcy.

Section 23-Chairperson or Commissioner may be removed from Office by the President, due to misbehaviors or misconducts, convicted of offence involving moral turpitude. In-case of the removal of the commissioners' one petitions/applies to the president to remove him/her. This goes up to the parliamentary committee for recommendations. Two thirds of the members can eject a commissioner on vote.

Section 24-Is on filing of Vacancy-the parliament is involved through the relevant committee and recommendation done together with a shortlist to the president who he nominates one from the short- list.

Section 25-Is on the objects and functions of the commission is to primary facilitate and promote equality of opportunity, good relations, harmony and peaceful co-existence between persons of the different ethnic and racial communities of Kenya and advise the government on all aspects thereof.

Section 26 is on the powers of the commission-i.e. in discharging its mandate, shall not be subject to the directions or control of any other person or authority.

Section 27 is on the power to summon witnesses and call for production of materials under oath

Section 28 is on the summons for attendance of witnesses just as the high court powers. **Section 29**-is on expenses of witnesses and put too at the caliber of the high court. **Section 30**-elaborates on Conducts of the business of the commission which are scheduled in the Act are self - regulating.

Section 31.Delegation by the commission-can be done to other commissions, officer etc.

Section 32-Is on remuneration of the Commissioners –treasury consults with the Cabinet secretary concerned for the same on the Salary and allowances of Commissioner and secretariat

Section 33 is on Staff of the Commission is at the preserve of the commission keeping in mind gender balance ethnicity.

Section 34-Is on the Seal of the commission for authenticating documents.

Section 35-Is on protection from personal liability on the commissioners and staff as long as they do duties in good faith.

Section 36-Is on liability of the Commission for damages in case one acts for his/her own interest while serving the commission

PART V-Financial Provisions

Section 37 is on the funds of the commission i.e. one appropriated by parliament, donated or lent.

Section 38 is on the annual estimates-be done three months before the start of a financial year, capturing payment of salaries for Commissioners, staff gratuity and pensions, training funds etc.

Section 39 -Is on accounts and audit-The books of account are to be submitted to the Auditor general for scrutiny and give directions.

Section 40- is on investment of funds i.e. in securities, trust funds etc.

Section 41- Annual report which is submitted to the Cabinet secretary responsible

Section - 42 is on special reports-which can be submitted to the National Assembly which effects can be far reaching and for national security perspective.

Section- 44 on lodging a complaint-can be done by some through written complaint by hand, facsimile or other electronic transmission

Section 45-Commission may decline to entertain some complaints if they are frivolous, misconceived etc.

Section 46-Application to strike out complaints which can be done by a responded on ground under section 45

Section 47-The commission may dismiss a stale complaint if the commission seek more response and is not addressed within a year.

Section 48- The Cabinet Secretary may refer the matter to commission in case it is an urgent policy matter.

Section 49 -Is on commission to refer complaints for conciliation to the secretary of the commission for further conciliation

Section 50 -Where the conciliation is inappropriate shall notify the complainant.

Section 51 -Is on the conciliation by the commission which might require produce of documents and attend session.

Section 52-conciliation agreements which are to be recorded by the secretary

Section 53-Where the commission fails to conciliate, a sixty day notice is given to notify the complainant and respondent.

Section 54-Special references- is complaints that may have significant social economic effects are to be dispensed with on special reference.

Section 55-Is on parties to a proceeding-The Complainant and respondents are parties to the proceedings

Section 56-Decisions of the Commission-It take decisions basing on the evidence adduced

Section 57-Compliance notices-On the verdicts from the commission for compliancy .Section 58- on the enforcement of compliance notices-The magistrate court may take up the matter in case one declined to comply within three months

Section 59-Is on Investigations by the Commission-which is carried out where a contravention of part 111 of the Act has occurred

Section 60 -on the matters that may be investigated-if they are serious in nature and warrant investigations concerns a group of persons or class of people and it warrants investigations

Section 61- on the Conducts of Investigations-it is to be done in a practicable manner and conciliation is the first step of resolve for the commission

PART VII –IS MISCELLANEOUS

Section 62 - on the offence of ethnic or racial contempt which upon conviction, the offence attracts a fine of not exceeding of a million shillings or imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or both. For newspaper, radio station, media if liable a fine not exceeding a million Kenyan shillings.

