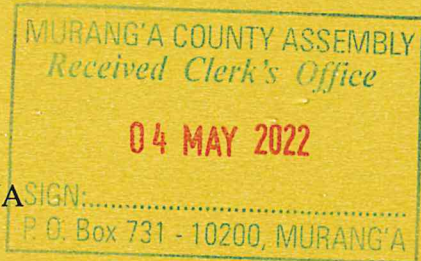


SPECIAL ISSUE

Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 4 (Murang'a County Bills No. 2)



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

SIGN:
P. O. Box 731 - 10200, MURANG'A

KENYA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT

MURANG'A COUNTY BILLS, 2022

NAIROBI, 3rd May, 2022

CONTENT

Bill for Introduction into the County Assembly of Murang'a—

PAGE

The Murang'a County Agroecology Development Bill, 2022 1

1911 JAN 10

**THE MURANG'A COUNTY AGROECOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
BILL, 2022**

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

PART I—PRELIMINARY

- 1—Short title.
- 2— Interpretation.
- 3—Object and purposes of the Act.
- 4—Application of the Act.

**PART II —ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS THE
BOARD**

- 5—Establishment of the Board.
- 6—Functions of the Board.
- 7— Composition of the Board.
- 8— Powers of the Board.
- 9—Vacancy of the Board.
- 10— Terms of office and Conduct of the Board.
- 11— Remuneration of the Board.
- 12—The Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

PART III—ROLE OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- 13—Allocation For Organic Agriculture.
- 14— Role of Murang'a County Government.
- 15— Organic Farming Unit.
- 16— Collaboration on Organic Agriculture.
- 17— Partnerships and MOUs.
- 18—Collaboration of Farmers.

PART IV— PROMOTION AND MARKETS

- 19— Promotion of Organic Agriculture.
- 20— Promotion of Sale of Organic Products.
- 21— Organic Production Management Systems.
- 22—Balance of Supply and Demand.

23—Improvement of agricultural Practices.

24—Promotion of Organic Produce.

25— Value Addition of Organic Produce.

26— Use of Public Land for Organic Farming.

27— County Planning Framework.

PART V—LICENCING AND REGISTRATION PROVISIONS

28— Licenses Issued by the County Government.

29— Renewal of Licenses.

30— Offences.

31— Registration of Dealers.

32—Database of Growers.

PART VI—PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING

33—Sustainable Agriculture Practices.

34— Certification of Natural Organic Standards.

35— Packing and Processing of Organic.

PART VII—FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

36— Quality Assurance.

37— Food Safety and Packaging.

38—Packaging and Storage.

39—Trainings on Agroecology.

40—Traceability of Produce.

41—Produce Inspectors.

PART VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

42—Annual Report of the Board.

43— Regulations.

**THE MURANG'A COUNTY AGROECOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
BILL, 2022**

A Bill for

AN ACT of the Murang'a County Assembly to provide for the development, promotion and regulation of the organic food industry, to provide for the establishment of the agro ecology development and marketing board, in furtherance of the relevant provisions of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and for connected purposes

ENACTED by the County Assembly of Murang'a, as follows—

Short Title

1. This Act may be cited as the Murang'a County Agroecology Development Act, 2022.

Interpretation

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires —

“agroecology” means the interdisciplinary combination of agronomy, agriculture, scientific ecology that integrates practices of organic farming, regenerative agriculture and aspects of permaculture;

“aggregation center” means an area established close to growers for bulking of produce for purposes of collecting, marketing and enforcement of quality standards;

“board” means the Murang'a County Agroecology Development and Marketing Board established under section 5;

“county executive committee member” means the member of the Murang'a County Executive Committee for the time being in charge of Agriculture;

“certification” means organic certification process for producers of organic food and other organic agricultural products;

“dealer” means a natural person, a company or a firm engaged in propagation, of seed material, collecting, transporting, storing, buying or selling organic and shall include an exporter, importer, processor or a produce and marketing agent;

“dealing in organic produce” means growing aggregation, transportation, packing storage, selling, processing, exporting and importing organic proucend products for purposes of trade but does not include dealing for household consumption;

“grower or producer” means any person who cultivates organically either crops, livestock or aquaculture under the agro ecology system referred to in this Act;

“inspector” means an officer of the board or Murang'a county government appointed in writing to be an inspector for purposes of this Act;

“marketing agent” mean a natural person, company or firm engaged in buying organic produce for sale in the domestic market or export market;

“organic agriculture” means a holistic production management system which promotes and enhances agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity, emphasizes the use of management practices in preference to the use of off-farm inputs, taking into account that regional conditions require locally adapted systems;

“organic produce” means all produce of crops, livestock or aquaculture production and produced under the standard international agro ecology principals and standards;

“organic standards” means the existing and known international organic standards and protocols in which Kenya subscribes to;

“traceability” means the ability to track organic produce and process owner from production to the final consumer or vice versa;

“produce handling facility” means an area where organic produce is assembled for purposes of grading, sorting, packaging or storage.

