

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MURANGA COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**THE HANSARD**

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018

The House met at 2:40p.m.

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

PRAYER

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**DEMISE OF RENOWNED MUSICIAN JOSEPH KAMARU**

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Honorable members, it is with great sorrow that all of us learnt of the passing of one of the Murang'a greatest son; the late Joseph Kamaru. As you all know him he was number one in Kenya's and particularly Kikuyu music. He was the greatest and difficult to replace. His songs and music were not just for entertainment and dance, he was a composer like no other in Kikuyu. The lyrics in songs were advisory in all aspects of life, politics, family life, social life, leadership, love and romance and marriage.

The words in different songs fitted all circumstances and people of all ages. He advised people to work hard and respect theirs and other peoples work no matter how humble that are *wira no wira (work is work)*

. Kamaru was a poet extraordinary; his knowledge for Kikuyu language, wit, vocabulary, idioms, proverbs, history and botany; Kamaru knew almost all Kikuyu trees and plants; which ones were medicinal, them that were poisonous and use of every tree and all other aspects of culture can only be compared to William Shakespeare in English language. His mastery of guitar was legendary. Like Jim Reeves his music is classic and will outlive him for many decades. The songs he sang in 60s are as relevant today as were then.

Honorable members, to remember this and pay homage to this great son I would like us to take a moment of silence just to remember him.

*(Members remained silent for a moment)*

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

**PETITIONS**

PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF MANGOTO, KIMORORI/ WEMPA, MARAGUA SUB-COUNTY IN MURANG'A COUNTY.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish to report that on September 03, 2018 the County Assembly received a public petition submitted by residents of Mangoto Kimorori/ Wempa, Maragua Sub-County in Murang'a County. The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of lack of access to clean water and monopoly of a borehole in Kamiigua community by an individual. I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 26 petitioners.

The petitioners confirm that the issues in respect of which the petition are not pending before any Court or legal body.

The petitioner's prayer is;

- 1.To be allocated funds to facilitate supply of water to their homesteads.
- 2.Develop a well-structured control system to ensure adequate supply of water to stop an individual from harassing the entire community.
- 3.To inform the community on the progress

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the Petition is hereby committed to the Water, Energy, Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 (2) the Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of the Assembly.

#### PUBLIC PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF NGILELYA VILLAGE, ITHANGA WARD, GATANGA SUB COUNTY

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Honorable members, we have also received a Petition Pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish to report that on September 03, 2018 the County Assembly received a public petition submitted by residents of Ngilelya village, Ithanga Ward, Gatanga Sub- County.

The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of Ngilelya borehole which is the only source of clean and safe water for Thungururu Secondary School, Ngilelya dispensary, Ngilelya market and the surroundings, which broke down early this year and has not been repaired.

I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 21 petitioners.

The petitioners confirm that the issue is not pending before any Court of law or constitutional legal body. The petitioner's prayer is that; That the Assembly helps to resolve the matter since currently there is acute shortage in the above mentioned institutions and for the community as well.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216, the Petition is hereby committed to the Water Energy, Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources Committee Sectoral Committee.

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 the Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of the Assembly.

#### PUBLIC PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF GIKUNDU FARMERS-THAILAND IN MBIRI WARD, KIHARU SUB COUNTY.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish also to report that on September 03, 2018 the County Assembly received a public Petition submitted by residents of Gikundu Farmers-Thailand in Mbiri Ward, Kiharu Sub County.

The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of conversion of Agricultural Training Center to Murang'a Sober Rehabilitation Center without community involvement while the center was meant to enhance food security for the area.

I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 22 petitioners. The petitioners confirm that the issues in respect of which the petition are not pending before any Court or legal body.

The petitioners prayer is; that the Assembly looks into the matter and updates the community on the feedback and the way forward for the once agricultural center.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216, the Petition is hereby committed to the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Sectoral Committee.

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 the Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of the Assembly.

**PUBLIC PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF MURANG'A COUNTY ON IMPOSITION OF HIGH WATER BILLS, WATER DISCONNECTIONS AND WATER SHORTAGES EFFECTED BY THE MURANG'A WATER AND SANITATION COMPANY (MUWASCO).**

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** In addition Honorable members, pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish to report that on October 01, 2018 the County Assembly received a public petition submitted by residents of Murang'a County

The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of imposition of high water bills, water disconnections and water shortages effected by the Murang'a Water and Sanitation Company (MUWASCO).

