

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY, 27TH MARCH, 2024

Morning Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH, 2024

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

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

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

PRAYER

PAPERS

1. Report by the Auditor General on the County Assembly of Bungoma for the year ended 30th June, 2023.
2. Report by the Auditor General on Bungoma County Assembly Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2023.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. James Mukhongo Barasa!

Hon. James Mukhongo: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. On behalf of the Leader of Majority, I wish to lay on the table of this Honourable House the two reports.

1. Report by the Auditor General on County Assembly of Bungoma for the Year ended 30th June, 2023.
2. Report by the Auditor General on Bungoma County Assembly Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2023.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. James Barasa Mukhongo. These documents having been laid before the House stand committed to the Committee on Public Accounts and Investment for processing and reporting back to this House accordingly.

MOTION

REPORT BY SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES, IRRIGATION AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENTS ON THE BUNGOMA COUNTY GOVERNMENT FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2023 WITH RESPECT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES, IRRIGATION AND CO-OPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, members, I am in receipt of the said progress report .Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operatives Development on crop

insurance cover and I will want to give the Chair of the committee opportunity to present the progress report.

Nevertheless Honourable members, I want to give an advisory so that other committee Chairs and members should understand that when we seek leave to bring a progress report, what are you supposed to do and how many times are you allowed?

Under Standing Order 202(2) reads; a select committee that has not concluded the business as committed by the House shall report progress by way of a statement requesting the leave of the House to extend time and shall only be limited to once. Having said that, I want to allow the Committee on Agriculture to execute the progress report but I am doing that under Standing Order 1, prerogative of the Speaker because we cannot allow you to seek leave for progress report twice but I am doing that under Standing Order 1. I now grant the Chair opportunity to present to the House the progress report. Hon. Wafula Waiti, Member for Naitiri Kabuyefwe!

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Honourable Speaker for exercising your powers under Standing Order 1 of this Honourable House. I rise on behalf of the committee to give a progress report on Crop Insurance Cover Program.

The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operatives Development report on the Bungoma County Government Fourth Quarter Financial Statements for the period ended 30th June, 2023 with respect to the department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operatives Development was stabled on 14th February, 2024 and a motion moved on Tuesday 20th February, 2024 in the afternoon sitting. During the debate, concerns were raised on Crop Insurance Cover Program and the concerns were referred back to the committee for further deliberations and reporting back to the House.

The Committee took up the concerns as raised by the House pursuant to Standing Orders 217(5) (f) and wrote to the department to submit documents in respect to the Crop Insurance Cover Program and was furnished with documents on 28th February, 2024. The Committee scrutinised the submitted documents and interrogated the CECM and the Chief Officer and APA Insurance Company on 25th March, 2024 at 9:00 a. m in the plenary within the County Assembly precincts in respect to the issues surrounding the Crop Insurance Cover Program.

Arising from the submissions and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 202 (2) of Bungoma County Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby seek leave of the House for an extension of seven days for the committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operatives Development to enable the committee make recommendations and compile its report on the Crop Insurance Cover program.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well. The Chair on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development having requested for 7 days, I will direct that the committee meets within the precincts of this Assembly in the course of this week and ensure that you have beefed up your report and present the same back to this

House as soon as practicably possible so that we can execute and the House can get seized of the same so that action can be taken henceforth.

Very well, after 7 days which will be 2nd of April that is Tuesday 2.30 p.m. The report should be presented to this House.

Information from Hon. Namunyu Luseneka Antony, member for Bukembe West and Leader of Minority Party!

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: Thank you Honourable Speaker. I think we are all aware and we have once or twice taken an insurance cover either for yourself or for your motor vehicle or anything else that is insurable.

Once you pay a premium to any insurance agency, you are given a policy document and my good friend Hon. Otsiula can attest to that. I know he has read insurance law. Once you pay you are given that document and it stipulates the terms and conditions and what you are paying for. In this, case the Budget Chair is here, I am in Budget committee and this House appropriated an amount, I think 32,000,000 for insurance cover in the department of Agriculture. I am wondering what makes the department take that long just to give simple information because if they have a list of the beneficiaries in our wards that benefitted from the free fertiliser and seeds, why is it taking them so long to give us that information because it's just as simple as that. I know you insured your car, when you go to the insurance company they will give you a policy document.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes leader!

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: Because here you are talking about public funds and from the onset, this House felt that that money should have been allocated to something else but since...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Honourable Leader!

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: Just a minute Honourable Speaker but from the wisdom of the majority of the members of this House...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Honourable leader, I gave you an ear because I respect you so much. You are a leader but you know you are debating on something that is coming.

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: I am not anticipating.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I did not want to open a window because the report should be brought before the House.

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: I am finishing Honourable Speaker. Just give me one minute I finish.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I did not want to open up a window for that because the report is yet to be brought so that you can debate.

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: I am finishing. What I am saying is that this committee should wake up and work because how can we give them...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order members!

(Loud Consultation)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Luseneka was on a point of information, so we cannot give another point of information when another member is on the same. Kindly, let's allow him. Honourable Leader of Minority can you complete so that we give another member!

Hon. Antony Lusenaka: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Let me just finalise by saying this; sometimes if you are too lenient to this Government I know it's your own Government but let's try and protect the interest of the greater picture. If they do not bring this document within 7 days as you have directed, let this House make a decision on that.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Jackson Wambulwa Ouma, what is the point of information? Member for Kimaeti and Chair Budget and Appropriations Committee!

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I think it is on a point of guidance. I think as a House we have an interest in this report but all I want is to urge the Minority Leader. I have been following up on the same and I have a lot of confidence with the committee. On Monday, the committee had invited the insurance firm including the department. There is a lot that they shared in my presence and we expect them to give us a report that will reprimand some people. So, please let's be patient as a House so that the Chair and his team can do good work and present that report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Wambulwa. I will give one member the Majority Deputy Whip Hon. Sudi Busolo, member for South Bukusu and he will be the last in making any comment on the concluded item. Hon. Isaiah!

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you Hon. Speaker for granting me this opportunity. I am shocked that my colleagues can react on a progress report. I am very much shocked because if you go through what my Chair Agriculture read first, there is nothing to react so what are we reacting to? Let us wait. As a committee we are preparing for them a report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you so much. I think the House is well guided and that is a statement from the Deputy Majority Whip Hon. Isaiah Sudi Busolo, member for South Bukusu who is giving actually as it is. Very well, we move on!