Section 63-on the offences to hinder justice to be administered in the commission upon conviction will be liable to a fine of two hundred thousand or imprisonment of twelve months or both.

Section 64 - is on the offences by body of persons shall be deemed liable before the commission upon conviction just as body co-operates.

Section -65 is on contravention of Act not to create civil or criminal liability except to the extent expressly provided by this Act

Section 66 -Secrecy of certain information which are tied to the Commissioners, Commission staff and authorities working under the commission

Section 67 -on the effects of vacancy or defects in appointment in its membership does not make the works of the commission invalid.

Section 68 - on protection of persons giving evidence

Section 69 - Provided on the Minister to where necessary make regulations.

Section 70 -The Act binds the government.

There are Schedules under the Act, i.e. Schedule 1-procedure for nominating commissioners by the National Assembly, Schedule 2-Oath/affirmation of office as a commissioner/secretary, Schedule 3-provisions as to the conduct of business and affairs of the commission

Observations

Hon. Speaker, the following are the Committee's observation

1. Peace is the cornerstone of social-economic development of a society, Bungoma County being inclusive.
2. Bungoma County has been relatively peaceful despite a number of counties experiencing peace lapse soon after general elections.
3. Counties are inter-dependent hence the lapse of peace in other Counties directly or indirectly affects Bungoma County.
4. Lack of Peace initiatives spearheaded by the National Government, the County Government, religious leaders and NGO's.
5. There is no effort by the County Government to come up with a peace initiative policy or budgetary allocation over the years.

Recommendations

Hon. Speaker, the following are the Committee's observation

1. THAT peace initiative campaigns across the County are to be encouraged to ensure peaceful coexistence of ethnic communities.
2. THAT the County Government through the department of Public Service Management & Administration and the Office of the County attorney to come up with a Peace initiative policy.
3. THAT the National Government, the County Government, religious leaders and Non-Governmental Organizations to be peace ambassadors across the Bungoma County
4. THAT a review of the Mabanga peace accord is initiated through the department of Public Service Management & Administration and the Office of the County attorney.
5. THAT the department of Public Service Management & Administration should ensure that there is budgetary allocation for peace initiatives in the County.

Next is the adoption schedule and is well signed by all the members. We also have the minutes for the committee meetings and annexures. I now call upon Hon. Sheila Sifuma to second the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Everline Anyango. Allow me invite Hon. Sheila, kindly proceed and second the motion.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to second the motion and I want to appreciate our Vice Chairperson Hon. Anyango for doing a commendable job in reading our report.

Just to go straight to it Mr. Speaker, there is one artist who once said that ‘peace is not lack of war, it is a virtue, it is a state of mind, it is a disposition of benevolence, confidence and justice’ so even if a society or community does not look they are at war it that does not mean it is peaceful. Peaceful has to encompass confidence, justice and benevolence in the execution of all undertakings in that particular area. There are underlying issues that bring out lack of peace or rather conflict and some of them we have brought them out in the report and include just to mention; victimization of all kinds and level, nepotism, lack of fairness in employment opportunities, discrimination on resource distribution, for example one area has more hospitals than the other yet there are people who can’t access health care in another area, lack of roads in all areas in an equitable manner and markets.

This report is very important because it is a reminder that we need to execute whatever we do as an Assembly and as a County in all fairness, just, void of nepotism and any type of unfairness in all endeavors that we set out to do.

The fact is that we lack a peace policy and peace initiatives. I think we need to consider peace initiatives and policies moving forward because it is important since we normally make laws for communities to operate in a sane manner and for people to coexist peacefully and we don’t want as a County to be gotten in a position where we were as a country in 2007/2008 where we were now rushing to come up with laws like NCIC Act, coming up with bodies and policies to be able to govern us.

I think it is prudent for us to do this in advance so that in case there is any eventuality which we pray that it may never be but in case of any eventuality we are not got pants down..

