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REPUBLIC OF KENYA
NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY
3RD ASSEMBLY — 4TH SESSION

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 10th June 2025

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chambers at 9.30 am.

(The Deputy Speaker, Hon. Chege Gathirimu, in the Chair)

PRAYER

Speaker: Hon. Members, welcome to this morning's Sitting convened at 9.30 am, the day being Tuesday, 10th June 2025.

QUORUM CALL AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SITTING

(There was no quorum as confirmed by the Clerk-at-the-Table)

Speaker: There being no quorum to commence the business of the sitting, I direct that, pursuant to Standing Order No. 36, the bell be rung for an initial 10 minutes or until such a time within the 10 minutes that quorum will have been achieved. Further, Hon. Members, pursuant to Standing Order No. 37 (3), I direct the Sergeants-at-Arms to ensure that the door remains unlocked, but no Member leaves the Chamber, except the Whips, until the House is quorate.

(The bell was rung for 10 minutes and quorum was achieved as confirmed by the Clerk-at-the-Table)

First order.

PAPERS

Speaker: Majority Leader before you proceed to table the Papers, first present and table the Notice Paper.

NOTICE PAPER

BUSINESS OF THE WEEK COMMENCING FROM 10TH TO 11TH JUNE 2025

Hon. Mwangi Nyaga: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to present the following Notice Paper bearing the business of 10th and 11th June 2025.

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DATE/TIME	BUSINESS	SPONSOR
Tuesday, 10th June 2025, at 9.30 am		
	Papers	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report of the Auditor General on Receiver of Revenue for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 2. Report of the Auditor General on County Revenue Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 3. Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 4. Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive (State and Public) officers Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 5. Report of the Auditor General on Ol'Kalou Municipality for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 6. Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive Emergency Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 7. Report of the Auditor General on Bursary Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 8. Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Climate Change Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024 9. Report of the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning and ICT on the Nyandarua County Revenue Fund Annual Revenue Statements for the Financial year ended 30th June 2024 	<p>Hon. Elijah Mwangi Nyaga (Leader of Majority Party)</p> <p>Hon. Elijah Mwangi Nyaga (Leader of Majority Party)</p> <p>Hon. Elijah Mwangi Nyaga (Leader of Majority Party)</p> <p>Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru (Chairperson - Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT)</p>

	Notices of motion	
	1. Notice of motion on the Report of the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning and ICT on the Nyandarua County Revenue Fund Annual Revenue Statements for the Financial year ended 30 th June 2024	Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru (Chairperson - Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT)
	Motions and Bills	
	1. Motion on the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Budget Implementation for the Financial Year 2023/2024	Hon. Paul Kiruka Mburu (Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries)
	2. Motion on the adoption of the Report of the Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development on the Report of the Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development on the status titling of public land in the county and the survey of public land meant for public amenities including roads and their reserves.	Hon. John Thuo Gachino (Chairperson Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development)
Tuesday, 10th June 2025, at 2.30 pm		
	Papers	
	1. Report of the House Business Committee on the restructuring of sectoral committees in accordance with the gazette notice on reorganization of County executive Departments	Hon. Samuel Chege Gathirimu (Deputy Speaker/ Vice Chairperson- House Business Committee)
	Notices of Motions	
	1. Notice of motion on the Report of the House Business Committee on the restructuring of sectoral committees in	Hon. Samuel Chege Gathirimu (Deputy Speaker/ Vice

	<p>accordance with the gazette notice on reorganization of County executive Departments</p> <p>2. Notice of motion on the Report of the Committee on Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts on the Departmental Budget Implementation Report of FY 2023/2024</p> <p>3. Notice of motion on the Report of the Committee on Health Services on the JM Kariuki Memorial County Referral Hospital Level 4 Hospital Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2024</p>	<p>Chairperson- House Business Committee)</p> <p>Hon. Joseph Kuria Thuo (Chairperson, Committee on Sports, Youth Empowerment and Arts)</p> <p>Hon. Paul Ngeche Wambaire (Chairperson, Committee on Health Services)</p>
	Motions and Bills	
	<p>1. Motion on the Report of the Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT on the Nyandarua County Receiver of Revenue Half year Report and Financial Statements for the period ended December 31st 2024</p>	<p>Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru (Chairperson - Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT)</p>
Wednesday, 11th June 2025, at 9.30 am		
	Papers	
	<p>1. Report of the Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT on the Nyandarua County Revenue Fund Half Year Report and Financial Statements for the year ended December 31st 2024</p> <p>2. Report of the Committee on Public Service, Administration and Devolution on the Budget Implementation for the Financial Year 2023/2024</p>	<p>Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru (Chairperson- Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT)</p> <p>Hon. Edinald Wambugu King'ori (Chairperson, Committee on Public Service, Administration and Devolution)</p>
	Notices of Motions	

	1. Notice of Motion on the Report of the Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT on the Nyandarua County Revenue Fund Half Year Report and Financial Statements for the year ended December 31st 2024	Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru (Chairperson - Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT)
	2. Notice of Motion on empowerment and enhancement of the Emergency Response Service programme	Hon. James Mwangi Gichuki (M.C.A. Engineer Ward)
	Statements	
	1. Statement on the status of quality and safety of potatoes in Nyandarua County	Hon. Cathryn Nyawira Mathenge (County Member from Kiriita Ward)
	Motions and Bills	
	1. Motion on the Report of the House Business Committee on the restructuring of sectoral committees in accordance with the gazette notice on reorganization of County executive Departments	Hon. Samuel Chege Gathirimu (Deputy Speaker/ Vice Chairperson- House Business Committee)
	2. Motion on the Report of the Committee on Youth Affairs, Sports and Arts on the Departmental Budget Implementation Report of FY 2023/2024	Hon. Joseph Kuria Thuo (Chairperson, Committee on Sports, Youth Empowerment and Arts)
Wednesday, 11th June 2025, at 2.30 pm		
	Papers	
	1. Report of the Committee on Education, Children, Gender Affairs, Culture and Social Services on the Nyandarua County Bursary Fund Quarterly Report and Financial Statements for the period ended March 31 st 2025	Hon. Peter Gathungu Kamau (Chairperson - Committee on Education, Children, Gender Affairs Culture and Social Services) Hon. Edinald Wambugu King'ori (Chairperson-

	<p>2. The Report of the Committee on Public Service, Administration and Devolution on the Annual Report of the County Public Service Board for the year 2024</p> <p>3. Report of the Committee on Special Funds Accounts on the Request for approval of spending from the Emergency Fund in the First Half of the Financial Year 2024/2025</p>	<p>Committee on Public Service, Administration and Devolution)</p> <p>Hon. Peter Thinji Kiriga (Chairperson - Committee on Special Funds Accounts)</p>
	Notices of Motions	
	<p>1. Notice of Motion on the Report of the Committee on Special Funds Accounts on the Request for approval of spending from the Emergency Fund in the First Half of the Financial Year 2024/2025</p>	<p>Hon. Peter Thinji Kiriga (Chairperson - Committee on Special Funds Accounts)</p>
	Motions and Bills	
	<p>1. Motion on the Report of the Committee on Health Services on the JM Kariuki Memorial County Referral Hospital Level 4 Hospital Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2024</p>	<p>Hon. Paul Ngeche Wambaire (Chairperson, Committee on Health Services)</p>

Hon. Speaker, the Notice Paper is prepared and published pursuant to Standing Orders 40 and 41. I hereby table the said Notice Paper.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Hon. Stephen Muriithi rose)

Speaker: What is it, Hon. Stephen Mureithi Matimu?