I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by five petitioners.

The petitioners prayer is;

1. That, the Assembly considers the tough time residents go through to pay water bills and give them value for their money.
2. That, the Assembly considers revising the hiked water bill charged by MUWASCO
3. That, the Assembly should give orders to MUWASCO to stop disconnecting water from various premises.
4. That, the Assembly sees that residents get quality, reliable and consistent water supply.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the Petition is hereby committed to the Water Energy, Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources Committee

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 the Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of the Assembly

**PUBLIC PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF KAMBIRWA, MBIRI WARD, KIHARU SUB-COUNTY ON CONVERSION OF KAMBIRWA HEALTH CENTRE MATERNITY WARD TO A DISABILITY UNIT**

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Finally Honorable members, pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish to report that on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 the County Assembly received a public petition submitted by residents of Kambirwa, Mbiri Ward, Kiharu Sub-County.

The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of conversion of Kambirwa Health Centre maternity ward to a disability unit without community involvement, resulting to the suffering of expectant mothers who have to travel to Murang'a General Hospital which is a longer distance.

I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 28 petitioners.

The petitioners confirm that the issues in respect of which the petition are not pending before any Court of law or any legal body.

The petitioner's prayer is; that, the Assembly intervenes and helps find answers and solution for women and unborn children from the area who are suffering and in need.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the Petition is hereby committed to the Health Services Committee.

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 (2) the Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of the Assembly.

### NOTICES OF MOTION

#### ADOPTION OF A REPORT OF EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE, RESEARCH, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND E-GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE ON A CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL TRAINING IN MOMBASA COUNTY

**Hon. Waithira Ndung'u:** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I beg to lay notice of the following Motion;-

That, this House adopts the report of the Education and Child Welfare, Research, Information Technology and E-Government Committee on a Consultative Meeting with The County Executive Department of Education and Technical Training in Mombasa County laid, Thank you Honorable Speaker Sir.

### STATEMENTS

#### REQUEST ON EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION CENTRES (ECDE) IN ITHANGA WARD.

**Hon. Waweru Mwangi:** Pursuant to Standing Order 46 (2) (c), I hereby request for a Statement from the Chairperson Education and Child Welfare. Research, Information Technology and E-Government Committee on the following;

1. Is the Chairperson aware that the County Government of Murang'a constructed Kasarani and Rubiru/Mugumo ECDE Centres in Ithanga Ward, the facilities lack the following;
  - a) The centres are not fenced at all
  - b) The learners sit on the dilapidated floor since the facilities lack chairs/desks.
  - c) The ECDE toilets are being used by members of the public since there is no fence.
2. Is the Chairperson aware that the two care givers in the two ECDE centres are currently being paid by the parents?
3. Is she also aware that almost all ECDE Centres in Ithanga Ward are densely populated with over 60 pupils in one classroom?
4. Is she aware that in Mianyani, Mugumo and Thungururu ECDE Centres the enrolment is 115 pupils per class?

**Hon. Waithira Ndung'u:** Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I will kindly request for two weeks from now I will liaise with CEC Education and then give the response in this House.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** Hon. Waweru is that okay?

**Hon. Waweru Mwangi:** That is in order.

### MOTION

#### ADJOURNMENT MOTION TO EULOGIZE JOSEPH KAMARU

**Hon. Morris Thuku:** Mr. Speaker following the demise of one Joseph Kamaru, I hereby rise to move the Motion of adjournment to eulogize the one Joseph Kamaru pursuant to standing order 35(1).

Aware that Murang'a County has lost one of their own legendary benga artist and a Kikuyu elder the late Joseph Kamaru who passed on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018, further aware that he will be laid to rest at his farm at Kaharati Murang'a County on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018, in this regard and pursuant to Standing Order 35 this House adjourns to eulogize the late Kamaru.

Mr. Speaker Sir, as we all know it takes long to realize the invaluable gift the almighty God has awarded us. Kamaru was a gift to us during his life, his presence was felt and after his demise the void left can hardly be filled.