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Sheila for seconding the motion, I will be able to propose a motion for debate

(Question proposed)

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. As a member of this committee, I was touched with one of the observations or I think it is a recommendation which talked about the budget. Without the budget we will just talk about peace initiatives in Bungoma County Assembly but we cannot be able to do anything. As a County, we cannot wait for like what happened during the post-election violence 2007/08, we are not ready. How I wish that through the responsible department, the money can be allocated for peace initiatives. Right now, from some research I am able to note that we have left the peace initiatives only for religious leaders in this County and in the entire country so if we can have the budgetary allocation towards the same, I think the peace initiative movement can be able to be rolled out.

Hon. Everline Anyango (The mover): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand up again to reply to the motion. I want to thank one of my members Hon. Chikati for having made that observation. I thank the whole House because they have nodded to the concept of peace that without peace

most of these members especially those who come from as far as Tongaren, Mt. Elgon; you cannot drive to this Honourable House to execute any business if there is no peace. Kindly Honourable Members, let's all preach peace, let's encourage our people to preach peace everywhere so that Bungoma County can go far. I request the House to adopt the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Anyango for your reply to the motion before the house.

(Question put and agreed to)

REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING ON THE BUNGOMA FINANCE AMENDMENT BILL 2023

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, as you all know, the one which is coming up there is no vote which is taking place, it is for the House to note, proceed

Hon. James Mukhongo (Chairperson Finance and Economic Planning): Thank you, Hon. Speaker for that communication to the House to note.

On behalf of Finance and Economic Planning committee, it is my pleasure to present the Bungoma County Finance amendment Bill 2023 that was introduced to this House through 1st Reading on Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 2:30 pm.

I will go to Committee membership:

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. Violet Makhanu | Member |
| 6. Hon. Jack Kawa | Member |
| 7. Hon. Vitalis Juma | 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. Catherine Kituyi | Member |

Acknowledgment

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to the members of the committee for dedicating their limited time to sit and examine the Finance Amendment Bill,

2023. The committee would also like to register appreciation to the members of secretariat who worked with us for their unwavering commitment.

Lastly, the committee is grateful to the Hon. Speaker, and the Office of the Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for the support received as it discharged its mandate.

The report is signed by the chairperson Committee on Finance and Economic planning.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pursuant to Article 196(b) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Order No. 140(2) which requires that public participation and involvement of the public in the legislative and other business of the County Assembly and its Committees, a notification was placed in the Daily Nation of 22nd September 2023 informing the public to submit written representations on the Finance Bill, 2023 to the Clerk of the County Assembly via post office, email or hand delivery on or before Wednesday 4th of October, 2023 (**Annex 1**)

The committee received the memorandum from the following groups;

- 1) Redo Kenya budget champions
- 2) Torch Africa
- 3) Bungoma County Child Network

The views of these groups are attached to this report as (annexure II)

PUBLIC VIEWS ON FINANCE BILL, 2023

The views of the public and all other stakeholders have been considered in this report. The members of the public views are attached to this report (annexure III)

SECOND SCHEDULE: AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, VETERINARY AND FISHERIES

1. On Agricultural Cess item code 1-2450 in MT Elgon
 - a) pick-up they proposed the charges be reduced from Kshs 2500 to Kshs 200 per trip
 - b) trailer (tractor) proposed the reduction of charges from Kshs 4000 to Kshs 300
 - c) canters (4-5 tons) proposed the reduction of charges from Kshs 4000 to Kshs 300
 - d) lorries(7-10 tons) charges be reduced from Kshs 7000 to Kshs 500
 - e) lorries above 10tons charges be reduced from Kshs 10,000 to Kshs 500
 - f) For item code 1-2451 for other sub counties the stakeholders Proposed charges for the pick-up to be the same as the above proposed charges in the item 1-2450, because the amount/cash goes to the same county.