**REPORT BY LIAISON COMMITTEE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNTY
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES FROM OCTOBER 2023 - FEBRUARY 2024 AND
SCHEDULE FOR EXTERNAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, THIRD PHASE FOR
THE YEAR 2023/2024**

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. George Tendet Kwemai, proceed!

Hon. George Tendet: Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to move a motion of the Liaison committee on the activities of the County Assembly for the period from October 2023 to February 2024.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Members, consult in low tones please!

Hon. George Tendet: Mr. Speaker Sir, this report highlights operations and activities of the committee in the County Assembly of Bungoma from October 2023 to February 2024. Further, it captures the committee schedule for external committees meeting in the Fourth Quarter of Financial Year 2023/2024 from March to June 2024.

It is worth noting that the report covers the following areas: Committee meetings (both internal and external), consultative meetings, interrogations and external engagements, public hearings and participation, statements/questions, fact findings, pending businesses, consideration of papers laid and committed to Committees, Committees' expenditures and balances, schedule for external Committee meetings in the fourth quarter of FY 2023/24, observations and recommendations.

The Constitution, other statutes and the Bungoma County Assembly Standing Orders requires that the Liaison Committee provides guidance, coordination, operations, apportionment of annual operating budgets for Committees, consider schedule of the programmes of Committees, and ensure Committees submit reports to the Assembly.

COMMITTEE MANDATE

The Committee on Liaison draws its mandate from the *Standing Order No. 216 (2 &3)* which states that the Committee shall:

- (a) Guide and co-ordinate the operations, policies and mandates of all Committees as per the Constitution of Kenya, other Relevant Statutes and this Standing Orders
- (b) Deliberate on and apportion the annual operating budgets among the Committees;
- (c) Consider and schedule the programmes of all Committees businesses;
- (d) Ensure that Committees submit reports as required by the Standing Orders;
- (e) Determine whenever necessary, the Committee or Committees to deliberate on any matter; and
- (f) Give such advice relating to the work and mandate of select committees as it may consider necessary.
- (g) The Liaison Committee shall consider reports of Committees that have not been deliberated by the House and shall report to the House on the consideration of such reports.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The following are the Members of the Liaison Committee:

Name	Designation
1. Hon. Stephen Wamalwa	Chairperson – Liaison
2. Hon. Christine Mukhongo	Vice chairperson – Liaison
3. Hon. Emmanuel Situma	Member–Chairperson, Powers/HBC/Rules/Speaker's Panel/Appointments
4. Hon. James Mukhongo	Member –Chairperson, Finance

5. Hon. Jack Wambulwa	Member –Chairperson, Budget
6. Hon. George Makari	Member –Chairperson, Health Services
7. Hon. Jack Kawa	Member –Chairperson, Gender and Culture
8. Hon. Joseph Nyongesa	Member –Chairperson, Selection
9. Hon. Franklin Simotwo	Member –Chairperson, Roads
10. Hon. Tony Barasa	Member-Chairperson, Public Administration
11. Hon. Hentry Nyongesa	Member – Chairperson, Labour Relations
12. Hon. Francis Chemion	Member – Chairperson, Lands,
13. Hon. Benard Kikechi	Member – Chairperson, Trade & Energy
14. Hon. Benjamin Otsiula	Member – Chairperson, Education & VT
15. Hon. Violet Makhanu	Member – Chairperson, Youth Affairs
16. Hon. Waiti Wafula	Member – Chairperson, Agriculture
17. Hon. Edwin Opwora	Member – Chairperson, Tourism
18. Hon. Jacob Psero	Member – Chairperson, Justice
19. Hon. George Tendet	Member – Chairperson, Delegated
20. Hon. Aggrey Mulongo	Member –Chairperson, Implementation
21. Hon. Everton Nganga	Member- Chairperson, PAIC

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

May I take this opportunity to thank your Office and the Office of the Clerk for facilitating the Committee to effectively discharge its mandate. In addition, the Committee is grateful to all Committees of the County Assembly for submitting their reports on activities undertaken from October 2023 to February 2024 in time which helped this Committee to come up with this report.

Further, I would like to appreciate the Hon. Members and the secretariat to the Liaison Committee for their support and dedication in the compilation of this report.

It is therefore, my pleasant duty on behalf of the Liaison Committee to present this report on the activities of County Assembly Committees from October 2023 to February 2024 and the schedule for external Committee meetings third phase, for FY 2023/24 for approval by this Honourable House.

It was signed on 4th by the Chair Hon. Stephen Wamalwa.

COMMITTEES' ACTIVITIES

Committee meetings

The County Assembly of Bungoma has two types of Committee meetings i.e. internal and external as outlined below;

Internal Committee Meetings

In relation to Standing Order 42 of the County Assembly Standing Orders, the Clerk of the County Assembly prepares and publishes on its website the schedule of Committee sitting not later than the Friday of the week preceding such businesses.

Pursuant to Standing Order 201 (1) of the County Assembly Standing Orders, Committee meetings are open to the public unless in exceptional circumstances where the presiding chairperson has determined that there are justifiable reasons for the exclusion of the public.

During the period under review, all Committees held internal meetings pursuant to Standing Order No. 184 as per their work plans and internal schedule for Committee meetings as approved by the Liaison Committee. According to the Liaison Committee Internal Committee sitting schedule, each Committee was expected to have at least one Committee sitting per week translating to four sittings per month.

However, it is worth noting that some of the meetings were adjourned due to lack of quorum as is required by the Standing Order 187 of the County Assembly Standing Orders. Apart from the House Business Committee in which its quorum is a third of its Members (Standing Order 173 (5), for other select Committees, the quorum required is the Chairperson and half of its Members (Standing Order 180 (b)).

Following an advice from the risk assessment team in view of resolving audit queries raised by the Office of the Auditor General in the previous reports of the County Assembly, as well as The Senate, the County Assembly has from March, 2024 fully embraced the use of Biometric machines and the attendance register books are no longer being used in committee meetings.