Hon. Stephen Mureithi: I wanted before the Majority Leader tables the Notice Paper, I am a Member of the House Business Committee, and we had one amendment regarding the change of quorum, which has not been included in the Order Paper.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Speaker: Before the end of the sitting, I will give guidance and directions about that. Let us proceed.

The Notice Paper is duly tabled. Clerk, next order.

PAPER(S)

1. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON RECEIVER OF REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
2. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON COUNTY REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
3. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON NYANDARUA COUNTY EXECUTIVE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
4. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON NYANDARUA COUNTY EXECUTIVE (STATE AND PUBLIC) OFFICERS CAR LOAN AND MORTGAGE SCHEME FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
5. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON OL'KALOU MUNICIPALITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
6. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON NYANDARUA COUNTY EXECUTIVE EMERGENCY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
7. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON BURSARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024
8. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON NYANDARUA COUNTY CLIMATE CHANGE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

Hon. Elijah Mwangi Nyaga, the Majority Leader and Member for Kaimbaga, proceed.

Hon. Mwangi Nyaga: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Mr Speaker, I beg to table the following eight reports from the Auditor General.

- a) Report of the Auditor General on Receiver of Revenue for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- b) Report of the Auditor General on County Revenue Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- c) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- d) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive (State and Public) officers Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- e) Report of the Auditor General on Ol'Kalou Municipality for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- f) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive Emergency Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- g) Report of the Auditor General on Bursary Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024
- h) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Climate Change Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024

I hereby table the said reports.

Speaker: Several papers have been duly tabled. I refer them as follows:

- a) Report of the Auditor General on Receiver of Revenue for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and

Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.

- b) Report of the Auditor General on County Revenue Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
 - c) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
 - d) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive (State and Public) officers Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
 - e) Report of the Auditor General on Ol'Kalou Municipality for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
 - f) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Executive Emergency Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
 - g) Report of the Auditor General on Bursary Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
 - h) Report of the Auditor General on Nyandarua County Climate Change Fund for the Year Ended 30th June 2024. I refer the report to the committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to report back to the House on or before 11th August, 2025 in accordance with the constitution of Kenya 2010.
- Next order.

9. NYANDARUA COUNTY REVENUE FUND ANNUAL REVENUE STATEMENTS FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2024

Speaker: Yes, Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru, Chairperson Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT.

(The member was not present in the chambers)

Is there any designate member?

(No member rose)

I refer the said report to the House Business Committee for rescheduling.

STATEMENT

STATUS OF PAYMENT OF FACILITATIVE AND REMUNERATIVE ALLOWANCES TO STAFF IN THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Speaker: Yes Hon. Edinald Wambugu King'ori Chairperson, Committee on Public Service, Administration and Devolution.

Anyone on behalf of the Hon. Chair? Yes, Hon. Ebrahim Maina.

Hon. Ebrahim Maina: I am seeking a clarification because as per the Notice Paper, I think that he is supposed to be giving the Statement in the afternoon.

(The Clerk-at-the Table consulted with Speaker)

Speaker: I refer the said report to the House Business Committee for rescheduling. Next Order.

MOTIONS

1. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

Speaker: Yes, Hon. Paul Kiruka Mburu Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Member for Charagita Ward. Proceed.

Hon. Kiruka Mburu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance so that I can go through the report of the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Budget Implementation for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

Mr Speaker I will start with the Executive Summary. This report presents a detailed analysis of the FY 2024/25 budget allocation and implementation progress for the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries in Nyandarua County. It reflects on key aspects including budget absorption, project implementation, extension services, program outcomes, and procurement issues. The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries scrutinized the responses provided by the department and made specific observations with a view to propose actionable recommendations to enhance accountability and service delivery.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on acknowledgment. The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development is one of the sectoral committees with a very critical role in our County. We appreciate the Hon. Members for diligently executing their mandate of representation and oversight. I also wish to thank the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk for facilitating the committee and offering the relevant technical expertise, through the secretariat, in pursuing its principal mandate. I extend my appreciation to the members of the Committee for their commitment and believe that we shall continue to expedite our mandate with diligence and goodwill for the benefit of all our electorates.

Finally, it is my pleasure and duty, on behalf of the Committee, to present this report. The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development is one of the Sectoral Committees established under Standing Order No. 200 of the Nyandarua County Standing Orders.

Further, the committee's subject area as stipulated in the first schedule of the Standing Orders; and borrowed from the fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya and the County Government Act 2012, includes: All matters related to agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, veterinary services (excluding regulation of the profession), livestock sale yards,

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county abattoirs, plant and animal disease control and welfare, including licensing of dogs and facilities for the accommodation and care of animals.

The committee comprises the following members:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Paul Kiruka Mburu | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Milka Nyambura Mwangi | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Samuel Wainana Mathu | - | Member |
| 4. Hon. Cathryn Nyawira Mathenge | - | Member |
| 5. Hon. Benson Kiarie Njoki | - | Member |
| 6. Hon. Peter Thinji Kiriga | - | Member |
| 7. Hon. Reuben Gitau Karanja | - | Member |
| 8. Hon. Sasha Sarah Ngima Wamae | - | Member |
| 9. Hon. Carolyn Wangu Njarara | - | Member |

Secretariat

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Ms Alice N. Kimani | - | Committee Clerk |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|

Mr. Speaker, on background, the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries is a pivotal arm of the County Government, tasked with driving food security, agribusiness growth, and rural livelihoods. In FY 2024/25, the department received significant allocations to support programs including Artificial Insemination (AI), input subsidies, extension services, and mechanization. However, challenges related to procurement, absorption, staffing, and coordination of programs have affected optimal performance. This report evaluates these dynamics with an aim of strengthening oversight of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries development programs.

Mr. Speaker, we go to analysis and discussions.

1 Budget Absorption FY 2024/25

Recurrent absorption was 67%. I wonder how they were not able to absorb all the recurrent expenditure bearing in mind the things in the recurrent expenditure.

Development absorption: 65.9 with the key bottlenecks being non-release of June exchequer; some projects undelivered despite available funds and interruption in pyrethrum procurement due to vendor documentation issues.

Artificial Insemination Program

The total services administered were 10,736 (Aug 2024–Mar 2025) and the revenue collected: Kshs. 4.1 million. The Challenges were delayed fuel and stipends, ward budget omissions, farmer training gaps, and political interference.

Input Distribution and Crop Survival

Mr speaker sir maize, vegetable, and apple crops reported less than 85% survival while pyrethrum 68%. They were affected by erratic rains. Livestock programs show over 90% survival with high productivity among heifers, goats, pigs, and chickens. Economic tracking relies on yield estimation, market prices, and input propagation indicators.

Extension Services and Staffing

The total farmers reached were over 15,000 via various extension models. There is extension staff deficit—17 Ward Agriculture Officers against a required 25 so that every ward has at least one. Staffing gaps have been noted across engineering, agribusiness, and soil/nutrition roles.

AMS Mechanization Program

The Revenue through the program was Kshs. 1.34m the operating cost: Kshs. 7.29M. The core services include land prep and water pans. Mr Speaker these Stations depend on revolving funds; sustainability remains a concern due to fuel shortages and machinery downtime.