THIRTEENTH SCHEDULE: TRADE ENERGY & INDUSTRIALIZATION

COUNT TRADE LICENSING ACT, 2017 TRADE LICENSES

On trade licensing the members of the public proposed as follows:

- a) Item code 206 Kiosk charges be reduced from Kshs 1800 to Kshs 1500 per year
- b) On item code 340 large cold storage facility the charges should remain Kshs 33,000
- c) Item code 345 medium cold storage facility charges to remain 20,000
- d) Item code 350 small cold storage facility the charges to remain 15,000
- e) Small posho mill rural areas item code 498 charges to be reduced from Kshs 1600 to Kshs 1500

ELEVENTH SCHEDULE: ROADS PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT

COUNTY PARKING MANAGEMENT ACT 2017: TRADE & PARKING

On parking charges the stakeholders proposed the following:

- a) Item code 1-6741 TUKTUK parking fee per month be reduced from Kshs 1,000 to Kshs 600
- b) Item code 1-6821 PSV (above 30 passengers) the charges to be reduced from Kshs 2,000 to Kshs 1500
- c) Item code 1-6822 PSV (between 20-30 passengers) be Kshs 1500
- d) Item code 1-6823) PSV (between 11-19 passengers) the charges be reduced from Kshs 1000 to Kshs 700
- e) Item code 1-6824 PSV (between 7-10 passengers) charges to remain Kshs 500

The stakeholder proposed that before implementation of Finance Bill 2023 all the stakeholders should be notified.

THE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL

The Committee proposes a number of amendments to the Finance Amendment Bill, 2023 as follows;

- 1) That the long title of the Bill be amended by deleting the words "amendment Bill" appearing on the long title and therefor substituting with the words "***A BILL for AN ACT***" So as to read "***A BILL for AN ACT of the County Assembly of Bungoma to provide for revision of the various taxes, fees and charges for services, and for other revenue raising measures by the County Government; and for matters incidental thereto.***"
- 2) Amend the short title by deleting the word "***Bill***" appearing immediately after the word "This" and substituting with therefor the word "***Act***" substituting therefor with the word "***Act***" so as to read "***this Act may be cited as the Bungoma County Finance Amendment Act 2023 and shall come into operation or be deemed to have into operation on such a date as the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning, with the concurrence of the H.E the Governor, may appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions***"

Second schedule: Agriculture, Livestock, veterinary and fisheries

3. Amendment on Item code number 1- 2450 agricultural produce Cess

Description of fee or Charge	Unit of measure	Proposed charges 2023	Committee recommended charges
a) Pick up	per trip	2500	500
b) Trailer	per trip	4,000	700
c) Canter (4-5 tons)	per trip	4,000	500
d) Lorry(7- 10 tons)	per trip	7,000	2,000
e) Lorry above 10tons	per trip	10,000	3,000

Eleventh Schedule: Roads, Public works and Transport

4. Amendment on Item code number 1- 6741 parking fees

Description of fee or Charge	Unit of measure	Proposed charges 2023	Committee recommended charges
Tuk-tuk	per Month	1000	600

Thirteenth schedule: Trade, Energy and Industrialization

5. Amendment on Item code number 345 Trade licensing

Description of fee or Charge	Unit of measure	Proposed charges 2023	Committee recommended charges
a. Medium cold storage facility From 101m2 to 1000m2 insulated walls	per year	30,000	25,000
b. Small cold storage facility up to 100m2 insulated walls cold production Equipment	per year	20,000	17,000

OBSERVATION, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS**Committee observations**

The committee made the following observation from the Finance Bill 2023.

1. That there are several key legislations that have been passed by the County Assembly of Bungoma which when operationalized will to help increase local revenue in the County Government of Bungoma.
2. That there is no seamless coordination between the Sector Departments and the Directorate of Revenue in prioritization of programs that support the maximization of revenue collection hence existence of a big variance between the target and the actual revenue collected affecting implementation of projects and programs.

3. That the Bill was not properly drafted because the County lacked the parent Acts to inform the right format of a Finance Bill.
4. That Finance Bill 2023 was submitted to the County Assembly of Bungoma late hence the Bill was processed by the County Assembly outside the statutory timelines of by 30th September each year.
5. That the Finance Bill 2023 was not published in the Kenya Gazette as provided for in Section 23 of the County Government Act, 2012.
6. The County Department of Gender Culture, Youth & Sports does not have appropriate regulations to operationalize the Bungoma County Alcoholic Drinks Control Act.