External meetings

The Liaison Committee in its report approved by this House apportioned the annual operating budget for each Committee. The budgets are meant to facilitate committees' external meetings in executing their mandates as per the work plans. Further, this Committee prepared schedules for the retreats (October 2023 – February, 2024). Each Committee had been scheduled to hold at least one external sitting with approval of the Speaker pursuant to Standing Order 184. A total of 34 external meetings were held by all Committees from October 2023 to February 2024 and two County Assembly Whole House report writing retreats on the 4th Quarter Financial Statement and reports for the period ended 30th June, 2023 and the assessment on the performance of the County Assembly in the Second Session.

Consultative meetings, Interrogations and External Engagements

The County Assembly Committees held consultative meetings with other stakeholders among them the County Departments in the Executive Arm of the County Government, donors/ NGOs, Civil Societies and Government Agencies like the Auditor General's Office.

During the period under review, Sectorial Committees held interrogations on County Budget Review Outlook Paper (CBROP), 2023, the 1st Supplementary Budget 2023/24, the 4th Quarter Financial statements for the period ended 30th June, 2023 and on statements sought with respective CECMs and Chief Officers. Other engagements with the executive and other stakeholder included;

- a) Committee on Lands, Urban and Physical Planning had a consultative meeting on Slum upgrading organized by KISIP team on 5th December, 2023 at Aturukan Hotel, Kitale.
- b) Committee on Lands hosted its sister Committee from the County Assembly of Kisumu on the operationalization and working of Municipalities on 16th October, 2024.
- c) Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperatives Development had consultative meeting with:
 - The department, GIZ and Syngenta Foundation East Africa on sensitization of drafted policies in the department on 29th October, 2023 at Wigot Hotel, Kisumu;
 - Stakeholder engagement on Nzoia Sugar Company on 15th February, 2024 at Siritamu Hotel, Bungoma and
 - The department on sensitization of the Animal Welfare Policy on 19th February, 2024 at Milimani Gardens Hotel, Bungoma.
- d) Gender, Culture and Social Welfare Committee had a consultative meeting with the Chief Officer Gender Culture on KICOSCA report 2022 and 2023 on 13th February, 2024 at the County Assembly.
- e) Public Administration and ICT Committee had a consultative meeting with the department on the status of devolved Units in Bungoma County on 15th November, 2023 at the County Assembly.
- f) The Committee on Delegated County Legislation had an engagement with the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development on Agriculture Policies and Guideline on 18th November, 2023 at Breeze Hotel, Busia.
- g) Committee on Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs interrogated;
 - Petitioners and respondents on the Petition by Emony Yefwe International on Market Construction for Mobile Traders at Dinah Flyover Webuye on 16th October, 2023.
 - Petitioners and respondents on the Petition by Integrated and Chebui Cave Dweller Community Based Organization on the need to Assist the IDPS and Evacuate the 11 families from Chebui Cave on 25th January, 2024.
 - Interrogation of petitioners and respondents on the Petition concerning the poor management of the New Chesikaki Farmers' Cooperative Society and Illegality of the Current Office bearers on 25th January, 2024 at the County Assembly.
- h) Labour Relations, Member Service and Facilities Committee held a consultative meeting with CECM Public Admin and ICT on the status of medical insurance for County Government of Bungoma Staff on 3rd October, 2023 at the County Assembly.
- i) Education and Vocational Training Committee had a consultative meeting with the Department of Education and Vocational Training on Budgetary Allocation for Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) and ECDE Centres on 23rd October, 2023 at Bungoma DICECE.

- j) Budget and Appropriations Committee held two consultative meetings;
- Consultative meeting with USAID, Western Water projects on the Bungoma County Water Policy on 21st December, 2023 at Pinecone Hotel, Kisumu
 - Consultative meeting with the Health and Sanitation department and AMREF Health Africa on developing an innovative strategy to improve equitable access to affordable Primary Health Care through co-signed Memorandum of Intent (MOI) agreement on 19th and 20th February, 2024 at Millsview Hotel, Kisumu.
- k) Trade, Energy and Industrialization Committee had an engagement with the department of Trade Energy and Industrialization on the status of Bungoma County Trade Loans on 20th February, 2024 at the County Assembly.
- l) Health Services Committee held four engagements with;
- The Department of Health and Sanitation on management of Bumula, Naitiri sub-county hospitals and Ndalul Health Center on 5th October, 2023 within the County Assembly precincts.
 - The department of Health and Sanitation on management of level four hospitals in the County on 23rd November, 2023 within the County Assembly precincts.
 - USAID on validation workshop for Bungoma County Environmental Health and Sanitation Policy and Bungoma County Environmental Health and Sanitation Bill meeting held in Kisumu-Grand Swiss Hotel on 17th January, 2024.
 - AMREF on Impact Investment Proposal (IIP) Programme consultative meeting held at Mill view Hotel-Kisumu on 20th February 2024

The table below summarizes the number of meetings each Committee held and number of reports produced in the period under review;

It is a bit lengthy I think we can go through the table afterwards. From the above...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Tendet, which table are you referring to as lengthy?

Hon. George Tendet: The summary of all the meetings. As you can see on the table ...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: For purposes of the Hansard, you have to read!

Hon. George Tendet: Okay thank you. I will follow what you say.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I know your age but we respect you because you are strong.

Hon. George Tendet: I am very strong.

NO.	NAME OF COMMITTEE	Number of Reports	External meetings	Internal meetings	Consultative meetings/external engagements
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1.	Lands, Housing and Physical Planning	3	1	20	1
2.	Public Administration and ICT	1	2	17	1
3.	Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation & Co. development	1	1	18	6
4.	Gender, Culture and Social Welfare	2	1	17	1
5.	Youth and Sports	2	1	17	0
6.	Tourism, Water, Environment & Nature Resources	2	1	18	0
7.	Trade, Energy and Industrialization	2	1	16	1
8.	Roads, Infrastructure and Public Works	2	1	17	0
9.	Health Services	2	1	18	4
10.	Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities	3	2	16	1
11.	Finance and Economic Planning	4	3	18	0
12.	Education and Vocational Training	2	1	16	1
13.	Budget and Appropriations	2	2	16	2
14.	PAIC	5	2	14	6
15.	Implementation Committee	1	1	15	0
16.	Appointments	1	2	4	
17.	Delegated County Legislation	1	1	14	1
18.	Selection	1	1	8	0
19.	Powers and Privilege	0	0	11	0
20.	Procedure and House Rules	1	1	16	0
21.	Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs	4	3	16	3
22.	House Business	2	2	14	0
23.	Liaison	1	1	16	0
24.	Speaker's Panel	1	1	15	0

	TOTAL	46	33	367	28
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From the table above, it is observed that, the Powers and Privileges Committee did not retreat because the matter under consideration had not been dispensed with.