Soil Testing and Laboratory Use

Kshs. 2.2 M budgeted for renovation in FY 2024/25. The amount was underutilized due to a lack of equipment and technical staff. Mr Speaker, sir, although we budgeted on this, we do not have people who are supposed to do that technical work. It is high time now for the county government to realise that we can have those people on the ground and help our farmers.,

Procurement and Delivery Delays

Many procurements are classified as recurrent; the vote book opened in Q3, leading to late execution. Plans are underway to reclassify to development for early procurement access. Pyrethrum procurement stalled due to a non-compliant bidder; corrective measures detailed in evaluation and inspection records.

Mr. Speaker, you know some of these projects that we have in county government as far as agriculture is concerned. Mr Speaker, Sir, you know, they are saying that some of these projects of the County Government that fall under the agriculture docket are categorized under the recurrent budget. It is now the high time we shifted them from recurrent vote to development vote. Additionally, the reason you see that many things are not happening is because they tell us to start the projects mid-year. It is the high time the Department changed this.

Mr Speaker, let us proceed to our findings.

Committee's Findings

Committee Finding No.1: Budget Absorption in FY 2024/25

Observation:

The Department absorbed 67% of its recurrent budget and 65.9% of the development budget. So, you see that more than thirty percent of the budget was not implemented. While the absorption was relatively average, the Committee noted that some projects were not implemented or paid for due to the non-disbursement of the June exchequer releases and procurement delays. Additionally, some suppliers failed to deliver despite procurement being concluded, contributing to low development absorption.

Issue:

Poor timing and classification of procurements (many under the recurrent vote) delayed implementation. The situation was compounded by unreliable supplier performance and fiscal flow disruptions.

Committee's Remarks:

The Committee expresses concern over the persistent underutilization of allocated funds due to avoidable administrative bottlenecks, including delayed procurement and reliance on recurrent classifications. The Committee urges the department to work closely with the County Treasury to reclassify eligible expenditures under development votes and ensure vote books are opened in good time. Furthermore, the department should establish a supplier performance tracking mechanism to reduce project implementation risks.

Committee Finding No. 2: Artificial Insemination (AI) Programme Implementation

Observation:

The AI programme recorded over 10,736 inseminations across 25 cooperatives between August 2024 and March 2025, with a revenue collection of, as I said earlier, Kshs. 4.12 million. The programme shows strong demand and uptake. However, gaps in early implementation were noted due to lack of fuel, stipends, and budget allocation in some Wards. Some cooperatives, notably Umoja Dairy Cooperative in Ndaragwa, have yet to receive operational support. Political interference and competition from private providers also created programme distortion.

Issue:

While the programme is impactful, it suffers from inconsistent facilitation, delayed implementation in some Wards. Mr Speaker some Wards did not receive the services because of uneven budgetary planning. These risks threaten sustainability and equitable access across the County. So, we need every Ward to be allocated enough money so that the farmers can benefit from the AI programme.

Committee Remark:

The Committee commends the AI programme for its uptake and revenue generation but raises concern over its inconsistent implementation across Wards. The Committee urges the department to harmonize planning of ward-level budgets and ensure timely disbursement of operational support, including fuel and stipends. Political interference and stakeholder engagement gaps must be addressed through structured outreach and cooperative accountability mechanisms so that the programme can be executed without delays.

Committee Finding No. 3: Input Distribution and Survival Rates**Observation:**

The department distributed a range of crop and livestock inputs with generally high survival rates:

- Maize, vegetable seeds, apples, and avocados: ~85–90%
- Pyrethrum: 68%, affected by poor rainfall and subsequent flooding. Remember, sometimes rainfall goes down and other times the rains hit more. The latter scenario causes destruction of pyrethrum.
- Livestock: Over 90% survival, high productivity observed in heifers, dairy goats, chicken, and pigs. You can see that livestock rearing in Nyandarua County is doing well. In this regard, I urge the Executive to put more efforts toward livestock rearing.

Issue:

Pyrethrum performance was suboptimal due to environmental factors and weak initial planning. While survival and productivity were promising, systemic tracking of long-term economic impact remains limited.

Committee Remark:

The Committee notes with appreciation the high survival and productivity of distributed inputs. However, the low performance of pyrethrum highlights the need for agro-climatic risk mitigation and tighter monitoring. The Committee calls for a robust tracking framework to evaluate the long-term economic value of these interventions and guide future input targeting.

Committee Finding No. 4: Extension Services and Human Resource Gaps

Observation:

Extension services reached over 15,000 farmers through field days, demonstrations, training, barazas, and farm visits. However, the department suffers significant staffing shortages:

- Only 17 Ward Agriculture Officers (WAOs) out of a required 25.
- Several critical roles (engineers, M&E officers, lab technicians) remain unfilled.
- Some staff are nearing retirement without clear succession planning.

Mr Speaker, you know, many employees in this department are retiring, yet the County Government has not started employing a new generation of employees to fix the problem.

Issue:

The staffing deficit undermines the reach and quality of extension services. It also threatens institutional memory and reduces the department's capacity to deliver on increasing farmer demands.

Committee Remark:

The Committee is alarmed by the severe staffing gaps across the extension system, especially at the ward level. The Committee recommends urgent recruitment, succession planning, and targeted investment in technical personnel to support programme delivery and extension coverage.

Committee Finding No. 5: AMS Mechanization Service**Observation:**

AMS Nyahururu served 98 farmers and generated Kshs. 1.34 million in revenue during FY 2023/24. However, the cost of operations stood at over Kshs. 7.2 million. Key challenges include fuel shortages, machinery breakdowns, and reliance on revolving fund delays. Despite this, the station supports soil conservation, irrigation, and climate-resilient farming.

Mr Speaker, this is not good. We have tractors and machinery that are supposed to help our farmers. We have so many farmers in Nyandarua, and in a year, only 98 farmers benefited from these machines, yet we budget for them each and every time. So, it is high time we told the government to wake up and do something so that our farmers can benefit from these machines. This will help our farmers improve their yield and production.

Issue

The operational deficit reflects structural inefficiencies and underfunding of mechanization. Without consistent support, AMS cannot scale services or contribute meaningfully to agricultural modernization.

Committee Remark

The Committee acknowledges the value of AMS in advancing mechanized agriculture. However, the high operating deficit raises concerns about sustainability. The Committee recommends fast-tracking the operationalization of the revolving fund and investing in equipment repairs to expand service reach and revenue potential.

Committee Finding #6: Soil Testing and Laboratory Renovation

Observation

The department allocated Kshs.1 million in the FY 2024/25. Budget for renovation and equipping of the soil testing laboratory. However, the lab remains underutilized due to equipment gaps and technical staff shortages.

We do not have people to do soil testing in our County, yet we are saying every time that we are farmers. The farmers cannot know the right fertilizer to apply when planting so that they can have high yields.

Issue

Delayed operationalization undermines scientific farming practices, particularly soil fertility mapping and crop suitability analysis.

Committee Remark

The Committee supports the planned investment in the soil laboratory but emphasizes the need for swift implementation. The Committee urges the department to complete renovations, deploy qualified staff, and integrate the lab into extension programmes to enhance soil health and productivity.

Mr Speaker, we will continue to our next finding.

Committee Finding 7: Procurement Classification and Timing

Observation

The department cited delayed procurement as a key cause of poor project delivery. Many items were classified under the recurrent vote, limiting timely access to funds. This affected procurement timelines, supplier performance, and absorption rates.

