

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**THE HANSARD**

Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018

The House met at 9:40 a.m.

*[The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki) in the Chair]*

**PRAYERS**

**PAPERS**

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS OF KAHUTI WATER AND SANITATION COMPANY

**Hon. Jane Wanjiru:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I am a Member of the Public Investments and Public Accounts Committee (PIC/PAC) and on behalf of the Chairperson, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly;-

The Report of the Auditor General's Report on the financial statements of Kahuti Water and Sanitation Company limited for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

*(Hon. Jane Wanjiru laid the Paper on the Table)*

**Hon. Jane Wanjiru:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MURANG'A QUARTERLY  
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Hon. Murigi Amos:** Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, I am represent Kimorori/Wempa and a Member of the Finance and Economic Planning Committee and I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly; the Report of the County Government of Murang'a Quarterly Report and financial statements for the period ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

*(Hon. Murigi Amos laid the Paper on the Table)*

**Hon. Murigi Amos:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

POLICY ON ESTABLISHMENT OF MURANG'A YOUTH SERVICE

**Hon. Wambui Njoki:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg not to give the Notice of Motion for some consultation.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Yes, permission granted but in future, the withdrawal should be sought before the House meets.

**Hon. Wambui Njoki:** Well guided Mr. Speaker, thank you.

**RABBIT REARING PROGRAM**

**Hon. Charles Kahoro:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am the Member of County Assembly (MCA) for Kangari Ward. I beg to give a Notice of Motion on rabbit rearing program:

That, aware that livestock development has been highlighted as one of the priorities in the Annual Development Plan (ADP) 2018/2019 for the County Government in the Agriculture department, further aware that rabbit rearing is one of the activities that is not capital intensive and is relatively easy to manage, noting that rabbits reproduce quickly hence are easy to keep, recognizing the benefits accrued from rabbit keeping namely source of meat, manure and fur, appreciating that rabbit keeping has the potential to change livelihoods and create employment in our County, informed that one rabbit is sold at about Kshs2,000 to Kshs2,500; this Hon. House urges the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries to;

1. Develop and implement a program on rabbit rearing, marketing and value addition in the County.
2. Conduct training on nutrition, housing, hygiene, record keeping and prevention of diseases.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Thank you.

### **MOTION**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN THE WARDS**

**Hon. James Karanja:** Mr. Speaker sir, I beg to move the following Motion;-

Aware that industrialization with a focus on urban development and infrastructure is a key agenda of the National Government, further aware that this agenda places Counties as key stakeholders in employment creation as contemplated in Article 55 (c) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, on access to employment and the National Employment Authority Act, 2016, cognizant of the fact that the unemployment rate in Murang'a County is at 17.67 per cent as per the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2018-2022 submitted in the County Assembly, this House urges the County Executive Committee Member (CEC) in charge of Trade and Industrialization to formulate a policy on establishment of at least one cottage industry in every Ward to absorb polytechnic graduates to alleviate unemployment.

Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

Mr. Speaker, you will agree with me that unemployment level has really gone up in this country and specifically our Country, it is therefore vital for us to come up with strategies to curb the same. Most of our unemployed youths have various skills acquired from our polytechnics we have therefore let this skill go to drain. We therefore need to formulate policies that will ensure creation of jobs for these youths.

Mr. Speaker, cottage industries is the way to go, it is the way to ensure that our youths are financially independent and reduce unemployment. It is the high time a cottage industry is formed in every ward in this country. Thank you Mr. Speaker. I now call upon Hon. John, member from Gaturi to second the Motion.

**Hon. Kiiru Mwangi:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Honourable Kabera my names are Cyrus Kiiru Mwangi, MCA from Gaturi. It is unfortunate that one year down the line you still do not know.

Thank you Mr. Speaker, I stand to second the Motion by Honourable Kabera. The problem we are having of unemployment of our youth is very high in Kenya, especially in Murang'a. If you remember and I remember in the last Assembly or in the first County Government we had issues of drug abuse and alcohol to a point where the County Government established a camp to rehabilitate the youth. If we have these cottage industries Mr. Speaker we will be able to they will be busy they will be able to make money and in one way or another sustain themselves economically.

I support the Motion and I would wish that the County Government takes this action immediately, the CEC in charge of Trade and the Committee on Implementation should also

follow up on the same. These are our brothers and sisters in the village and they are quite desperate they cannot find their way to get formal employment but when we create such industries they will be in a position to sustain themselves, feed their families and support their families. So Mr. Speaker I second the Motion. Thank you.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Murigi Amos:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I stand to support this Motion and thank the sponsor of this Motion Hon. James Karanja. I know him for many years I think two decades and I know the passion that he has in a youth empowerment through the initiative of *jua kali* (informal business). Having been the chairman of *jua kali* (informal business) in this County I know he is very robust about the issue of cottage industry.

In this County we have about 65 youth polytechnics and I am sure most of them are seriously under enrolled. One of the causes of under enrollment is that most of those who graduate from these youth polytechnics they do not have financial ability even to buy tools to start the small businesses. If we have such a policy it will go a long way in fixing some of these issues we are experiencing. As well stated the issue of unemployment in this County among the youth is seriously alarming; this time bomb if we are not going to have ways and means of how we can be able to address this issue.