Consideration of Papers Laid

The County Assembly receives reports from the County Executive Departments, Auditor General, Controller of Budget, County Assembly Committees, stakeholders and other government agencies. These Papers are laid on the Table of the House and committed to various Committees and/or the House for consideration.

In the period under review, some of the notable documents from the County Executive Department were the fourth quarter Financial Statements and Report for FY 2022/23, the County Budget Review Outlook Paper, 2023, the 1st Supplementary Budget 2023/24, the 1st and 2nd quarter financial statements for FY 2023/24 and the County Fiscal Strategy Paper, 2024. These Papers were laid and committed to all the relevant sector committees for interrogation and reporting back to the House.

In addition, the following 13 policies and two guidelines were tabled and committed to the relevant Sector Committees;

a) Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development Committee

Policies

1. The Bungoma County Agricultural Soil Management Policy, 2023
2. The Bungoma County Food Safety Policy, 2023
3. The Bungoma County Agriculture Sector Policy, 2023.
4. The Bungoma County Agribusiness Policy, 2023

Guidelines

1. Bungoma County Agricultural Land Lease Guidelines, 2023
2. Bungoma County Agricultural Inputs and Services Support Guidelines, 2023

b) Public Administration and ICT

1. The Bungoma County Internship Policy, 2023
2. The Bungoma County Short Term Contractual Employment Policy, 2023

c) Gender, Culture and Social Welfare Committee:

1. County Culture Heritage Policy, 2023
2. Group Registration Policy, 2023
3. Children Protection Policy, 2023

4. Gender Mainstreaming Policy, 2023
5. Disability Mainstreaming Policy,2023

d) Youth and Sports Committee

1. Youth Policy 2023
2. Sports Policy 2023

The scrutiny of policies encompasses a comprehensive evaluation of proposed policy which involves assessing the financial implications, alignment with legislative frameworks and potential impact. The County Assembly analyzes the policies by checking its feasibility, effectiveness, and adherence to National and County priorities. Public engagement, transparency, and accountability are also crucial aspects in the scrutiny process.

Upon tabling and committal, the relevant Committee shall scrutinize the policies based on the following general key steps;

1. Assessing the objectives, proposed budget allocation, goals, and intended outcomes.
2. Evaluating the feasibility, impact, and alignment with National and County priorities.
3. Check conformity with existing laws and regulations associated with the policy.
4. Assess the practicability of implementing the policy considering economic, social and environmental factors.
5. Reviewing the transparency of the planning process and considering public input.
6. Necessity to formulate a Policy based on a need, emerging or possible change that may be anticipated (commonly known as the needs- based analysis);
7. Whether the Policy framework is tailored to local needs by ensuring it answers to local questions and dilemmas and is not an imposition from outside the community.
8. How proposed Policy shall be managed and resourced from formulation to implementation. These includes the personnel and specialized resources necessary for the full implementation of the policy;
9. Information requirements for the full understanding of the practical aspects of Policy implementation and an in-built communication strategy.
10. Existing model of Devolution and the devolved functions.
11. The need for Public participation and citizen engagement
12. The connection between the expected outcomes (goals) and public policy. For example, there is need to balance the sustainability of the ecosystem of a lake and the policy regulating access and fishing;
13. Legal anchoring and justification for the Policy
14. Existing policies relating to the matter at hand
15. Whether the Policy is self-executing or it requires administrative procedures of legislation for its implementation or execution.

Statements/Questions

Various issues of concern to County Departments were raised by Members as part of their representation and oversight role, through statements/questions on the floor of the House.

These questions were directed to the relevant Sectoral Committees for response by the Chairpersons.

The ten statements/ questions were sought from various Chairpersons and the responses provided were satisfactory. Below are the statements;

1. Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources Committee

Statement sought by Hon Johnstone Ipara on the status of the Binyenya and Lukhuna Water Boreholes upgrade.

2. Lands, Urban and Physical Planning Committee

a) Statement sought by Hon. Hentry Nyongesa on the purchase of lands for various projects within Bungoma County.

b) Statement sought by Hon. George Makari on the unclear information concerning the municipality Board Members for Kimilili and Bungoma.

3. Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperatives Development Committee

a) Statement sought by Hon. Ken Wanyama in respect to field extension officers in the department of Livestock and Fisheries.

b) Statement sought by Hon. Jerusa Aleu in respect to the management of Naitiri Dairy Cooperative Society.

c) Statement sought by Hon. Timothy Chikati on status of Cattle dips within Ndalu/Tabani Ward

4. Youth and Sports Committee;

Statement sought by Hon. Francis Chemion on construction of Chemoge High Altitude Training Center.

5. Trade, Energy and Industrialization Committee;

a) Statement sought by Hon. George Makari on the status of tendering in Musikoma Ward.

6. Health Services Committee;

Statement sought by Hon. Francis Chemion on the status of Kaptelelio Dispensary

7. Roads, Transport, infrastructure and Public Works;

Statement sought by Hon. Milliah Masungu in relation to roads construction, repair and maintenance program under Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KERRA) and County Government for FY 2021/2022 and 2022/2023

Committee Fact Findings

In exercising the oversight role of the County Assembly, various Committees undertook fact finding activities on programs implemented by the County Executive as per their mandates during the period under review. The following Committees undertook fact finding activities which culminated into reports for deliberations in the House

	NAME OF COMMITTEE	FACT FINDING ACTIVITY
1	Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation & Cooperative Development	Visits to Chwele Fish Farm and Chwele Poultry Slaughterhouse to ascertain the status and impact of the two entities.
2	Gender, Culture and Social Welfare	Visit to Sang'alo Cultural Center to ascertain the status of the six community houses and the multipurpose hall.
3	Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs	Visited Webuye Dinah flyover, Chebui cave, KeNHa Kakamega and New Chesikaki Farmers Co0perative Society

Public Participation

Pursuant to the provisions of article 196(1) (b) of the Kenyan constitution 2010, Section 87 of the County Governments Act and the Standing Order 140(2) of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders, in the period under review, Finance and Economic Planning Committee carried out public participation on Finance Bill, 2023 and the Annual Development Plan 2024/2025 on 6th October, 2023 in Paskari Nabwana Hall at the County Assembly.

