

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANGA COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Thursday, 8th June 2017

The House met at 2:39 p.m.

(Temporary Speaker Hon. Beth Ngugi in the Chair)

PRAYERS

STATEMENTS

HOUSE BUSINESS ON WEEK COMMENCING 13TH TO 15TH JUNE 2017

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: On behalf of the House Business Committee, I wish to give a statement on the business that will be discussed by the House on the week starting from Tuesday 13th June 2017.

MOTION

NOTING THE CONTENTS OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND
FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON VISIT TO BRADEGATE FARM, NYERI

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: I wish to move the motion;-

That this House notes the contents of the agriculture, fisheries and livestock committee on a visit to the Brade Gate farm laid on the table of the Assembly on Tuesday 6th June 2017.

Under the chairman's leadership, the committee visited Brade Gate farm where a lot of activities on value addition are done by one of the entrepreneurs. We would wish this House notes the contents to enable our recommendations be implemented.

Madam Chair we learnt a lot on coffee, value addition in chicken rearing, projects for the youth of Nyeri where people learn how to rear chicken and value addition for coffee, the college is useful

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Order! Honourable Mwicigi, with all due respect we do not have Madam Chair, we have Madam Speaker, Mr. Speaker

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: Obligated; thank you for that correction, I am sorry about it. When the committee wrote this paper, we had the intention that it will be adopted to cater for the school leavers from class 8, form 4 and other university leavers interested in agriculture.

Through value addition, we saw that nothing is lost, they make cow feeds from the chicken bones and it is a highly processed product. The proprietor informed us that he is not meeting the demand from Nyeri hotels and he is even being requested to supply in Nairobi.

Besides the college, we found not only the youth even the elderly and the women can go there and learn good husbandry on their dairy farming and on how to start small industries like the bakery; this is because this farm has started a bakery along the road and a hotel as well where most of their products are consumed.

The value chain starts from the college to where the products are reared and processed up to the hotel. The proprietor of that college is gaining a lot. This is because when he does not sell the products as a whole the yield is high, when value addition is done. I recommend that this report be noted. I request Honourable Lucy Njoroge to second the motion as a sit down.

Hon. Lucy Njoroge: Thank you Madam Speaker, I would like to second the motion.

My prayer is to the government and more so to the County Executive Committee (CEC) member for agriculture to act on this as soon as possible. This will be of help to the youth and other interested people; it will also reduce idleness. I second the motion.

(Question Proposed)

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Thank you Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this motion and to support the report about the Brade Gate Farm. Mr. Speaker---
Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Order!

(Hon. Martin Mwangi laughed)

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Madam Speaker you know we are----- This is a very good report because when we talk about the Murang'a county we know her backbone is agriculture.

Before I continue I seek your permission Madam Speaker, to welcome our students and lecturers from Michuki Technical Institute. You are welcome in Murang'a county assembly as you are part of us. It is also my prayer that soon some of you will be members of this House if you continue praying, welcome.

As I continue contributing towards this motion concerning the Brade Gate which is a model farm where they have been practicing chicken, dairy and coffee farming. When you visit that farm, you might think that you are in Israel because of what they are doing; even though I have never been in Israel, I have learnt what is done in Israel through Google.

If Murang'a county can embrace this report since we have Mariira farm which has enough acreage we can also do chicken, coffee and tea farming besides dairy farming. Mariira is referred as a research institute but when you visit there you will find it is an ordinary farm just like mine as a member.

This report can help Murang'a county government if implemented. I am sure in the next five years this farm known as Mariira will become a model farm in our county and I am sure our youth, women and men and especially the men because they are mostly forgotten, and there are many problems in that because as men nobody is considering us.

This will help the farmers in Murang'a county so that our farming can add value. People from Murang'a are known as hard workers. The problem is the value addition to the farming we are doing.