Summing up Kamaru's life I keep coming back to one thought, being bold enough to live the life of your dreams according to your mission and purpose. Barely will you meet a man who lives as faithfully as Kamaru did. Recording nearly 4000 songs and other unrecorded 3000 songs. Addressing morality and offering life teachings is not a mere joke. In fact many musicians die without hitting a quarter of what Kamaru did. His teachings through the songs will manifest the minds of upcoming generations. Indeed he will continue doing in death what he was doing in life.

I was not lucky to meet him in person but I learnt about his songs during my teenage life. This makes me feel like I had a personal relationship with him. I could sing some of his songs with a lot of ease. My favourite song is a proverbial one *Muti uyu mukuona* and *muhiki wa mikosi*.

I regard Kamaru as our Ken Rodgers. He was serious and disciplined man, resting at his age speaks it all. In fact most of our musician rest at a very tender age. In spite of his age he never resisted the opportunity to have a laugh with friends and loved ones. I watched him being interviewed at Jeff Koinange Live in one of local TV shows and I was surprised he was such a good dancer; his twist moves were unmatched and fun to watch despite his old age. He left fans with broken ribs when he outdid his host in dancing moves. It is a blessing to see his songs being used by priests to preach the gospel. Recently one of the catholic priests from the diocese of Nyeri was trending for using Kamaru's songs in his preaching. It is undisputable that his lyrics were full of wise words and counsel indeed Kamaru was larger than life.

Being a friend and a hero from Murang'a we urge Youth, Sports and Cultural Committee to come up with creative ways of how our heroes can be honoured with lifetime memories including but not limited to Murang'a cultural day. Recently we lost Kenneth Matiba and earlier on John Michuki who attracted country wide attraction. These are just a few who have died in our times. Others like Dr. Gikonyo Kiano deserve a collective way of remembering them. I believe the committee through their able chair will do a wonderful job in this.

As we stand in this honourable House today to remember and commemorate his death, his life. Let us bid him farewell as we mourn the loss of a lively and dignified soul, a soul that brought joy and fulfilment to many and whose legacy will live forever. May his family be consoled too.

With your permission Mr. Speaker, I would like to honour Joseph Kamaru with the help of Hon. Waithera Ndung'u by doing a song "*Mweterere ni mukwona*". In memory of his famous twist moves. Hon. Waithira Ndung'u please come forward.

*(Laughter)*

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** As she seconds the Motion.

**Hon. Morris Thuku:** Please come forward second and have a dance.

*(Laughter)*

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** *Nitukwona maundu umuthi*

**Hon. Waithira Ndung'u:** Thank you Ho. Speaker, for giving me this chance and I second the Motion. Kamaru is my immediate neighbor where I reside in Muthithi with Hon. John. He is a guy we will remember, with one of the niece we went to school with Florence Bernard. As a teacher we remember many songs which he sang about “*Mwalimu ni weka wega....ndari ya mwalimu ni weka wega*” thank you so much I second the Motion.

Thank you.

*(Laughter)*

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** I thought you were giving us a duet.

*(A member played a song on his phone)*  
*(Members rose to dance)*

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** No dancing. Thank you very much.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Pelagiah Muthoni:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to join the family of Kamaru as we wish the family comfort at this time. I remember I joined Kamaru one time as we were celebrating the raising of the flag that used to be done in Mt. Kenya by a hero of the name Muniyao; that was in December 1969. I was in Narumoru and I joined Kamaru as we celebrated the raising of the flag. It has been a long time. That is the time I met him and he was a young man. We are so grateful and for now let him rest in eternal peace. We are so grateful after a long time. Thank you.

**Hon. Murigi Amos:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I take this time to convey my sincere condolences and that of my family, that of my ward Kimorori/Wempa and those of my fellow members who most of the time support our course. I take this opportunity to deliver our heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Joseph Kamaru Wanjiru. Actually he is an icon and as we say, it is very hard to replace Joseph Kamaru wa Wanjiru.