As I said, Mr Speaker, you know when you are supplying seeds, it is when they are classifying that as recurrent expenditure and therefore, unable to deliver in a timely manner, probably because they start doing this at two-thirds of the year.

Issue

Improper classification of projects undermines implementation efficiency and results in spilling over into the next financial year.

So, our farmers are not reaping benefits from it because, when we budget for something and they cannot see anything on the ground, they start complaining.

Committee Remark

The Committee expresses concern over the repeated delays linked to vote classification. The Committee recommends that the department collaborate with the Directorate of Economic Planning to reclassify applicable items under development expenditure and engage the Controller of Budget for early vote book openings.

Committee Finding #8: Pyrethrum Procurement and Seedling Quality

Observation:

The Department faced significant challenges in procuring pyrethrum planting materials. The suppliers were disqualified for failing to feed mandatory documents into the IFMIS system, while allegations of forged documents were raised.

Subsequently, the verification confirmed that the procurement process proceeded with an alternative supply. However, the pyrethrum programme recorded a survival rate of 68%. The issue is, procurement inconsistency and rain-fed agriculture significantly undermined projects and further weakened the seed quality assurance mechanism.

Committee Remark

The Committee expressed concerns as regards inconsistency in the procurement process for pyrethrum materials. The department should institute strong prequalification measures, improve documentation handling with IFMIS, and prioritise formal engagement with certified institutions to ensure access to viable climate-resistant planting materials.

This way, we will have a pyrethrum seedling that can be used for 10 years to benefit our farmers.

Committee Finding #9: Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks

Observation

Each program reportedly has its own monitoring structure, but no unified county-level M&E framework exists to track outcomes systematically across interventions.

Issue

Fragmented M&E limits evidence-based decision-making, resource targeting, and performance accountability.

Committee Remark

The Committee emphasizes the need for an integrated M&E framework to enhance visibility of program impact. The department should develop a unified results matrix aligned to budget lines and key performance indicators across the sector.

Recommendations

The following recommendations should be implemented within 60 days so that we can see changes in this Department:

1. The department should urgently reclassify suitable agricultural procurements, such as input distribution and seed subsidies, from recurrent to development expenditure. This will facilitate early vote book opening, improve procurement timeliness, and increase budget absorption, particularly for projects prone to delays due to their current classification.
2. A ward-specific implementation plan for the Artificial Insemination (AI) programme should be developed to ensure equitable coverage, timely allocation of fuel and stipends, and cooperative accountability. This includes harmonizing AI budgets at the ward level and addressing logistical and operational gaps that hinder service continuity.
3. The department should establish a centralized tracking system to monitor the uptake, survival, and economic impact of distributed inputs. This system should

generate periodic reports to inform decision-making, ensure value for money, and guide future targeting of both crop and livestock interventions.

4. The CPSB should take immediate action to address staffing gaps within the extension services. The department should prioritize the recruitment of Ward Agriculture Officers and key technical personnel, including engineers, agronomists, and monitoring officers, while implementing a succession plan for retiring staff to maintain institutional continuity.
5. To enhance the sustainability of mechanization services, the department should repair and maintain key machinery at AMS Nyahururu and Njabini and ensure year-round fuel availability. The revolving fund must be operationalized effectively, enabling timely service provision and increased revenue generation from expanded farmer outreach.
6. The soil testing laboratory should be renovated and fully equipped using the allocated budget, with qualified staff deployed to ensure operationalization. The lab should be integrated into extension services and promoted to farmers to support soil fertility management and climate-resilient agriculture.
7. The department should adopt an annual procurement calendar to guide timely execution of projects and reduce delays linked to vote book opening. A supplier tracking system should also be introduced to ensure compliance with procurement standards and improve accountability in project delivery.
8. The department must formalize partnerships with certified seed producers such as KALRO to guarantee access to high-quality planting materials, particularly for specialized crops like pyrethrum. It should also plan input distribution based on agro-climatic data to improve crop establishment and minimize losses due to erratic weather.
9. A unified monitoring and evaluation framework should be developed and institutionalized across all programs. This framework should include clear performance indicators and be aligned to the county annual development priorities to enable consistent tracking of outcomes, resource effectiveness, and program adjustments.

Mr Speaker in conclusion, the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries has critically reviewed the FY 2024/25 budget implementation status for the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. While commendable progress has been made in areas such as artificial insemination, livestock productivity, and farmer outreach, several challenges persist notably in procurement efficiency, staffing gaps, mechanization support, and program monitoring. These constraints continue to hinder the department's capacity to fully deliver on its mandate and maximize the impact of public investment in agriculture.

The Committee urges the department to implement the recommendations contained in this report with urgency and diligence, and further recommends that follow-up evaluations be conducted mid-year to assess progress made. Strengthening institutional capacity, accountability frameworks, and technical execution will be essential for achieving sustainable agricultural growth and improving livelihoods across the county. That is our conclusion Mr Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, I think that I do not have much to say because this report is very clear. That is what we have on the ground. The elected Members know the challenges that they are encountering as far as the department is concerned. The issue of pyrethrum and Artificial Insemination services need to be improved. We should have at least four AI providers in every

ward so that farmers can get these services and improve our animals. With improved animals we shall have increased production. When we get increased production in our farms, we get good economy and you will have something in your pocket.

Mr Speaker, without much ado, I would like to call my Vice Chairperson to second.

Speaker: Yes, Hon. Milkah Nyambura, Vice Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, proceed.

Hon. Milkah Nyambura: Mr Speaker, I second.

Speaker: The Motion is duly moved and seconded.

(Question proposed)

Yes, Hon. Mwangi Nyaga, Majority Leader.

Hon. Mwangi Nyaga: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I think there are very pertinent issues that have been mentioned by the Committee. I will start by congratulating the Committee for coming up with a good report. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, you know that the backbone of Nyandarua is agriculture and livestock, so this is an area that we cannot make assumptions about. We cannot overlook some of the issues that have been highlighted by the said Committee.

Hon. Speaker, on matters of staffing, it is a critical area that needs to be addressed. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, even before devolution back in 2012, was one of the ministries that was understaffed. The last time staff were employed was in 1987. If you look at those people that were employed in 1987, you will find that most of them are retiring. This issue has now caught up with the County. Before devolution, the last time staff were employed in the Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture was back in 1988. This is why we have a big gap in the County because most of our employees are at the retiring age. The staffing gap should be addressed as per the Committee's recommendation. Mr. Speaker, as much as we are employing nurses, clinical officers, and doctors, this is also another critical area that needs to be addressed in terms of staffing.

Hon. Speaker, I want to affirm and confirm that when we invest in good quality seeds, the yields will become better. Mr. Speaker, this year most of the Members of the County Assembly had allocated some amount for quality seeds. Mr. Speaker, the report that we are getting from the farmers is that quality seeds were delivered and are doing very well. When the Committee recommends that we formalize the partnership between those supplying the quality seeds, I agree with them 100%—the partnership should be formalized.

Mr. Speaker, prudence dictates that we cannot keep losing money; we either do away with it or improve the AMS services. Mr. Speaker, from the report of the Committee on Agriculture, they found out that it is a total loss. We inject over Kshs. 7.8 million but we are recouping back only 1.3 million. Mr. Speaker, indeed, if this will be the trend, I do not think that it is wise to keep injecting more funds into AMS. We must look at the loopholes and establish the gaps so that we do not keep investing and putting our money where we are incurring losses.

