

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 4th June 2024

The Assembly met at 3:11 p.m.

[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta) in the Chair]

PRAYER

PAPER

**PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL
TRAINING**

Hon. Kibe Wasary: Hon. Speaker, on behalf of the Chair Education Committee, that the Report of the sectoral Committee on Education and Child Welfare on its consideration of the progress Report for the department of Education and Technical Training for the period July 2023 to March 2024, be laid on the Table of the Assembly.

NOTICE OF MOTION

**ADOPTION OF A REPORT ON PROGRESS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND TECHNICAL TRAINING**

Hon. Kibe Wasary: Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Chair Education Committee, I beg to give the following notice of Motion; -

That, this Assembly adopts the Report of the sectoral Committee on Education and Child Welfare on its consideration of the progress Report for the department of Education and Technical Training for the period July 2023 to March 2024, be laid on the Table of the Assembly on June 4, 2024. Thank you.

MOTION

**ADOPTION OF REPORT ON THE MURANG'A COUNTY RIGHT TO FOOD POLICY FOR
THE PERIOD 2024 -2032**

Hon.Gathee Wa Njeri: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion;-

That, this Assembly adopts a Report of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Murang'a County Right to Food Policy for the period 2024 - 2032 laid on the Table on Tuesday June 4, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

The County Executive Committee Member in charge of the Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Veterinary Services, Dr. Kiringai.....(*inaudible*)... through the office of the Clerk forwarded to the Assembly the Murang'a County Right to Food Policy for 2024 - 2032 for consideration by the County Assembly. The Policy was laid on the Table of the House by the Chairperson, Murang'a County Assembly Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, on Wednesday 13 March 2024 and thereafter stood committed to the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. Upon tabling of the Policy, the Committee held several meetings within the precincts of the Assembly, to study the Policy objectives of the department and the effectiveness of the implementation. The main purpose of the proposed Policy is to give effect to Article 43 (1) (c) of the Constitution of Kenya on the freedom from hunger and the right to food of acceptable quality and Article 21 on the implementation of rights and fundamental freedoms under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

The Committee in its workshop held at Naivasha, from May 15th to 16th, 2024, considered the Policy and unanimously resolved that it be adopted. The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya provides for the agricultural policy as a function of the national government. It transfers key components of agriculture including crop and animal husbandry, fisheries development and control of plant and animal diseases amongst others to the County governments and Article 43 (1) (c) of the same Constitution is explicit on the right to food stating, ‘Every person has the right to be free from hunger, and to have adequate food of acceptable quality

Committee observations were:

1. That, the Policy has been formulated in line with relevant provisions of the Constitution and provides a clear road map to the realization of Vision 2030 agricultural goals and targets.
2. That, the Policy provides guidelines on how people of Murang'a County can be free from hunger and malnutrition.
3. That, it is the mandate of the County Government to ensure that every resident accesses safe and adequate food supplies, further the County Government should adhere to the provisions of the Constitution on protection of human rights and freedom.
4. That, there is a sizeable population in the County that cannot afford or access safe and adequate food.

5. That, the right to food Policy addresses all the issues of food deficiency in the County.
6. That, there is need for the County Government to invest in research and adequate funding to get the relevant information and support to the farmers for improved and increased agricultural productivity.
7. That, the Policy identifies current challenges in the agricultural sector and outlines suitable guidelines to address them.
8. That, some of the challenges facing agricultural production in Murang'a County such as climate change effects, changing land use tendencies and poor farming methods can be addressed through dissemination of related agricultural information to farmers.
9. That, the Policy affirms the interrelationship between food and health, it emphasizes the need for County Governments to commit adequate resources to enable sustainable production of sufficient and diverse nutrient dense foods.

The Committee recommends the following: -

1. That, the House adopts the Committee's Report on the Murang'a County Right to Food Policy 2024- 2032.
2. That, the County should focus on sustainable agricultural and rural development through measures to improve access to land, water, appropriate and affordable technologies, productive and financial resources, enhance the productivity of poor rural communities and promote the participation of the poor in economic Policy decisions,
3. That, the County Government should employ technical officers to increase capacity for inspection of food produced to assure safety for nutrition improvement.
4. That, nutrition services need to be included in the Murang'a County Integrated Development Plans for sustainability and continuity in nutrition improvement.
5. That, the County Government needs to allocate nutrition budget using the code assigned by the National Treasury and provide for standardized methods and frequency of conducting nutrition surveys.
6. That, the County should assist farmers and other primary producers to follow good agricultural practices, food processors to follow good manufacturing practices, and food handlers to follow good hygiene practices.
7. That, the County Government to strengthen community health units for increased uptake of nutrition services even in pandemics for sustainability

That, for successful implementation of the Policy, the County department in charge of Agriculture, Livestock, Veterinary Services should develop a monitoring and evaluation framework as an integral component to ensure the Policy objectives are achieved.