We even partner with the institutions we have, right now we have the Michuki Technical Institute and Murang'a University and some colleges surrounding us. If we can partner with them I am sure they can help the county. Also the private farmers, if we partner with them they can help us achieve our goal.

Madam Speaker as I conclude, I am sure most of us are breaking to go and do farming like I. I am sure I have something to do in my break, because I am a very serious farmer and I am sure if this report is implemented in the county I will join the club of millionaires and billionaires in the county. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Yes, Honourable Ngugi.

Hon. John Kiarie: Thank you, I wish to add my voice on this very crucial report and also congratulate the agriculture committee headed by their able chair who is absent, for the good work and reports they have been bringing to this House.

If this report is implemented it will go a long way to alleviate poverty and help our people in this county and country. I would also wish to congratulate my able Honourable Martin and wish him well as he goes into farming and as he becomes one of the leading entrepreneurs and farmers in this county.

This report is great and we all know the tradition of our people is farming. Poultry farming is not new; in every home and farm in this county we have chicken, goats, cows so it is not a new concept, but Madam Speaker, for a very long time our people have been doing it in a local way. If we can get the right technology, knowledge, expertise it will go a long way to assist our people as it is being done by this institution.

Madam Speaker, if a company or a group of people can do what it has been done in Nyeri, the county government should even do much more.

I think and hope that now the committee on agriculture has visited so many projects outside this county, it is the high time that the county practices what is on the papers, reports and shelves so that the next generation our people will not go to Nyeri, they will get that knowledge right here in the county. As a county that prides of being an agricultural county we should actually be leading. I think this report is a move in the right direction.

As I conclude, I wish the students of Michuki Institute well in their endeavours. It is also good to note that, for a long time, we have been receiving primary and secondary school children; it is great that we have a technical institution which has visited us.

As an Assembly, we believe in their county and we wish them and their lecturers well. We look forward to them as the next generation; they shall be the greatest beneficiaries of what we are discussing today. I rest my case. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Hon. Members, I will ask the mover of the motion to respond.

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: Thank you Madam Speaker, I wish to respond. I thank all those who have contributed for this motion, we are glad that you feel the need to adopt this report. We are aware and agree with you 100% that Mariira should be turned into farm land like the Brade Gate.

Madam Speaker, we noted that the Brade Gate Farm also gives finances to those entrepreneurs who would like to start projects which they are sponsoring so long as we will sell the products to them.

As we said, we would like to start one in our county rather than welcoming them to come and take all the resources back to Nyeri. We would like our government and the one that will come to start Mariira college to do whatever is done. We can borrow a leaf from them; they said that they can also train our agricultural extension officers so that they can train the trainees.

Hon. Joseph Njoroge: On a point of order Hon. Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Resume your seat Honourable Mwicigi. What is it Honourable Njoroge?

Hon. Joseph Njoroge: Madam Speaker, is it in order for Honourable Kirigwi to enter this Assembly dressed casually? He is the Honourable Member for Kinyona ward, it is very worrying to have our students in attendance see Honourable Members dressed as he is.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Honourable Kirigwi, you are out of order, you are asked to go out and dress properly; you know the dress code. Honourable Mwicigi, proceed.

(Hon. Charles Kirigwi left the Chambers)

Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi: Thank you Madam Speaker, we have to observe the decency of this House. Thank you that the members feel that we need a training centre like this and just to remind them, it was there.

When I was growing up, my mother used to go to Mariira to learn how to cook well and how to do a few things in agricultural technology and they should go back to that.

In our budget, there is something to support the Mariira Farm. I know it is going to be done because agriculture is the backbone of the Murang'a economy.

Madam Speaker, allow me to also extend my appreciation to the technical school, Michuki technical school and since most of them have reached the age of voting, tell them that they vote wisely and know where their parents are going, including the teachers.

Thank you Madam Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Beth Ngugi): Hon. Members, having no other business this afternoon, this Assembly stands adjourned until Tuesday the 13th June 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

The House rose at 3:00 p.m.