Hon. Speaker, there is also another very pertinent issue: importing. The Committee has recommended that we must have a well-defined policy on monitoring and evaluation because, as you know, we are investing a lot of money in that department. A case in point, I have seen how they have analyzed matters of A.I and the results. My wish, my recommendation would have been, even if we are getting the report back on what we have invested in terms of A.I services, let it be categorized in wards so that I can know... let it be very specific. For instance, in Kaimbaga Ward,

we put this much on A.I and the results—because the results are measurable—the calves we get. There is no other way you can say it is successful.

We need to have an evaluation whereby we are getting results per ward, being very specific. As a result, the member of that ward, when traversing the ward, can say that animals have gotten subsidized A.I services; therefore, we have ten, twenty, or a hundred calves within a year. It will be a worthwhile investment. So, as they are reporting, let them also go to the ward level rather than reporting on the whole county. I'm happy because, as a county, we have invested in very sustainable projects.

I'm happy because I've seen Hon. Ngeche is here. This week, I saw on his Facebook page that he is accepting and pushing the agenda of the avocado project. I was so happy because when we see that indeed what we are investing in is yielding good results. So, I want to commend the government, the executive, and the Members of the County Assembly because, indeed, they are coming up with projects which are also very sustainable. Though I have heard that we have a problem with the pyrethrum project, on A.I services, the apple project, and the avocado, these have become life-changing projects that can put money in our pockets.

I'm happy with the report. But it should not just be a report that is put in the archives; we should fast-track it because this is the backbone of Nyandarua. It will propel it to the next level if we fast-track, follow the project and the report, and implement the recommendations that have been given therein.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I support them.

Speaker: Hon. Paul Ngeche Wambaire, Member for Kipipiri.

Hon. Paul Ngeche: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will start where the Majority Leader has just left off—that agriculture is the backbone not only of our county but also of the entire nation. This has been said time and again, and I'm happy that, in our debate, we continue to emphasize it.

I sincerely thank the Committee for the work they have done, especially for their observations and recommendations. When you go through their recommendations, they have identified some serious issues. For instance, in number four: *The CPSB should take immediate action to address staffing gaps within the extension services. The department should prioritize the recruitment of ward agricultural officers and key technical personnel, including engineers, agronomists, and monitoring officers, while implementing a succession plan for retiring staff to maintain institutional continuity.*

By this recommendation, the Committee is telling the House and the County that we are unable to undertake serious business in agriculture. The hindrance is staffing.

I don't want to pre-empt the debate on the pesticide and the potatoes of Nyandarua as portrayed in the media. I'm yet to comment on the issue because, if we don't have agronomists or people who can tell us what is happening, then we can be misled by other avenues—and that is serious, especially when we talk of agriculture being the backbone of our county.

The priority of our government and, of course, the "Change Manifesto"—because we are guided by the BETA and the Change Manifesto—should be about how to make agriculture work.

In another debate that will be brought by Hon. Catherine Nyawira about the potatoes, we shall be able to delve more deeply, because we know that even a serious investment in this government, like seed multiplication, is involved.

When you go to number six, it says that the soil testing laboratory should be renovated. This recommendation, at this juncture, shows that more needs to be done in our agriculture sector. Why soil testing? We need to know how to manage our soil fertility and build climate resilience when we do soil testing.

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to probe all of these, but when drawing their conclusion, they said: *While commendable progress has been made in areas such as artificial insemination, livestock productivity, and farmer outreach, several challenges persist.* Notably, there is that man-made problem: procurement inefficiency—having the money but being unable to procure. This needs to be resolved because we have a budget.

Right now, we are almost closing this financial year, and in our next reporting, it will be said, *"We were unable to procure,"* yet sufficient funds were provided.

Mr. Speaker, you find that we have very serious programs and projects that are in partnership with non-governmental organizations and donors, but you find that nobody is giving us the output—the results. What have we achieved as a county? What have we achieved as a department?

Mr. Speaker, like for AI (Artificial Insemination) services—what is the aim of AI? It is to improve the breed so that our farmers may have sufficient milk to sell. If they were getting one litre, they can now get three or four. When the program was rolled out, we should have known by now, for instance, how many heifers we have as a result of the AI services since it started.

We also need to know the quality of the heifers bred because we may be saying we have AI, but we don't have good breeds. Monitoring and evaluation of these programs ought to be done so that we assess the value for money.

The Hon. Leader of the Majority Party was arguing that we establish seed capital, but the output is far less than expected, and we are left to question what we are doing. Yes, the government is neither a profit-making entity nor a loss-making one. So, we should strike a balance.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee's approach is commendable in that they are not anti- or pro-government. They are highlighting the real issues that need to be addressed so that our county can move to higher levels.

Mr. Speaker, as I support this motion, I would like to say that I appreciate the spirit the Governor has shown for this department. The other time, he was distributing Super Napier grass cuttings. Most of the Super Napier grass that was left behind dried up due to bad weather. However, the ones that did not dry up are doing quite well—I can say this because I am a farmer there.

Also, on AI services, I have already had my animals served, and I am yet to see the kind of breed that will come out. I am a consumer of those services, but of course, I need to clarify that I also pay for the services through the avenues that have been set up.

There is also the issue of apple seedlings, and we are not yet able to determine how far we've gone because some of the apples flowered at very early stages. From those, only a few small fruits came out. But we are yet to establish whether, since we are waiting for one year, they will do well.

On what the Majority Leader said, I want to correct him on the floor of this House. Yes, indeed, I am cultivating some avocados, but I want to distance myself from the county programme. It is not part of the county programme, but rather my own effort and initiative.

Maybe the bigger project that will be coming up in this financial year is meant to promote avocado farming. If it is coming, I will welcome it because I sold avocados worth Kshs. 5,000 last weekend, and I still have some we can share with you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, what I want to say is that agriculture is the next big thing for this country. If we can manage our agriculture here in Nyandarua, the cost of production is almost zero—I don't literally mean zero, but it is low compared to other counties. We are endowed with a good climate and soil, and we can do better.

So, we need our government to prioritize this so that we can commercialize our agriculture and have money in our pockets. This is an area where we can even diversify.

When we talk of avocados, when Nyandarua is farming avocados, in Murang'a and Kiambu, there are usually none. So, we will fetch good prices because the fruits are seasonal there. I'm selling to people in Kiambu who export avocados, and they say that we have favorable weather conditions in Nyandarua. You can grow avocados when Murang'a and Kiambu have none.

We can diversify. It's not just about potatoes. We can also grow bananas and avocados, which are doing very well. If Hon. (Eng.) Kaiyani were here, I would have asked him about climate variations, because he could tell us more about climate change and how it correlates with bananas and avocados.

So, thank you, Mr Speaker, I support.

Speaker: Hon. Stephen Muriithi Matimu.

Hon. Stephen Muriithi: Thank you for granting me this opportunity to support the Report by the Committee on Agriculture.

First, I wish to commend the Committee, ably led by Hon. Kiruka, for the diligent work they are doing in this important department.

Mr. Speaker, in almost all geographical entry points into Nyandarua, you will notice large signposts. If one is coming from Nyahururu, there is a notable sign just past the town. Similarly, if approaching from Gilgil, around Loriondo near Simba Primary School, another prominent sign appears. These signboards boldly declare: "*We Feed the Nation.*" However, a critical question arises—do we truly feed the nation?