Vetting exercise

During the period under review, the Committee on Lands, Housing and Physical Planning vetted the nominee appointed by H.E the Governor to serve on the Kimilili Municipality Board, Mr. Peter Wanyonyi Buteyo.

Pending Businesses

As at 29th February, 2024, the following businesses had been committed to the respective Committees but were yet to be concluded;

1. All Sectoral Committees
 - 1st and 2nd quarter Financial Statements and Reports for FY 2023/24
 - County Fiscal Strategy Paper, 2024

2. Budget and Appropriations Committee
 - County Fiscal Strategy Paper, 2024
 - Medium Term Debt Management Strategy Paper, 2024
3. Finance and Economic Planning Committee
 - Report on Receivers of Revenue Quarter 1 & 2 and Revenue Fund Quarter 1 & 2 for the period ending 31st December 2023
4. Gender, Culture and Social Welfare Committee
 - 5 policies; County Culture Heritage Policy 2023, Group Registration Policy 2023, Children Protection Policy 2023, Gender Mainstreaming Policy, 2023 and Disability Mainstreaming Policy, 2023
5. Youth and Sports Affairs Committee
 - 2 policies; Youth Policy 2023 and Sports Policy 2023
6. Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities Committee
 - Annual report by the County Public Service Board for the period January to December, 2023
7. Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development Committee
 - Report on issues surrounding Crop Insurance
8. Powers and Privileges Committee
 - A complaint by Hon. Jerusa Aleu against Hon. Sheila Sifuma was referred to the Committee through a letter dated 30th October, 2023.
9. Delegated County Legislation Committee
 - The Public Finance Management (Bungoma County Executive Employees' Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund) Regulation, 2023
10. Public Accounts and Investment Committee
 - Report of the Auditor General on the County Assembly Staff and Car Mortgage, 2022
 - Report of the Auditor General on the County Executive of Bungoma for the year ended 30th June, 2022.
 - Report of the Auditor General on the Bungoma County Government Disaster and Emergency Fund for the period ended 30th June, 2022.
 - Report of the Auditor General on the County Revenue Fund County Government of Bungoma for the period ended 30th June, 2022.

- Report of the Auditor General on the Bungoma County Government Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Fund for the period ended 30th June 2022
- Responses on the Special Audit Report of the Auditor General on Public Participation in the County Budget Making process for the FY 2021/2022

11. Lands, Urban and Physical Planning Committee

- Valuation rolls and the Rating Bill
- Local Physical and Land Use Development Plan for Kapsokwony Town (2023-2033)
- Local Physical and Land Use Development Plan for Naitiri Town (2023-2033)
- Local Physical and Land Use Development Plan for Kimilili Municipality (2023-2033)
-

COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES

In the FY 2023/24, the allocation for committees' operations was Kshs. 114,500,000 out of which Kshs. 67,564,532 has been spend as at the time of reporting thus translating to 59% expenditure. This leaves a balance of Kshs. 46,935,468 as running balance for committee operations. The table below shows the allocation, expenditure and running balance for each committee.

COMMITTEE	ALLOCATED FY 2023/2024	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	RUNNING BALANCE	ABSORPTIO N RATE(%)
Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Co-Operative Development	4,230,942.00	2,468,000.00	1,762,942.00	58%
Liaison	8,374,838.00	6,226,200.00	2,148,638.00	74%
Selection	2,300,000.00	820,200.00	1,479,800.00	36%
House Business	4,230,942.00	2,577,600.00	1,653,342.00	61%
Health Services	4,230,942.00	1,690,200.00	2,540,742.00	40%
Implementation	3,102,874.00	1,505,382.00	1,597,491.24	49%
Budget and Appropriations	8,062,874.00	2,886,100.00	5,176,774.00	36%
Delegated County Legislation	3,102,874.00	1,488,600.00	1,614,274.00	48%
Education And Vocational Training	4,230,942.00	1,764,200.00	2,466,742.00	42%

Finance and Economic Planning	6,390,942.00	3,953,800.00	2,437,142.00	62%
Youth and Sports Affairs	4,230,942.00	1,639,200.00	2,591,742.00	39%
Lands, Urban and Physical Planning	4,230,942.00	2,236,500.00	1,994,442.00	53%
Public Accounts and Investment	7,062,874.00	5,115,900.00	1,946,974.00	72%
Powers and Privileges	3,102,874.00	702,700.00	2,400,174.00	23%
Public Administration and ICT	4,230,942.00	2,789,200.00	1,441,742.00	66%
Roads, Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works	4,230,942.00	1,735,400.00	2,495,542.00	41%
Procedures and House Rules	1,690,038.00	1,279,700.00	410,338.00	76%
Gender and Culture	4,230,942.00	1,806,300.00	2,424,642.00	43%
Labour Relations	4,230,942.00	1,824,800.00	2,406,142.00	43%
Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources	4,230,942.00	1,652,400.00	2,578,542.00	39%
Justice and Legal Affairs	3,102,874.00	2,334,100.00	768,774.00	75%
Trade, Energy and Industrialization	4,230,942.00	1,758,400.00	2,472,542.00	42%
Speakers Panel	1,135,634.00	1,052,000.00	83,634.00	93%
Appointments	2,300,000.00	1,192,550.00	1,107,450.00	52%
Whole House	14,000,000.00	15,065,100.00	(1,065,100)	108%
Total	114,500,000.00	67,564,532.00	46,935,468.00	59%

From the table it is noted that;

- i. Powers and Privilege Committee have the lowest absorption rate because it did not retreat in the period under review.
- ii. The expenditure on the Whole House exceeded the allocation by Kshs. 1,065,100.

- iii. Most Committees are operating at average expenditure of their allocation this being the 3rd quarter of FY 2023/2024.