Madam Speaker, I call upon Hon. Hilary to second.

Hon. Hilary Muigai: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I rise to second the Motion.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): Honourable members, the Floor is now open for debate. Yes, Hon. Morris.

Hon. Morris Ngunu: Thank you Madam Speaker, I rise to support the Motion. Before I make my contribution, it's important to be clarified, I don't know whether having a headache is part of mental health. I want to urge this Assembly to ensure we have a department of mental health because we go with the direction that we are taking. Things might get out of our way thinking things are right.

Madam Speaker, it is also good to say nobody has autonomy of abusing the others in this Assembly, nobody has monopoly. Going forward it's important to say we'll be handling things 'mundu khumundu'. I digressed a little bit---

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): Thank you, Hon. Kiru, it's very good to note that decorum is needed in the House and even outside the House.

Hon. Morris Ngunu: Thank you Madam Speaker. Regarding the Motion that is on the Floor, I want to clarify that this is one of the best models that we have in as far as handling food security in this County is concerned. This Report is very clear on how the implementation of the whole process would be. I want to insist that one of the best ways that the County government has used, is the using the channel of women. Women are pillars in our society and from our Kikuyu culture, they play a very important role in ensuring subsistence farming is well taken care of. I can't insist more that the use of women in this County to address the issue of food security is one of the best models that we can use.

Number two, I want to say there are some areas that we can improve in as far as the challenges that we having with food security is concerned. One, we need to look at the wider picture of more people that we can be able to reach because the issue of hunger in Murang'a is

affecting almost every person and I want to do a comparison, though, needless to let this House know, that in the previous government though such measures that had been put in place regarding addressing the issue of food security. With this government that we support with our body parts if by any chance we don't reach so many people we are likely to have some backlash in comparison to what was happening down there before. But I believe this model, the end point of this model is better than how it is used to be done.

Number two Madam Speaker, Murang'a County have different zones in as far as suitability of food crops are concerned. An example Madam Speaker, half of my ward is tea zone and the lower side is very suitable to grow food crops like maize. Madam Speaker, in as far as we are likely to choose some of the food crops in this County and I want to use an example of maize, it is also very important to note that not every area of this County is likely to do well with example that I have given of maize. 95% of arable land in the tea zone is covered with tea and one of the suggestion Madam Speaker I would give is maybe we can have a supplementary crop. An example the tea zone does very well in avocado farming, they are likely may be not to do a very well in maize farming but do to pretty well in an item like avocado and maybe that a consideration that will likely to get ion Madam Speaker is a good start. I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Wairimu): Thank you. Hon. Gladys.

Hon. Gladys Waikau: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise to support this Motion and say that food being one of the basic needs of every human being, it is very much in order to promote food, and this Policy will cater for promotion of healthy eating and we know that we have many non-communicable diseases in our hospitals that can be solved by healthy eating. I see this Policy will help curb these diseases.

Through this Policy we shall be able to produce a lot of food that also may be used for commercial purposes and we shall have money in our pockets. We shall also have adequate food supply. We all know that we have climate change that causes even drought. Through this Policy, I am very sure that we shall have adequate food in our stores for consumption. I rise to support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Wairimu): Hon. Moses.

Hon. Moses Muchiri: Thank you Madam Speaker, I stand to support the Motion and I also want to congratulate the Committee on Agriculture which is led by Hon. Caroline and Hon. Gatheo wa Njeri for the good work they have been doing and for coming up with this Report.

I want to reiterate that we have enough resources for everybody but not enough for everybody greedy, so with that if we distribute the resources that we have at County government level or at national government level we will be fulfilling 2010 constitution of Kenya which provides the right to food for each and every Kenyan.

To achieve this Hon. Speaker, we need to invest much in agriculture because we know agriculture is the backbone of the Kenyan economy. I also want to thank our Governor Irungu Kangata for the policies he has been coming up with to support agriculture, ranging from subsidy programme that is supporting the milk and mango farmers and recently the maize farming and if we are able to implement this Policy at each and every ward we will be fighting poverty where many people go to school hungry as well as supporting our kids in Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centers because they are provided with uji (porridge) programme and recently the food given to those students and that is an achievement. If we invest in Agriculture, the farm inputs, the fertilizers, the seeds, we will be able to achieve food insecurity not only for this County as well as for this country, so I stand to support. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): Thank you honourable members, I now call upon the mover to respond.

