

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 26th February 2020

The House met at 2:35 p.m.

[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Ruoho Wangechi) in the Chair]

PRAYER
PETITIONS

**PETITION ON CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSES AND A KITCHEN IN WANJEGI ECDE
CENTRE IN WANGU WARD**

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Ruoho Wangechi): Honorable members, Pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish to report that on 5th February 2020, the County Assembly received a public Petition submitted by parents of Wanjengi primary school-ECDE centre in Wanjengi sub location, Wanjengi location, Wangu Ward. The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of construction of classes and a kitchen in Wanjengi Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centre in Wangu Ward.

I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 30 petitioners. The petitioners confirm that the issues in respect of which the Petition are not pending before any Court of law. The petitioners' prayers are that;- the Assembly takes action and make sure that funds are allocated for construction of classes and a kitchen in Wanjengi primary ECDE centre.

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the Petition is hereby committed to Education and Child Welfare, Research Information Technology and E-government, 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.

PETITION ON CONDITION OF ACCESS ROAD TO GATHAMBA VILLAGE IN WANGU WARD

Pursuant to Standing Order 214 (2) (b), I wish to report that on 5th February 2020 the County Assembly received a public Petition submitted by residents of Gathamba village, Wanjengi sub- location, Wanjengi location. The petitioners draw the attention of the Assembly to the matter of making Gathamba access road passable. I further wish to state that the Petition is signed by 27 petitioners. The petitioners confirm that the issues in respect of which the Petition are not pending before any Court of law. The petitioners' prayers are that;- the Assembly takes action and makes sure that funds are allocated for purposes of rehabilitating and constructing the road. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 216 (1), the Petition is hereby committed to the Public Works, Roads and Transport 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.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON A VISIT TO THE BRADEGATE FARM, NYERI

Hon. Charles Kahoro: Thank you Mr. Speaker I read the Motion that:-

This Assembly adopts the Report by the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee on a visit to the Bradegate Farm, Nyeri laid on the Table of the Assembly on 18th February 2020. On behalf of the Committee it is my pleasure duty to present to the County Assembly the Report of the Committee on visit to Bradegate Farm Nyeri on 20th September 2019.

The purpose of the visit was to learn, one, poultry farming among other agricultural related activities. Out of the Committees mandates we learnt that Bradegate International college/farm is a Technical Vocational College which opened its door in September 2013 mainly to pursue the registration and accreditation process before formerly registering students in 2014. The Vision of the school 'to be a leading International Technical College' which is driven by the Mission 'to provide quality technical programs and entrepreneurial skills that will enable learners to realize their full potential and become agents of social economic transformation'.

We had objectives of the study that was to learn and identify the best practices for poultry farming and also to make recommendation on how the County Government can enhance poultry farming among the households.

Our findings. Advantages of poultry farming over other farming activities;

1. Poultry is easy to raise than any other type of farming.
2. There are higher profit margins in large scale poultry.
3. Poultry offers rich nutrients, manure that's required in crop farming
4. Chicken farming is an activity that has provided employment opportunities

As a Committee we went ahead and found out that there are some challenges that hinder the farming, like disease, weather and market just to mention a few. We also learnt that there are types of chicken breeds including layers, broilers, Kroilers, new improved kienyenji. Layers are the egg producing breeds while broilers are only kept to provide meat. Kroilers consist the breed between layers and broilers thus having features of both. We also learnt that diseases that affect the chicken are--- poultry is affected by various diseases that threaten growth and development. They include market, Newcastle that is well known here as 'kihuruto', infectious bronchitis, fowl typhoid, infections coryza.

We learnt that poultry is a commercial farming practice that can be applied in the society to eradicate poverty and solve the problem of unemployment among women and youths. People lack knowledge regarding poultry farming procedures thus they encounter loss through diseases and poor infrastructure. There is unutilized market for chicken product as there is inadequate supply to meet demand.

We as a committee recommended to the Executive;

1. That the County Department of Agriculture should initiate poultry promotion among the County residents by proposing budgetary allocations. The budget should be utilized to give interested groups chicks to start enterprises. The result would be eradication of poverty, enhancement of food security and reduction of unemployment rate.
2. We also recommended that the Department of Agriculture should also promote poultry farming by equipping extension officers with resources to mobilize and train residents on the modern approaches to the practice. The County Executive should devise ways of marketing County's Agricultural produce such as planning agricultural shows and exhibitions. The farmers would be encouraged and motivated through such activities. Having recommended

that, we are anticipating that the County Department of Agriculture will look into this Report and will honour the recommendations that the Committee has given and, thus, I call upon Hon. Alex Ndunda to second the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Alex Ndunda: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am a nominated Member of the Agriculture Committee and as I stand to second this Motion from my Chair. It is true that we did visit that Bradegate and we learnt a lot. It is a place whereby every other person should go and get something. Why am I saying this? Because this institution is expert in poultry farming, this is a very simple farming that can be done by the locals. It should be encouraged. The County Government should take it seriously because it is as if poultry farming has been left to some people who are rear thousands of birds. Even the old *mamas* (women) can do this farming and earn some money.