SCHEDULE FOR EXTERNAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

This Liaison Committee approved the second schedule for external Committee meetings that ran from 15th October, 2023 to 4th March 2024, where all Committees retreated save for Powers and Privilege Committee. Five (5) committees retreated twice; Public Accounts and Investments Committee, Budget and Appropriations, Justice, Cohesion and Legal Affairs, Finance and Economic Planning and Public Administration and ICT; to clear the pending reports that had been committed to them. The schedule was reviewed twice to incorporate the unforeseen businesses that had been committed to the aforementioned Committees.

This Committee has come up with a tentative Committees' retreat schedule for the period of March to June 2024. The schedule has given priority to Committees with pending business committed and statutory documents that need to be considered by the House. The schedule is also based on the Committees' allocation balances. The schedule herein is subject to change depending on the business for consideration before the County Assembly and/or any other unforeseen activities as may arise. The number of days for the committee retreat will depend on the nature of activity and Committee balance.

SCHEDULE FOR EXTERNAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES FROM MARCH TO JUNE 2024

I read all Honourable Speaker?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No you can refer Hon. Members to the Clerks and to the document.

Hon. George Tendet: Hon. Members, you can see the schedule on page 22.

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

OBSERVATIONS

It was observed that;

1. Committees held a total of 367 internal meetings and 33 external meetings
2. Reports of some committees were opposed by some committee members who had taken part in report writing exercise but without appending a descending opinion.
3. The dressing code of Hon. Members attending committee meetings was inappropriate.
4. Most of the meetings delayed to commence due to quorum hitches.
5. The County Executive delays in submitting documents whenever required to despite being given sufficient time by the Assembly committees.

6. The County Assembly has fully embraced the use of Biometric machines for committee meetings attendances as from March, 2024.
7. Prior information on upcoming issues affecting committee businesses are not relayed in advance.
8. Most of the interrogations of Committees where the CECMs were invited on budget and planning documents, fresh submissions including request for extra resource allocations to programmes were witnessed instead of elaborating and responding to issues under consideration.
9. Resolutions of the House are not being implemented as approved.
10. Some members of committees do not attend plenary sittings whenever reports of their committees are being moved.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

We notably recommend the following:

1. **THAT**, Hon. Members are encouraged to attend the meetings on time in compliance with Standing Order no. 187 to avoid quorum hitches.
2. **THAT**, any Committee Member who opposes the report that they took part in without providing a descending opinion shall be surcharged and appear before Powers and Privileges Committee.
3. **THAT**, Hon. Members should adhere to Speaker's Rules no. 5 on proper dress code whenever attending Committee internal meetings and dress in smart casual in external meetings and chairperson of the respective committees are called upon to serve as examples and enforce the rules.
4. **THAT**, Committees shall enforce provisions of Article 195 of the Constitution and Standing Order 193 of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders and Section 18 of the County Assembly Powers and Privileges Act, 2017 whenever there are delays or no response at all from the County Executive.
5. **THAT**, Committees should adequately plan for their activities to ensure timely completion of tasks and submission of reports.
6. **THAT**, prior information on upcoming issues shall be relayed on time to avoid clashing of Committee programmes.
7. **THAT**, during interrogations of budget and planning documents, the CECMs together with accounting officers shall elaborate and respond to emerging issues raised by the Committees and minimize new submissions including request for further resource allocations to programmes against the proposal as submitted from the Cabinet.
8. **THAT**, the Committee on Implementation shall follow up on all resolutions of the House and report timely on their implementation status pursuant to Standing Order 212 (2).
9. **THAT**, all Committee members should be present whenever their reports are moved and support them in the House.

In conclusion, it is now my humble request to this House to approve this Liaison committee report on the activities of County Assembly Committees from October 2023 to February 2024 and the retreat schedule phase 3.

I therefore ask Hon. Benjamin Otsiula to second the report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Applaud him more until he sits; just applaud him. Thank you so much Hon. Tendet Kwemoi.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for allowing me this opportunity to second the motion on the floor of the House. First I wish to appreciate the mover of the motion for analysing the report in detail to ensure that members of this House follow keenly to their advantage.

Secondly, I wish to draw the attention of this House to key observations put forth in the report before the House.

First of all, is the issue of committee attendance, it has been observed time and again that the quorum in committees has been an issue hence hampering the smooth running of the committee affairs. Members in the House are reminded and the respective chairpersons to invoke the provisions of Section 187 of the Standing Orders to avoid quorum hitches. This is an area that touches on the welfare of members and it will be prudent that Members take it seriously to attend to committees and avoid suffering when it comes to their welfare.

If you look at the absorption rate referring to page 18, 19 and 20 of the report; the absorption rate of most of the committee's expenditure is above 50%. Also in relation to page 10, the reports submitted on the floor of the House this is a confirmation that most of the committees have been undertaking their activities as per the schedule from the Liaison Committee. However a key resolution no. 9; that resolutions of this House are not being implemented upon approval. If all these reports; per page 10 and 11 of the report; moved in this House with the recommendations having been approved are not implemented then I believe the Committee on Implementation will be doing disservice to the Members seated in this House. This leads us to recommendation no. 8; that the Committee on Implementation should follow on all resolutions of the House and report timely on the implementation status pursuant to Standing Order 212 (2). I wish also to implore on the Committee on Implementation to assist us because this is a critical observation noted by chairpersons of respective committees.

Another issue on the information being relayed from the executive... there have been delays and even today you will realize that the Committee on Agriculture is struggling to get the relevant information from the executive. This House and the relevant committees are encouraged to invoke the provisions of Article 195 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Section 18 of the County Assemblies Powers and Privileges Act and Standing Order 193 whenever there are delays or no response from the County Executive. This will give this House an opportunity to press the executive to understand why they are not willing to provide relevant information to committees in time to avoid hampering the efficient delivery and provision of services by the relevant committees.

Hon. Speaker, I want to raise an issue concerning the dress code of members. During the transaction of business noted both at the Committee level, most of our Members have dressed inappropriately safe for the chairpersons who are reminded to serve as role models to ensure that they appear officially dressed.

All the honourable Members are also reminded to take committee meetings as serious as possible and they must be officially dressed. This will also apply to the proceedings of the plenary of the House.