Hon. Gathe wa Njeri: I want to thank the Committee for working to achieve this level. I also want to thank honourable Morris for the contribution he has given on the Committee and the empowerment of women noted in the Report, it is only that Madam Speaker, I got lost somewhere, when Hon. Morris was talking of 'omundu khumundu', I am not sure what language is that, what I just need clarification later is the meaning of that because it is not part of the work in the Committee. I also want to thank honourable Gladys for the input on healthy eating and the rest as well as improving our eating in Murang'a County as far as food security is concerned. Thank you honourable Moses for your input, on how we can invest our resources in agriculture to make Murang'a good, I request members to give your support to this Motion and we are going to work together.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): Thank you to the Committee of Agriculture, we all know that agriculture is the backbone of our economy.

(Question put and agreed to)

BILLS**THE MURANG'A COUNTY VALUATION FOR RATING BILL (NO.4 OF 2023)**

[COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ASSEMBLY]

(Mace was reduced)

(The temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta) left the chair)

(The Deputy Speaker Hon. Gachui Mungai Chairing)

Clause 3

(Question on Clause 3 proposed)

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: I propose that clause 3 of the Bill be amended by inserting the words “immediately” after the words “framework for” and deleting “for” after the words “provide and in order” immediately after the word “land” in order to read as per the Order Paper

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 3 be amended proposed.

(Question that Clause 3 as amended be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 4 and Clause 5

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 4 and 5 be part of the Bill.

(Question that Clause 4 and 5 be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 6

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 6 be part of the Bill proposed.

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: I propose the Question that Clause 6 of the Bill be amended by deleting the entire Sub-Clause (a) and thereof as per the Order Paper

(Question that Clause 6 as amended be part of the Bill proposed)

(Question that Clause 6 as amended put and agreed to)

Clause 7

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 7 be part of the Bill proposed.

(Question that Clause 7 be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 8 and Clause 9

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 8 and 9 be part of the Bill proposed.

(Question that Clause 8 and 9 be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 10

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 10 be part of the Bill proposed

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: I propose that Clause 10 be amended by deleting the words “regard to” and constituting thereof as per the Order Paper.

(Question that Clause 10 be part of the Bill as amended proposed)

(Question that Clause 10 as amended put and agreed to)

Clause 11

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 11 be part of the Bill proposed

(Question that Clause 11 be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 12

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 12 be part of the Bill proposed.

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: I propose that Clause 12 be amended by deleting the entire sub-clause and substituting thereof as per the Order Paper.

(Question that Clause 12 as amended proposed)

(Question that Clause 12 as amended put and agreed to)

Clause 13

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 13 be part of the Bill proposed.

(Question that Clause 13 be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 14

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 14 be part of the Bill proposed.

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: I propose the Clause 14 (4) be amended by deleting the words “Chairperson” and substituting thereof as per the Order Paper.

(Question that Clause 14 as amended proposed.)

(Question that Clause 14 as amended put and agreed to)

Clause 15,16,17,18,19 and 20

Chairperson Hon. Gachui Mungai: Question that Clause 15,16,17,18,19 and 20 be part of the Bill proposed

(Question that Clause 15,16,17,18,19 and 20 be part of the Bill put and agreed to)

Clause 21 to Clause 35.

(Question that Clause 21 to Clause 35 put and agreed to)

Clause 36 and Clause 37

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

Clause 38, Clause 39 and Clause 40

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

Clause 2

(Question proposed)

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: I propose that clause 2 (a) be amended by deleting the entire sub-clause and substituting thereof as per the Order Paper.

(Question, that clause 2 (b), as amended proposed)

(Question, that clause 2(b) as amended put and agreed to)

Clause 1

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

Long title

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: Hon. Chairperson I beg to move that the Committee do Report to the Assembly its consideration of Murang'a County Evaluation for Rating Bill No. 2 of 2023 and its approval thereof with amendments.

(Question proposed)

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta) in the chair]

(Mace was raised)

Hon. Gachui Mungai: Yes Hon. Speaker I beg to Report that the Committee of the whole Assembly has considered the Murang'a County Valuation for Rating Bill No. 2 of 2023 and its approval thereof with amendments.

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move that the Assembly do agree with the Committee on the said Report. I now call the Secunder to move the Motion, Hon. Hillary Muigai.

Hon. Hillary Muigai: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am a Member to the Land Committee, I second.

(Question proposed)

(Question Put and Agreed to)

Hon. Gerald Wambugu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move that the Murang'a County Valuation for Rating Bill No. 2 for 2023 be read for the third time. I now call the seconder to second the Motion, Hon. Hillary Muigai.

Hon. Hillary Muigai: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I am a Member Land Committee, and I second.

(Question proposed)

(Question Put and Agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): Hon. Members, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

The House rose at 3:50p.m.