Committee recommendations

The committee made the following recommendations:

1. **THAT** the CECM Finance and Economic Planning should submit a policy statement alongside Finance Bill by 30th April each year in compliance with Section 132 (2) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 to ensure that the Finance Bill is processed within the statutory timelines.
2. **THAT** henceforth the department should use the recently enacted County Revenue raising legislations to conform to the style and format of a Finance Bill while preparing the Bungoma County Finance Bill.
3. **THAT** the Revenue Directorate should fully automate revenue collection to embrace fully a cashless revenue collection system, except in rare circumstances. This will reduce leakages and improve domestic revenue generation and revenue administration and management.
4. **THAT** the Finance and Economic Planning department should be fully in charge of all the revenue streams including Appropriation In Aid (AIA) in all the sector departments of the County Government of Bungoma.
5. **THAT** the following Bills to be fast-tracked by respective sector committees to enhance revenue collection in the County:
 - a) The Construction and Development Bill
 - b) The Bungoma County Public Health and Sanitation Bill.
 - c) The Bungoma County Animal Welfare Control Bill.
 - d) The Bungoma County Rating Bill
6. **THAT** the sector committee on Lands, Urban and physical planning and Housing should fast-track the consideration and submission to the House for approval the valuation role. This will increase the land rates and plot rent and immensely improve revenue collection.
7. **THAT** the Directorate of Revenue should implement all revenue stream items as approved by the County Assembly.
8. **THAT** the County Government should establish key market infrastructure in order to create, nurture and sustain an enabling environment for business growth.

9. **THAT** the County Executive Committee is hereby directed to development regulations for all revenue raising legislation passed by the County Assembly to operationalize them in order to enhance local revenue collection and management.

Conclusion

The enactment of this Bill into law by this House will serve to provide the much needed legislative framework at the county level for raising local revenue.

The report is signed by all the 15 members and then we have the annexures; public participation advert, Public views, Civil society views, the Bungoma County Finance amendment Bill 2023 and adoption of the minutes.

At this juncture it is my pleasure to request Hon. Christine Mukhongo to second

Hon. Christine Mukhongo: Thank you, Honourable speaker for giving me this chance to second the report. First, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate my chairperson Hon. Mukhongo for eloquently taking us through the report. I want to take this opportunity also to thank all members of Finance for their good job over the same. This is a Finance Bill over revenue collection and what we are saying is we want to raise the ceilings so that we improve on development in our County and in our Wards.

Through this, we ask that we as members we encourage the business people, let us also as business people pay revenues to the respective areas. Through getting the revenue ceilings raised, I know we are going also going to benefit as members especially those elected. In our previous talks we have been talking about raising CEF money from Kshs.24Million to Kshs.50Million or more but how are we going to do that if we don't collect enough revenue? It must be with us that we need to do the best so that we raise the revenue collection to raise our ceilings and to raise enough money so that we can do this in our County. I second the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Christine.

(Question proposed)

As we debate be aware that at the end of the debate there is no vote that is taken because it is a Bill

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for your guidelines and allow me also appreciate the chairperson Finance and the seconder because the chairperson has quickly taken us through the report. Just a concern because as a County we need revenue and as at now our revenue collection is too low compared to our target. I was looking for parking slots and I have not seen them maybe the chairperson could make us understand also what criteria were they using to deduct from Kshs.2, 500 to Kshs.500; a trailer per trip 4000-700, Canter per trip 4000-500 maybe for the purpose of this House also to understand, at what rate were they reducing because shall we meet the target with these changes?

I have also gone through the observations and seen that there is no seamless coordination between the department and the directorate of revenue. You know when there is no proper

coordination; it means the committee should reign in that department so that we have seamless coordination to ensure that revenue is enhanced, this is a harsh observation. Otherwise, I support.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also want to add my concern on a Bill that has just been read by our able chairperson Finance...