Finally, on the issue of interrogation of committees where CECMs were invited on the budget and planning documents, this has been a perennial challenge where the CECMs arrive with information that was not provided prior to the interrogation of the budget making process. This also goes to the chairpersons of committees to inform their relevant CECMs heading that department that they must avail prior information before the process kicks off or at the time of interrogations to avoid several petitions coming up at latter stages of budget making process.

Otherwise, looking at the report, it is well informative and all departments safe for one committee which did not retreat due to changes in the scheduling but they have since retreated.

I wish to implore upon the Members of this House to support this report and its recommendations as well captured to serve the benefit and the purpose of this House. I second.

(Applause)

(Question proposed)

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Hon. Speaker, Nangila is not a bad name...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Sudi, just a moment. Members you now realize the reason we say some Members arrive clock in and leave. The Hon. Ipara pressed the microphone for the Hon. Wilson who is not in the House. Proceed Hon. Sudi.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for the correction which is valid information for Members. I want to applaud my colleague George Tendet for moving the Liaison Committee report. My concern is that the Liaison Committee has done its work well and the report is good. I want to request now seeing the balances of the committees; that as you now prepare for committee activities or retreats, it should be based on the balances of those committees because some committees still have more money while others are almost finishing their allocation. We only have two months, April and May and if we are not careful, some committees may lose their money if we don't plan well. I have listened carefully where some committees have balances above Kshs. 2 million, 1.5 million and 700,000.

Therefore priority for committee retreats should be given to those with large balances while those with little balances come at the tail end. I may be in those committees with little balances because I am a Member of this House but it is prudent that we allow committees which still have balances to retreat.

Otherwise the report is good. I rest my case but while the report is being moved majority of the chairpersons are not in the House but as I walk around many want to be chairpersons.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, look at the House and note your membership; we are holding brief for them but when it comes to retreats, they are on the forefront as chairpersons.

(Applause)

But when we need them in the House, they are not available even when their own document is being moved. You will see a chairperson calling me that Sudi where are you? Go and read for me the report in the House. If it is a retreat to Kisumu or Kitale, nobody will call Sudi. When you call Hon. James where are you then he responds that he is in Kitale. My concern as a Whip in this House because most of the chairpersons of committees are from the majority coalition but as you can see, they are not present. It is a wakeup call and I want to say without contradiction that if you don't want to be a chairperson kindly write to us so that we allow another person who is committed to be a chairperson.

(Applause)

My observation is that our nominated colleagues are more committed to this House.

(Applause)

I say this as the Whip and if I remove you from a committee, I will be justified because we must be here to support your report. I was in Office doing some work but even the Speaker called us to come saying the chairpersons of committees are not present. Chairpersons this is your document and a chairperson when a document from your committee is being presented you must be in the House. Whoever that came up with the Standing Orders is not a fool and he thought well that every chairperson has a vice chairperson. Allow also your vice chairpersons to do their work and even go to Kisumu and represent you.

(Applause)

We are in this scenario because the vice chairpersons have never been given an opportunity.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very passionate and responsible contribution the Hon. Sudi who is the Whip. The concerns are valid.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker, speaking after an eloquent Deputy Chief Whip has spoken, I don't think if people will have the passion to listen to the honourable Member from Tongaren. Let us applaud Hon. Sudi again.

(Applause)

Thank you Hon. Sudi for being open. Actually that is what the House demands from Members. I begin by lauding the mover of the motion my brother from Elgon and the seconder of the motion who happens to be my chairperson in Education. I thank you for great work that you have done to this House.

I begin from where the Hon. Sudi has left, a committee that comprises of over 22 members and in the House right now, we only have 9, it is pathetic. Actually, this is their report and they were supposed to be here to own this report from the first word to the last word. Unfortunately, only 9 are here and we must applaud them honourable Members.

(Applause)

Fortunate enough my chairperson Education Committee is present and Hon. Speaker, I am not ashamed to associate with the grate son of *Khasoko* and we respect him. I am looking forward to see when you are going to invoke Standing Order 187 when any meeting is being held either in the House or away and all the chairpersons are not in attendance. Because in leadership, we always say that you lead by example and for this case they have failed. One thing that I want to plead with the chairpersons that are present today, when you find that may be we are late to attend those meetings, don't adjourn the meeting before the expiry of 30 minutes because the Standing Order says within 30 minutes. Actually some of us come from far and even those that come from town for the case of Hon. Jeremiah, the challenges he undergoes while coming to the Assembly and he is stopped that there is somebody at the Hospital who requires his assistance.

This is a true mirror that has reflected on the undertakings of this House. I want to applaud your committee and particularly the Clerks for capturing everything that was done within this House and away during those retreats.

Let us applaud them for the good job.

(Applause)

Continue doing the good job for us. The seconder of the motion indicated that the absorption rate was above 50% but we wanted to score more like above 80%. Hon. Speaker during those external meetings, is where thorough oversight is undertaken because that is the time when the committee members dedicate all the time they have to study the document that is presented before them. If we don't allow honourable Members through those committees to have those retreats to prepare their reports, we shall be doing a disservice to this House. Because we shall be failing them on their oversight role and oversight is where we do correct things. In particular, we have been talking about Agriculture Committee which has appeared twice to give progress reports. The reason is not that they like it but the executive has intentionally or by default chosen to frustrate the committee on undertaking their work. Next time when you consider budgets for these committees, kindly increase the amount allocated to committees so that they are able to retreat for about 5 times.

(Applause)

If they do that, some people my mistake that they are retreating because they want money. Hon. Speaker, I want to say no; they want to make sure that at least most of the members that are reported before the committee and matters that are brought by the Hon. Members are looked into, reports are prepared and brought to the House. Also the Implementation Committee should make sure that the recommendations that the committees have come up and approved by the House are implemented.

Hon. Speaker, when sited where Hon. Sudi, you should be ready to be misled and even diverted...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Okasida, don't be ready to be misled or diverted as you say. Kindly stay put.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Hon. Speaker, the type of this Hon. Member and his nature, there is no way even you as our Deputy Speaker you can avoid him. He is a man who can persuade you and take you anywhere that you never planned from the beginning.