One of these issues through the cottage industry, as Kenyans I do not know what really happened because for the last 20 years we also used to have very good industries like our neighbors Kiambu County, Thika was an industrial town. But now if you see even as something as simple as pencil and rubbers, they are being imported from China and everything we have.

These are some of the issues that can be used to create employment because I know our people are flocking to China others to Turkey. We have never been to those places but I am made to understand in China and Turkey the countries have been able to develop they started and also India through the cottage industry.

I know we have financial constrains in this Assembly and if this will be resolved in this financial year- this issue should be resolved- I would be interested to see a few colleagues go to China and India and try to implement some of these issues because I believe this is the way to go and solve the issue of unemployment among the youth, and Mr Speaker Sir, I am certainly sure that in some Counties they are starting slowly and in Murang'a we have a great advantage because the moment we produce these goods, our proximity to the capital city Nairobi will be a great advantage and the issue of market will not be an issue.

This is one issue that needs to be taken seriously, I call upon even if it call upon amending the County Integrated Development Fund (CIDP) because I know in our CIDP 2018-2022, such a thing was not captured and there are provisions in our Standing Orders where we can be able to amend our CIDP so that we can accommodate the funding for such an issue.

As a legislature in this county and trade being devolved function, I think it is us to be blamed if at the end of the five years we shall not have done anything to do with unemployment among our youth. Otherwise Mr Speaker, I stand to support and I support. I wish that issue to be taken very seriously about a trip to India and China so that we can be able to implement some of these things. We that I do support. Thank you

**Hon. Stanley Muhia:** I rise to support this Motion which is timely. Mr Speaker, you realize that in the lower Murang'a we have the production of fruits which actually go to waste especially the mangoes. The value addition of mangoes is long overdue. We have been told from certain quarters that the mangoes we get from the lower region are not very appropriate for processing of juice, but I believe we can also do value addition and the mangoes can be

packaged, the way they are. I understand that Mangoes are being dried and sold while dry for other purposes.

So Mr Speaker, what I would call upon this Assembly to do is to do a lot of benchmarking and know what kind of value addition will be done to these fruits so that as we propose for the cottage industries in our County, the lower Murang'a can benefit from value addition of mangoes and even oranges. In this ending season, oranges in lower Murang'a especially Makuyu were going for as little as 3 pieces for 10 bucks, Mr. Speaker, if we can look at cottage industry for processing these fruits, the lower Murang'a can benefit a lot and I believe this is one of the things we are supposed to embark on the value addition and also the benchmarking as Hon. Murigi has well put it, if some of us can travel to those countries and see what they do with their fruits. We also know bananas are value added and even dried and are sold dried in the supermarkets, this can also be done in our County.

Therefore, I support this Motion and also wish that if we can have a way of allocating money and may be liaising with the banks so that the *jua kali* (informal business) sector, in Nairobi you find that there is a lot going on in the *jua kali* (informal business) in here in Murang'a they are not very active. We need also to visit *jua kali* (informal business) in Nairobi and especially I urge those in trade department or trade committee to visit *jua kali* (informal business) in Nairobi and have a look at it and they see how they can advise our youth and locals in Murang'a how they can advance their technics in the sector.

And also urge the bank to liaise with County government and see how they can chip in so that citizens can be given some cash at a small interest so that they can be able to excel in *jua kali* (informal business) industry which is very easy for them to earn their living.

I want to support and urge this House to support the Motion and actually do a lot of research and see how we can be able to implement this. I thank you very much Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Stephen Chege:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, mine is to support the Motion as the Chair Youth Committee because we are aware that 65% of population in Murang'a County are young people and among the 65% 70% are unemployed. So with this Motion if it is implemented will resolve the issue of unemployment among our young people. I stand to support, thank you.

**Hon. James Karanja:** Mr. Speaker Sir, today I will sleep a very tight sleep because what I see in this House, these people are with me on matter of *jua kali* (informal business). Hon. Stephen rarely supports me..... (*Laughter*)..... but in this he is with me on this matter because when I move Motion concerning employment our youth are most affected and he is a youth that is why today he is with me and other times he is opposite.

I want to say in our County, because I have been advocating for *jua kali* (informal business) matters we have potential. We have mining especially when you go to those sides of Kamahuha we have those people who deal with stones, quarry waste. We have all these things. I can remember that all these things are being done by one person, instead of trying to get a way to accommodate most of our youths.

*Mheshimiwa* (honourable) Murigi has talked about our mangoes, the juice and others. All these things should be accommodated in our County. We should also not forget that most of our very talented youths in some issues, because they can do most of the things that people think they cannot. In that connection I feel very happy today. If this Motion s implemented as Hon. Stephen said, not only passing here in the Floor, but implemented, we shall be very grateful and God will bless us.

In our County we have idle lands and we can use those lands and form those cottage industries so that our people will be in a good way. As I sit down am very grateful and thank you.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Thank you too.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** This House stands adjourned until 2:30 this afternoon.

*The House rose at 10: 06 a.m.*