Mr. Speaker: It is a report on a Bill not a Bill

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: A report on a Bill, thank you for that correction. We have been wishing that Community Empowerment Fund goes up to Kshs.40Million or Kshs.50 Million and if you look at how the report has been prepared, there is nowhere the members of the public have increased or have wished that we retain the current rates. How do you move from Kshs.4, 000 to Kshs.500, you move from Kshs.2, 500 to Kshs.500 and yet all along we have had a deficit? If you look at our target of Kshs.1Billion last year, we had a deficit of around Kshs.192Million and now that we have an economic crisis, we must think outside the box.

You see, the same traders if you hire a canter where you used to pay Kshs.4, 000 now it is Kshs.8, 000 or Kshs.7, 000; they have increased. I was in Nairobi and transport from Nairobi to Bungoma is now Kshs.2, 000, reason is because fuel has gone up and here the same traders are reducing revenue to the County Government of Bungoma by a percentage that you cannot even understand. If you calculate 500 from 4,000 then where are we going as a County? I think those are wishful thoughts, we may not increase but I will not support where a reduction has gone from Kshs.4,000 to Kshs.500, or Kshs.2,500 to Kshs.400 and here I am the same person saying I want Ward Fund to go to Kshs.50 Million, where will this Kshs.50Million come from? It is not possible; you don't need rocket science to understand that. We must use our own tax to develop our roads, and hospitals, it is now raining and the same people are crying there are no roads. How are we going to maintain those roads without revenue from ourselves? I rest my case.

(Applause)

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. This is not the main Bill, it is an amendment of the main Bill, so if you look at the report that has been read, we just zeroed in to the amendment bit, the rest of the Bill is there, functioning, and this is just the amended bit.

Secondly, there were new charges that had been proposed by the executive, like for Mt. Elgon they had targeted to be a new area...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chemion, I don't like interjecting Honourable Members while they are speaking. What was flagged out by Hon. Joseph Nyongesa is basically the issue that is supposed to be captured by the replier of the motion

Hon. Francis Chemion: I am not replying

Mr. Speaker: But what are you doing

Hon. Francis Chemion: I am discussing the motion, I am not replying

Mr. Speaker: Or you want to say that you are building up your case

Hon. Francis Chemion: Of course I am not replying, I am just enlightening members because when we looked at the report there were new areas that had been...

Mr. Speaker: Just proceed but where I come from that is a reply from the back door.

Hon. Francis Chemion: I am not replying. Like for Mt. Elgon, it had been brought as a new area of taxation and you know if you are introducing something if you put a higher figure people will resist and they will not pay and eventually the people that will enjoy if we put the rates to be very high will be the revenue officer because of the leakages that will be there so this is...

Mr. Speaker: Hon Sudi, let us allow Hon. Chemion please

Hon. Francis Chemion: I am saying there were new charges for some areas and that is why we came in strongly as a committee and said these are new things we should not put it the way the executive brought because there will be uproar, there will be commotion and people will stop even to pay the little that we want. Look at what is happening in Kenya, where we have high taxation for example the fuel issue you have seen there is a drop because people have left their vehicles at home so it is better to put a figure that is conducive that will attract many people to pay revenue. That is the wisdom of the committee and the chairperson so that we have more revenue being collected from people. Because of time I don't want to take more time...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Sudi, Hon. Chemion you are out of Order, you can't declare that time is out, that is not your duty.

Hon. Bernard Kikechi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, my only concern is that the report of the Bill that has just been read by the chairman of the Finance committee is a very important report, how I wish that we could be having copies the way it used to be. I don't understand why nowadays we don't get copies of such important Bills so that we can contribute from an informed point of view. There is no way we can capture all those issues that the chairperson of Finance has just read on the floor of this House. This is a very important Bill that we need to digest and contribute accordingly.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, I think for guidance purposes before I take the next speaker, this year's Bill is very much different in this sense; what used to happen before they used to prepare the entire Bill here for us to look at, this time round they looked at the Finance Bill and looked at areas they want to amend by either increasing or reducing that is why we are only having a specific schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

Since nobody moved me under Standing Order 33, we adjourn now and resume our sittings at 2:30pm.

(House Adjourns)