I want you to make a pronouncement as the Chairperson Liaison Committee particularly where our committees and the chairpersons when they demand for some documents from the executive and they are not given. I want you as the Chairperson of Liaison Committee to give direction because we have failed to perform what is required because we have not received documents. You remember also a report that was presented yesterday here where the committee confessed that someone somewhere has undermined the success of the House. This tells me one thing, that the executive has no respect for this House and the honourable Members. If we don't stand and practice unity of purpose where we don't say we belong to this party or that party but we are the members of the House of Bungoma County Assembly, we shall not be respected. This is the time we should reflect back and see where we went wrong and when the judgment day will come, the executive will not be there. The person that

will be there is Hon. Sudi, Hon. Opwora whose people will ask him, ‘we send you to the Assembly, what did you do for us?’ When that time comes, I know where Opwora will cry from; he will run to the banana plantation to cry. I wonder where Sudi will go to because the whole of his place is where dumping is done.

Hon. Speaker, I support the report fully.

(Applause)

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me first appreciate the mover and seconder of the motion who did well. I have two concerns to be addressed by the mover as he responds. One is about the Committee on Powers and Privileges where it has been said in the report that this committee did not retreat yet in the expenditure, they spend Kshs. 702,700. The mover should help me understand how the money was spent.

Secondly, about the Speaker’s Panel, maybe I am sure but all this time that I have been in this House, I have not seen a report being moved by the Speaker’s Panel. I need also to be informed whether the report by this committee is supposed to be consumed by this House.

(Applause)

Lastly, I want to agree with Hon. Sudi on the issue of chairpersons of committees. We have chairpersons that are committed to their work for example Chairperson, Agriculture and Chairperson Education who are my chairpersons for my committees. But there are some committees for instance a certain committee where we have never had a chairperson or a vice chairperson sitting during an internal committee because. I request the leadership of the majority side that we have many members from your coalition that are able to lead that committee. Members know the committee that I am talking about which I don’t want to mention. It is a humble request to leadership of majority side to do justice to the said committee. I submit.

(Applause)

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity to add voice to the debate on the floor. As a marginalized Member with only two committees, I think it is not every day that the marginalized get a chance to speak in the midst of the majority. As they say, the majority have their way but at least we have our voice as a minority because having two committees is an easy task because you can be able to manage. I can actually see my chairperson for Legal and Justice Committee whom I know is a committed chairperson. I laud you because he is a chairperson who cannot miss meetings no matter what happens.

Just to comment on one thing that I heard on the floor of the House where I was mentioned and this got me by surprise because I have not been served with what allegations levelled against me...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Sheila, you should delve that because it was not specific unless you called.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: My name was mentioned and I need a clarification because it has been mentioned on the floor of the House but I have not received the contents on why I should be on the floor of the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the mover of the motion made reference when you were looking at him but he was not actually trying to bring that out and it will not be in order for you to bring that on the floor of the House.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: I thought so and thank you for your guidance. As I finalize, I want to volunteer my pro bono services to any committee that does not get to their membership quarter because I have a lot of free time on my hands. Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

(Applause)

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. First of all, I want to thank the mover of the motion who read the report well. Being a teacher he has proved that he is retired but tired. I know a lot has been said especially on the attendance of the members of the committee but I want to assure the House that the members of this committee are committed to the course and virtue that some of time of them have not attended today is due to the responsibilities that we have. I know some of us are attending meetings, therefore, I will request the members present...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Let us allow Hon. Allan to inform us.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: *(On a point of information)* thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Opwora is responding to this motion yet he is not the mover or the Chairperson Liaison Committee.

(Applause)

Kindly guide on this Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Opwora Member for Luuya/Bwake be guided that you are not the mover therefore, stick to your lane as you contribute.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Mr. Speaker, I was not responding. However, from the reports done by all the committees and I see a total of 46 reports. My issue is on the Implementation Committee, I note that this House is going to appear like firing blanks; you have a woman really busy but nothing comes out. I implore on the Implementation Committee to follow up on the reports...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Opwora, you gave us some terminologies that we don't understand. When you mention of firing blanks and you have a woman, kindly we don't understand.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Mr. Speaker, I was trying to give an example of practical session where you get married and you are busy the way we were voted here and we have to generate reports and legislate yet there is nothing that can be seen. Most of these committees have done reports but when you look at the Implementation Committee, they only have one report. What will you tell people outside there that every time you are going to the Assembly? That is my point and it will appear like we are firing blanks in this Assembly.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: *(On a point of information)* Hon. Speaker, forgive Hon. Opwora when he said firing blanks. One thing that he is mistaking is that one thing that we experience in blanks is sound and when there is sound there is an action that has taken place. Two, blanks are effective within 7 meters and if you are within the radius of 7 meters it will injure you. Therefore, blanks are effective and he should stop misleading the House.

(Applause)

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately, the profession of Hon. Okasida has a different understanding of that terminology. Therefore, allow me to plead with this House and the Implementation Committee and let them wake up and ensure they follow up on all the reports passed on the floor of the House. I support the report.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Allow me now call upon the mover to reply to the motion.

Hon. George Tendet (Mover to reply): Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me time once more to reply to the motion. First the concerns of honourable Members have been taken into account and I want to report to this House the following; first I appreciate them for contributing to this motion. Some of the chairpersons of committees who are members of Liaison Committee are attending the County Assembly Service Board meeting this morning and that is the reason some of them are not present including the Speaker, Leader of Majority and others.

Secondly, reports by the Speakers Panel Committee are never debated in the House in respect to Standing Order 18 and 20. The work of this committee is to preside over the House.

Powers and Privileges Committee is reported as if they used the money without retreating. The sum of Kshs. 702, 000 was for the trainings which were done internally.

On failure by the executive to respond or submit information to committee, the Sectoral committees have powers to summon as provided for in our Standing Orders. Moreover, the said powers are equal to that of the High Court.

As I conclude, calling a member of committee to read a report is a shared responsibility within the discipline of that particular committee. With that Hon. Speaker, I urge this House to adopt this report. I thank you Hon. Speaker Sir.

(Applause)

(Question put and agreed to)

The ayes have it.
The report is adopted.

(Applause)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Members that was the last item on our Order Paper, the next session will be today at 2:30 p.m.

(The House rose at 11:58 a.m.)