In my sense and thought, I know you are young in age. I think it is only I and my sister and age mate Hon. Pelagiah. Sometimes we had personal experience with Kamaru. Kamaru was so brave that in 1975 when J.M died; he was a very close friend to the founding father of this nation Mzee Jomo Kenyatta. When J.M died he broke that relationship. We were very young and was very inspired by that song, which was some sort blaming the government at that time; he had that courage.

Remember after Kenyatta was Moi era. He was very close but come the fight of multipart, he was the only person who would dare Daniel Arap Moi and tell him that Kenyans don't like him and is hated by Kenyans. He was that brave and today there are very little people who are that brave as Kamaru. We are gifted as a County because we are gifted with so many musicians like Ndichu, Mwalimu, Wanjaro and the rest that have passed. Kamaru, I know in his prime age he was able to mentor so many of them. Most of the successful musicians they also attribute it to the mentorship from late Kamaru.

I think this is also a challenge to the rest who are still living like DK; they are still there. We still have somebody like Kariuki wa Kiarutara and the rest. They can also, as Kamaru did to them, mentor the upcoming musicians.

I am supporting this Motion so that we can be able to remember Kamaru. We will bury him on Thursday and chances are, as Kenyans, we forget very fast. We would hate to forget the late Kamaru wa Wanjiru and the best we can give to him is to make sure that we indeed do something as a County, especially assisting the upcoming musicians because I know that some of them are of little means.

As we maybe come to the next financial year, it is important as an Assembly to set something aside so that even if we develop a studio, we can be able to assist the upcoming musicians. With time, I know God is there, we can maybe actually be able to replace Kamaru if we definitely assist the upcoming musicians. Through that, we are going to keep alive the spirit of Kamaru. With that, may his soul rest in eternal peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. James Karanja:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker; I am the Member of County Assembly (MCA) for Kamahuha Ward. As I oppose this Motion, our brother has been sick for almost nine months and this Assembly was not in a position to listen or take prayers to his house. We Kenyans are fond of doing a lot of stories like the *Mheshimiwa* (honourable) for Kiru Ward who has talked but has not even seen this man. Therefore, it is a pity. This Assembly should be remembering people when they are alive but not when they are dead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Waithera Ndung'u:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I just had to correct my Hon---

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** I hope it is a Point of Order.

**Hon. Waithera Ndung'u:** Yes, it is a Point of Order to our Hon. Wakabera (Hon. James Karanja). It is not a must you visit this family as a group in Murang'a County, you can as well personally go. We might not shout, we might not send photos to be seen where we are going. Maybe many like *mwalimu* (teacher) here have personally done it. Next time, please do it personally because even when bowing before God, you bow alone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** I am sure Hon. Kabera has been there. If there are no other contributors, we can go to the next Motion. Next Motion, Hon. Milkah.

### MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

TO ADJOURN ON 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018 TO 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018

**Hon. Milkah Ngare:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion:-

That, aware that Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 has been declared a public holiday, and cognizant of the fact that Murang'a County has lost one of its sons, a veteran artist, the late Joseph Kamaru who passed on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018, pursuant to Standing Order 33 on adjournment to a day other than the next normal sitting day and in accordance with the calendar of the Assembly; this Assembly adjourns today Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October to allow Members of the County Assembly to attend his funeral which will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and then Assembly will resume on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October, that is next week at 9:30 a.m. I hereby call Hon. John Ruoho to second the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Ruoho Wangechi:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am from Kinyona Ward and I stand to support that Motion and also add that this weekend happens to be a very busy weekend for Members, especially as representatives of the County Assembly because apart from tomorrow being a public holiday, we shall be attending the burial of legendary Kamaru on Thursday. The same day, we shall be joining Hon. Sabina Chege family in the mother's memorial and also their

father's thanksgiving. Therefore, this happens to be a very important weekend and I support the adjournment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** I suppose silence means that the Motion is passed and in any case, there is no question put. Is there any other business?

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker (Hon. Nduati Kariuki):** In that case Hon. Members, the House adjourns until Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 9:30 a.m. Thank you.

*The House was adjourned at 3:20p.m.*

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the petition is hereby committed to the Water Energy, Forestry, Environment and Natural Resources Committee Sectoral Committee.

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 216 (2) the Committee shall in not more than sixty calendar days from today, respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the table of the Assembly.

End take one 9.10.18