From the report before us, it is evident that there is more than meets the eye. One of the glaring concerns is the issue of procurement. This matter has been raised repeatedly in this House. The need for timely procurement of all budgeted items cannot be overemphasized. However, as the report illustrates, the Department continues to experience significant delays and demonstrates low budget absorption. Alarming, a substantial portion of what is procured falls under recurrent expenditure, which, as we all know, is not carried forward at the end of a Financial Year. Therefore, the Department must adopt a proactive approach to procurement as advised by the Committee—beginning the process early enough to ensure effective service delivery.

Another issue is the trend of launching agricultural initiatives that fade without proper follow-up. Mr. Speaker, during our first year, there was a lot of hype around Super Napier grass. It was the talk of every village—"Super Napier! Super Napier!" But soon after planting, there was silence. We never heard what became of the initiative. I'm glad to hear Hon. Ngeche reporting that some of it did well, but there remains a glaring gap in monitoring and evaluation.

We then introduced pyrethrum, hailed as a game-changer in Nyandarua. It was once a crop that funded education for many. Again, we sang its praises, planted it, and then—silence. We lack data on germination rates or overall success.

Next came "kaba ngohuo," the apple initiative. I recall a friend sharing that he planted some seedlings, and interestingly, one bore fruit at just one foot tall, then dried up shortly thereafter. Again, we are left with no conclusive data. We must enhance follow-up mechanisms to ensure every government-funded project is tracked, evaluated, and assessed for value for money.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, as we roll out these initiatives, we must take into account the varied weather patterns across the County. For instance, while apples may thrive in one region, they may not do well in another. It is incumbent upon the Agriculture Department, through the guidance of this Committee, to conduct proper agro-ecological surveys to ensure that every intervention suits

the specific local context. Where a project is not viable for one region, let us identify and support alternatives that work.

On the issue of Artificial Insemination (AI), I have made some inquiries, and I am concerned that many of those providing this critical service are on contractual terms. This affects their availability and commitment. I want to commend Hon. Ebrahim Maina, whom I saw just recently showcasing a calf born through the County's AI services. Hon. Ngeche has also shared similar success stories.

As an upcoming farmer myself, I would prefer having permanent, readily accessible staff within the Department to provide these services promptly. When we rely on contractual staff, there's always a conflict between their main duties and the County's assignments.

Mr. Speaker, Nyahururu hosts a vast KALRO (Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization) farm. It is high time we established a mechanism for farmers to access certified planting materials—be it potatoes, avocados, apples, or others—through this facility. Imagine if a farmer could walk into KALRO and collect certified apple seedlings or potato seeds—it would be a major milestone.

In conclusion, I strongly support this report and hope that within 60 days, the House will receive a follow-up report from the relevant departments indicating the status of implementation of these recommendations. The Committee on Implementation must take this up with vigour to ensure our oversight work bears fruit.

As we proclaim that “we feed the nation,” let that slogan be more than mere words—let it be backed by action, performance, and visibility.

Finally, on the issue of potatoes, which form the backbone of our County's identity, I urge the Committee to spearhead efforts to reclaim the reputation of our produce. I understand there's an upcoming motion, and I hope it addresses this matter comprehensively so that our potatoes regain the respect and market confidence they deserve.

With that, I support, Mr Speaker, Sir.

Speaker: You may call the mover to respond.

Hon. Stephen Muriithi: I now call the mover to respond.

Speaker: Hon. Kiruka Mburu, proceed.

Hon. Kiruka Mburu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank the Hon. Members for supporting this motion, bearing in mind that if we implement good policies for our farmers, we will get eternal life because we were sworn in holding a Bible, and we said what we were going to do for our people so that they can change the standards of their lives.

I agree with the Hon. Members that we are experiencing a shortage as far as staffing is concerned and it is high time that the County Government of Nyandarua employed trained and qualified, and informed people. You know, now, things change every day. We should take advantage of this information they such that when it complements with what the aged people have, we can have good results.

Also, on the issue of AI services, as I said, the Governor promised that we shall have two or three AI providers in every ward, and we shall follow up to see to it that that happens so that our farmers can get the services they require. We have already done too much on our roads so for these remaining two years, let us concentrate on farming so that we can improve our economy.

On the issue of seeds and seedlings, we urge the department to distribute them during the rainy season so that the rate of the seedlings' survival can increase, and we will have good results as far as seedlings and seeds are concerned.

I don't have much to say. We are going to follow up to ensure that our farmers are benefiting from this department. We are saying that what every Member should do is to ensure if they have budgeted for anything pertaining to agriculture, and realize it is working out, make sure you inform our committee, and we will deal with it.

On the issue of potatoes, I think, there is an Hon. Member who is going to seek a statement so that we can do it in line with our Standing Orders. We can even invite those people to come and provide more information. Bearing in mind that Nyandarua has potato farmers like me who would like to see justice in that field.

So, thank you, Hon. Speaker, and I wish to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

Speaker: Next order.

2. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON TITLING OF PUBLIC LAND AND SURVEY OF PUBLIC LAND
FOR PUBLIC AMENITIES INCLUDING ROADS AND THEIR RESERVES IN THE COUNTY

Speaker: Hon. John Thuo Gachino or a Member standing in for him. Hon. Esther Waithera, the Vice Chair of the Committee on Lands, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development, proceed.

Hon. Esther Waithera: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 20th September 2023, the Honourable Isaac Kamau Mbae, Member of the County Assembly for Githioro Ward, sought a Statement pursuant to Standing Order No. 45. The Statement sought clarification on the status of titling of public land within the County, as well as the survey of public land designated for public amenities, including roads and road reserves.

In response to the Statement and in line with the Speaker's directive issued on the same day, the Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development was tasked with investigating the matter and providing a comprehensive response within twenty-one (21) days.

Following this directive, the Committee, through the Office of the Clerk, formally wrote to the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development on 20th September 2023. The correspondence requested detailed information on the status of titling and survey of the mentioned public lands.

In response, the Department submitted a written report through a letter 14th November 2023.

Subsequently, the Committee held a series of sittings to consider and review the Department's submissions. These deliberations formed the basis for compiling a comprehensive report in response to the Statement. The final report was completed and formally tabled before this Honourable House in June 2024.

Terms of Reference

Mr Speaker, Sir, the terms of the Statement were as follows:

I hereby seek a statement from the Chairperson, Committee on Lands, Housing and Physical Planning on the above-stated subject matter addressing the following concerns:

Aware that the Chapter 5 of the Constitution of Kenya states that all land in Kenya belongs to the people of Kenya collectively as a nation, as communities and as individuals with The National Land Board advice the National Government on a comprehensive programme for the

registration of title in land throughout Kenya in cooperation with County Physical and Land Use Planning Consultative Forum established by the County Department of lands in Physical and Land Use Planning Act No 13 of 2019;

Noting that the planning of use, regulation of Community land in the County is under the ambience of the Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019 which mandates the department of land on advising the county government on physical and land use planning matters that impact the county, issuance of development permission and other development control instruments under this Act with the approval of the county executive committee member and maintaining a land information system to guide physical and land use planning.