Therefore, I encourage our County to take poultry farming seriously and if possible, assist us with technical advice so that we can also generate some money. The other thing is that this institution is a challenge to us because it is in Nyeri County. We should be having such institutions in our County because we can take our people there and learn. We should not be going to other Counties to study about poultry, we should be having an institution whereby we can send our people to go and learn the types of breeds, diseases and everything. I stand to second this Motion and say that Bradegate have done a lot and it is a nice place. They also have better assistance and it is a challenge to us as a County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Ruoho Wangechi): Yes Hon. Mweri.

Hon. Peter Mweri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I am the Member of County Assembly (MCA) for Rwathia Ward and first, I congratulate the Agriculture Committee for their visit because I was going through the Report and it is very educative and very soon, I think I will also start poultry farming. But if you go to the challenges, the Chairman talked about one of the challenges being diseases and one of the diseases is market. Maybe he can clarify what type of disease is called market. The other thing he has talked about is the college itself is in Nyeri. Probably, for future reference, he can state which part of Nyeri the farm is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Ruoho Wangechi): Thank you, yes Hon. Member for Ithanga.

Hon. Waweru Mwangi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker I stand here to support this Report, I have gone through this document and I have noted that if this Report is adapted and implemented it will bring employment to our people. As you are aware, our youths are lying idle out there, you go to shopping centres and you see them all over, and if they are engaged in this project, I will say it is good because chicken rearing, you can start with as little as 10 chicken and the business will grow. Secondly, this business is supporting our government policy on food. If it is done all over it will provide food to our people and in the process and when people eat healthy. This country will save a lot in terms of foreign currency because we will not import drugs for the sick because they are healthy people. It is one of the poverty reduction activities that the government is encouraging so that our economy can grow. With that, I support this Report and pray that everybody supports it and gets it adapted.

Hon. Erick Kimani: Mr Speaker, I wish to thank the Committee because they have done a commendable job and the Report is very comprehensive and conclusive. Mr. Speaker, despite

the challenges that have been mentioned by the Committee in this Report, poultry farming is a project that is very beneficial, if our young people and even the middle aged can engage in poultry farming, it has many advantages right from eggs, meat, manure that it gives and the profits from this project. Mr. Speaker, my worry is, we have such good Reports is whether any of us in this House, either individually or as a group will adopt the Report and implement, because Mr. Speaker as we commend the Agriculture Committee which should be giving regular Reports on agriculture, value addition and such because in our County we are in an agricultural County and if we can invest in value addition right from crops and animals Mr. Speaker our people will get a lot of wealth Mr. Speaker. My advice to the Committee is that they do a lot of research and bring us as many Reports as possible and out of these Reports Mr. Speaker a Member can advise a group from the areas we come from or a Member can do the project on his or her own. So Mr. Speaker I support the Report and commend the Committee for the good work.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Ruoho Wangechi): I request the mover to respond

Hon. Charles Kahoro: Thank you Mr Speaker, I stand here to give thanks to the honourable Members who have contributed to the Motion. Honourable Mweri for the oversight that you have seen, but Mr. Speaker, it was a typing error, it is not market but the disease is called marek. He also wanted to know where the farm is, and it is situated between Marwa on your way to Nyeri you divert towards Chaka that is the road to Nanyuki and on the left side there is a sign post showing where the farm is.

I thank Hon. Waweru for the comments and say that they are quite in order. We as a Committee are equal to the task and we know that we will be able to give more of this kind of Reports. To the Hon. Erick, the worry is about value addition and implementation of this Report. I feel that we have Implementation Committee that should keep on following these Reports because they are very vital if they are implemented. On side of value addition, my Committee is committed to do much more research and of late we have been going around looking for these kinds of institutions where we can learn about value addition and in future, I know we shall bring more and more of this kind of Reports.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all for their commitment and their input towards the Committee's Report. I also thank my Committee members for the work that we have done together and also for the way they have shown commitment towards this Report. Thank you very much.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Ruoho Wangechi): Hon. Members, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow 2:30 p.m.

The House rose at 3:00 p.m.