Appreciating that the Office of the County Secretary and Department of Lands, Housing and Physical Planning have a duty to provide civic education on guidelines and procedures used in ensuring due diligence is done when registering or transferring land for the residents to have effective and impactful understanding on lands acquisition procedures;

Concerned that the three has been countywide outcry of public land allocated to private individuals and double allocation of land in urban centres with title documents from the Government leading to loss of property by County residents and unending court cases;

Arising from the foregoing, I seek that the Chairperson of the Committee on Lands, Housing and Physical Planning Development provides the following information:

- i. A detailed report on each public land in every ward in Nyandarua County, and whether they have title deeds
- ii. A report on the land that is leased or owned by cooperatives and societies in the County
- iii. A report on all the land that has been illegally owned and actions taken to bring back by the public
- iv. A report on dams in the County and whether they have a title deed, this is to ensure the donors and NGOs can help build these dams.
- v. Whether the County Government has a land registry where the public can access information and conduct due diligence on all land matters especially public and community land; and,
- vi. The steps the County intends to undertake to ensure that the residents are not duped into buying public land or acquiring land which has previously been allocated to other people thus reducing property loss for the residents.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development comprises the following Members:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Hon. John Thuo Gachino | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Esther Waithera Wangari | - | Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Elijah Mwangi Nyaga | - | Member |
| 4. Hon. Hussein Ndung'u Kassana | - | Member |
| 5. Hon. Duncan Githinji Chege | - | Member |
| 6. Hon. Ebrahim Mwangi Maina | - | Member |
| 7. Hon. Daniel Gitau Ndung'u | - | Member |
| 8. Hon. Naomi Muthoni Ngatia | - | Member |
| 9. Hon. Joyce Wanjiru Munyua | - | Member |

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the compilation of this report, the following constituted the Committee's secretariat:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Mr. David Mutahi | - | Committee Clerk |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|

2. Mr. Nicholas Ndeithi

- Hansard Reporter

Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development wishes to express its sincere appreciation to your Office and the Office of the Clerk for the unwavering support extended throughout the process of compiling this Statement Response.

Mr Speaker, the Department submitted as follows;

1. A detailed report on each of the public lands in every ward in Nyandarua County and whether they have title deeds;

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Department of Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development submitted the following information;

The Department informed the committee that through the Directorate of Land Administration and Management, it commenced the preparation of the County Land Bank in the Financial Year 2022/2023. Where the technical team was able to collect data from various key players including but not limited to NLC, County Secretary (CALC 1&2), User Departments, handover of the report 2013 (Defunct Local Authority), 2017, 2022, DLAM Conveyancing Status Report, surrendered land from subdivisions and Land held under Land Settlement Fund (formerly SFT). The compilation of the data from the sources mentioned resulted in a draft public land inventory.

The collated data was then categorized into sub-counties. The data was further categorized as titled land, untitled land, and land under SFT.

It was reported that the data is yet to be subjected to ground verification to verify the status, including the particular Ward such land is, the development status, and the actual land sizes. The Department recognizes the importance of ground verification. It also indicated that there is a budgetary allocation of Kshs.1, 000,000 in the current financial year to undertake the ground truthing to pave the way for protecting the public land and repossessing those grabbed, those illegally and irregularly allocated. (A copy of the zero draft County Landbank is attached.)

2. A report on the land that is leased or owned by co-operatives and societies in the County;

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Department informed the committee that the zero-draft report mentioned previously does not contain any information regarding land leased or owned by cooperatives and societies. As a result, the committee has been advised to collaborate with the Department of Tourism, Cooperative Development, Trade, and Industrialization, which may possess more comprehensive data on this matter.

3. A report on all the land that has been illegally owned and actions taken to bring it back to the public;

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Department has identified several instances of public land being unlawfully allocated, including parcels such as the Ol'Kalou Stadium and various other public facilities in Ol'Kalou Township, the Lake Ol'bolossat Riparian Reserve, the Ol'Joro Orok Pyrethrum Land, Magomano Primary School Land, Mawingu 50-acre land, Nyahururu AMS, Kianda Community Land, Kahuho Borehole/ECD (Gituro), Githunguchu Agric/Poultry Project, Githunguchu Mworoto Plots (14 acres), Yaang'a Dam, Gatarwa Spring, Mundi Forest (200 acres), Ol'Kalou AC Primary borehole, and the Ndemi playing field, among others. Additionally, disputes have arisen in strategic towns such as Ol'Kalou, Rurii, Kasuku, Kaimbaga, Kimathi, Mundi (Njewekwe), Igwamiti, and Mirangine.

To address these challenges, the Department has allocated a budget of Kshs. 2,000,000 in the current financial year to develop an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) framework.

Furthermore, with the assistance of the Inter-governmental Relations Technical Committee (IGRTC), the National Land Commission (NLC), and the relevant Ministry responsible for Lands, the County aims to conduct surveys, valuations, and process titles for all public land transferred from Defunct Local Authorities and the National Government.

4. A report on dams in the County and whether they have title deeds to ensure the donors and NGOs can help build them;

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Department clarified that, as per the CALC 1 and CALC 2 reports, the public dams identified remain untitled. Nonetheless, during the Financial Year 2023/2024, a budgetary allocation of Kshs.1, 500,000 was set aside for the Directorate of Survey to undertake survey activities on twenty colonial dams, with a target of four dams per subcounty.

In line with this objective, the Department reported that it successfully conducted surveys on eighteen colonial dams,

1. Nya/Kipipiri/29
2. Nya/Silanga/2
3. Turasha Munoru Dam
4. Nya/Ol'Kalou South/165
5. Nya/Ol'Kalou South/683, 986
6. Nya/Mawingo Salient/3941, 704
7. Nya/Kahuru/362 (Dirisha dam)
8. Nya/Ol'Kalou Central/346
9. Nya/ Gilgil West/160
10. Gathanje dam (Kwa Ngara)
11. Sibala/ Kahihu Dam
12. Kwa Johana Dam-Nya/Kipipiri/30
13. Nelson Northing Colt-Lee Dam- Gathaara
14. Ex-Major Dam- Rurii
15. Mbichu Dam -Rurii
16. Mung'etho Dam- Kiriita
17. Kinja Dam- Githioro
18. Kiregethi Dam -Leshau

Additionally, the Department responsible for Water and Natural Resources possesses a more comprehensive list of all the county's public dams.

5. Whether the County Government has a land registry where the public can access information and conduct due diligence on all land matters, especially public and community land.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to the inquiry regarding whether the County Government operates a publicly accessible land registry for purposes of information access and due diligence, particularly in relation to public and community land, the Department provided the following clarification. The Department affirmed that land records are currently maintained under the Directorate of Land Administration, Survey, and Physical Planning. It was noted that a portion of these records remains incomplete, having been inherited from the former Local Authorities prior to devolution. To address this gap and enhance accessibility, the Directorate of Land Administration and Management had allocated funds in the Financial Year 2023/2024 towards the digitization of land records and the improvement of land-related services, in alignment with the provisions of the County's service charter.

6. The steps the County intends to undertake to ensure that the residents are not duped into buying public land or acquiring land that has previously been allocated to other people, thus reducing property loss for the residents.

Mr Speaker, Sir, in response to the inquiry, the Department indicated its commitment to enhancing public awareness on land-related matters through the implementation of civic education initiatives, specifically in the form of land clinics. These land clinics are intended to be conducted across all sub-counties and will focus on key thematic areas, including land allocation, Special Planning Areas (SPAs), Settlement Fund Trustee (SFT) matters, physical planning, surveying, and relevant land laws. To facilitate this initiative, a budgetary allocation of Kshs. 1,000,000 has been provided in the Financial Year 2023/2024. Mr Speaker I think there was typo error because it is not supposed to be FY 2023/2024 but 2024/2025. The Department further reported that preparatory plans are currently underway. Mr. Speaker I think on this I think there was a typing error, because it's not supposed to be 2023/2024 it is supposed to be 2024/2025, so the department further reported that preparatory plans are currently underway to roll out these land clinics at the sub-county level, with a long-term objective of expanding the outreach to the ward level in subsequent phases.

Mr Speaker, the committee made the following observations and findings.

1. Public Land Inventory and Titling Status

The Committee notes that the Department has made significant strides towards the establishment of a County Landbank, having initiated data collection in the Financial Year 2022/2023. The inclusion of data from critical stakeholders such as the National Land Commission (NLC), County Secretary (CALC 1 & 2), User Departments, and reports from the defunct local authorities demonstrates a commendable effort toward consolidating public land records.

However, the Committee also observed that while a draft public land inventory has been developed, it remains unverified. Ground-truthing exercises, which are vital for confirming the exact location, ownership status, usage, and acreage of the parcels, have not yet been carried out. The Committee welcomed the Department's allocation of Kshs. 1,000,000 in the financial year 2023/2024 for this purpose and emphasized the urgency of executing this verification to safeguard public assets from encroachment and illegal acquisition.

2. Lack of Data on Land Owned by Cooperatives and Societies

The Committee observes with concern that the Department has not provided any data concerning land owned or leased by cooperatives and societies. This gap suggests a lack of inter-departmental collaboration and data-sharing mechanisms, particularly with the Department of Tourism, Cooperative Development, Trade, and Industrialization, which the Committee has now been advised to consult. This fragmentation of information could hinder comprehensive land governance and accountability.

3. Illegal Allocation of Public Land

The Committee takes note of several parcels of land that have been red-flagged as unlawfully acquired, including prominent and strategic areas such as the Ol'Kalou Stadium, Lake Ol'bolossat riparian reserve, and multiple allocation parcels in Ol'Kalou Township and surrounding regions. The identification of these parcels is an important step, but the Committee stresses the need for timely and firm action to reclaim these assets.

4. Survey of Dams and Titling

The Committee commends the Department for surveying eighteen out of the targeted twenty colonial dams under the Kshs. 1,500,000 budgets allocated in the Financial Year 2023/2024. This proactive approach is crucial for facilitating donor and NGO support, which often requires clear land ownership documentation before investment. Nonetheless, the Committee noted that the surveyed dams remain untitled, highlighting a need to expedite the next phase of the process, including registration and issuance of title deeds.

5. County Land Registry and Digitization Efforts

The Committee acknowledges the Department's efforts to digitize land records and enhance transparency through the development of a County Land Information Management System (CLIMS). The combined budgetary allocation of Kshs.7,000,000 across three components—policy development, digitization of existing records, and system implementation—is a positive step toward modernizing land administration.

That said, the Committee observed that the success of this initiative will be contingent on both technical capacity and stakeholder engagement. Incomplete historical records and legacy issues inherited from defunct authorities could delay the full realization of these efforts if not addressed systematically.

In conclusion, the Committee acknowledges the efforts made by the Department of Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development in compiling and submitting information regarding various aspects of land management within Nyandarua County. However, the observations made by the Committee underscore critical areas that require attention to ensure effective governance and protection of public lands.

That the committee recommends, Mr. Speaker, based on the submissions received, the findings made, and the conclusion drawn by the Committee, the following recommendations are proposed to enhance effective land governance and management in Nyandarua County:

1. That the County Executive Committee Member for Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development does expedite ground verification and finalization of the Public Land inventory within six months.
2. That the County Executive Committee Member for Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development establishes formal mechanisms for collaboration with relevant departments to ensure data consistency, completeness and effective joint planning within six months.
3. That the CECM for Lands does move beyond the survey stage and initiate the process of titling and ensure key public assets, particularly colonial villages, colonial dams, riparian reserves and other strategic parcels; prioritize the delineation and fencing of these parcels to prevent further encroachment, illegal allocation or land grabbing within six months.

These recommendations, if implemented promptly and comprehensively, Mr Speaker, will strengthen the efforts towards ensuring secure and tenure, improved transparency and protection of public assets for the benefit of all residents.

Mr Speaker, there are some annexures here that show most of the public land parcels, including dams, that have been looked into and their current status in every Sub-County. They have been listed per Ward.

With that, Mr Speaker, I call the seconder, Hon. Ebrahim Mwangi Maina.

Speaker: Hon. Ebrahim Mwangi, proceed.

Hon. Ebrahim Mwangi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

From the onset, I second the Motion on the report of the Committee, bearing in mind that if we generate the required resolutions from the recommendations of the Committee, we will secure all the public land within the County, including public amenities and also the dams. With proactive actions by the Department, we will secure all the public plots.

Mr Speaker, you see, as we continue, we require to have all the required information (on public land) in the County. We are supposed to have the data in our registry here in the County. We recommend that the Committee and the Department should continue engaging other agencies to establish a data bank, a land data bank, within the County.

Mr Speaker, recently, we have seen people all around trying to allocate themselves public land, even dams. To prevent all this, we are supposed to move very fast and have the relevant information secured.

Finally, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Yes, Hon. Stephen Muriithi.

Hon. Stephen Muriithi: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I want to thank the Committee. Today, they have done us proud. It is one Committee with which we have been having push and pull all through.

The only concern that I have, Mr Speaker, is this: if you look at the tail end of the report, where we have specific Wards and specific Sub-Counties, we do not have a column on the dams in Karau, Rurii, and Kaimbaga Wards. In view of this, we humbly request the Committee to later furnish us with a list of dams in the said Wards.

Mr Speaker, as you can see, if we are able to do as they have recommended in the report, we are going to ensure that all our dams are well protected. In fact, from what I have just seen—considering the report that we had earlier by the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries—with the dams that we have, we can do irrigation on our farms and sustain farming throughout the year. With that, Mr Speaker, I do support the Motion and I call the mover to respond.

Speaker: Hon. Esther Waithera, proceed.

Hon. Esther Waithera: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I wish to thank the Member for his contribution. Indeed, that concern is very genuine, and I think there was an error somewhere because the column on the Ol’Kalou Sub-County was supposed to be there. So, I request that the necessary correction be done.

Mr Speaker, there has been a great concern about the County land registry. The members of the public from Nyandarua County are forced to go all the way to Nyahururu to seek services on land matters, especially regarding information on land titles and most other related issues. However, in this report, Mr Speaker, I know you have noted that there is a budget that is required so that we can move the land registry from Nyahururu to Ol’Kalou. Right now, it is being housed at the land administration offices, which should not be the case. This is occasioned by the fact that we do not have secure facilities even to preserve our titles here.

In view of the foregoing, I urge and request this Honourable House to continue supporting this Department in matters relating to budgetary allocations so that they can accomplish their requests and will concerning the land registry issue. This will help in moving the land registry

from Nyahururu, which is in Laikipia County, to Nyandarua County, specifically to Ol’Kalou, which is the County headquarters.

Finally, Mr Speaker, I thank the Committee, I thank your office, and I thank this noble House. I beg to move. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

Speaker: Next order.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: Hon. Members, there being no other business to transact in this Sitting, I, now, adjourn the House to Tuesday, the 10th day of June 2025, at 2.30 pm.

(The House rose at 11.46 am)

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