Objectives and Purposes of the Act

3. The object and purpose of this Act is to —

- (a) promote and enhance agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycle and soil biological activity;
- (b) encourage uptake of organic farming and organic products of at least 30 percent in the County;
- (c) inform, train and educate the residents of Murang'a County on the benefits of organic farming and quality control mechanisms;
- (d) ensure that organic produce of the county meets the quality standards and regulations of the international markets;
- (e) integrate organic production courses and farming units in technical training institutes across the county; and

- (f) encourage research and partnership with international, regional and national stakeholders in developing natural pesticides and herbicides.

Application of the Act

4. (1) This Act shall apply to all crops, livestock and aquaculture and any other agricultural produce and products and to all farms whether privately or communally held as well as to growers, grower organizations, co-operatives and community associations dealing with agro ecology within the boundaries of Murang'a County.

(2) The Act shall also apply specifically to all produce emanating from agroecology—

- (a) grown, processed or marketed in Murang'a County; and
- (b) imported to or exported from Murang'a County.

PART II—ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS THE BOARD

Establishment of the Board

5. (1) There is established a board to be known as the Agro Ecology Development and Marketing Board.

(2) The board shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal, and shall in its corporate name be capable of —

- (a) suing and being sued;
- (b) taking, purchasing or otherwise acquiring, holding, charging and disposing of movable and immovable property;
- (c) borrowing money upon concurrence of Murang'a County Government or making investments;
- (d) entering into contracts; and
- (e) doing or performing all other things or acts necessary for the proper performance of its functions under this Act, which may lawfully be done or performed by a body corporate.

Functions of the Board

6. The board shall perform the following functions —

- (a) regulate the agroecology sub- sector, products and marketing promotion of agroecology;

- (b) collaborate with other relevant agencies to promote the trade in agro ecology and its products including trade agreements, marketing, organizations and cooperatives;
- (c) advise the county government of Murang'a on all matters relating to agro ecology;
- (d) liaise with the private sector and other agencies on matters relating to marketing of products of agroecology in order to limit duplication of efforts and ensure optimal use of available resources;
- (e) co-ordinate and mobilize resources for investments and promotion of marketing of products of agroecology;
- (f) facilitate the marketing of products of agroecology through provision of market information intelligence and the supply and demand at both the local and national level;
- (g) in collaboration with the local technical vocational and educational training stations, relevant national research centers and the local institution of higher learning conduct studies and research designed to promote value addition and marketing of produce of agroecology;
- (h) facilitate the development of skills and adoption of appropriate value addition technologies before the marketing;
- (i) promote the adoption of standards and best practices in all in all sub sector production and processing activities;
- (j) support and advice on infrastructure improvement in the sub sector that improves manufacturing, processing and trade;
- (k) promote insurance enterprise schemes that reduce risks in the sub sector;
- (l) collate and disseminate data and information on agro ecology and its products for use by all stakeholders;
- (m) advise the County Governments on levies, fees and charges for purposes of planning and enhancing harmony and equity in the sub sector;
- (n) develop and promote systems that will enable reduction of post-production and harvest losses; and
- (o) facilitate the establishment of strategic business partnerships.

Composition of the Board

7. (1) The Board shall consist of the following members—

- (a) a chairperson;
- (b) the County Executive Committee member in charge of Agriculture or their representative;
- (c) the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Finance or their representative;
- (d) three persons appointed by Murang'a County Governor taking consideration the principal of gender, youth engagement and regional balance and having experience in agroecology;
- (e) two persons nominated by the organizations with presence of activity on agroecology promotion within Murang'a County;
- (f) one person nominated by the umbrella Kenya Organic Agriculture Network or any other national umbrella body registered in Kenya with a national appeal in production, processing and or trade in agroecology or organic agriculture;
- (g) the Chief Executive Officer recruited by the board who shall be an *ex-officio* member of the Board.

(2) The chairperson shall be appointed by the Governor with approval of the County Assembly.

(3) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as a member of the Board under sub section (i-) (d), (e) and (f) if that person —

- (a) is a state or public officer;
- (b) is a member of a governing body of a political party;
- (c) is an un discharged bankrupt; or
- (d) has been removed from a public office for contravening the Constitution or any other law.

Powers of the Board

8. (1) The Board shall have all the powers necessary for the proper performance of its functions under this Act and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Board shall have the power to —

- (a) manage, control and administer its assets in such a manner and for such purpose as best promotes the purpose for which the Board is established;
- (b) receive gifts grants, donations, or endowment made to the Board and make disbursement therefrom;

- (c) enter into association with other bodies or organizations within or outside Kenya it may consider desirable or appropriate and in furtherance of the purpose for which the board is established; and
- (d) undertake any activity necessary for the fulfillment of its functions.

Vacancy of the Board

9. (1) A member of the Board other than an *ex-officio* member shall cease to be a member of the board if such person—

- (a) is unable to perform the functions of the office by reason of mental or physical infirmity;
- (b) is adjudged bankrupt;
- (c) is convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to a term of imprisonment not less than six months;
- (d) is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without good cause;
- (e) resigns in writing by a notice addressed to the County Governor;
or
- (f) is removed in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

(2) The Board shall be properly constituted notwithstanding a vacancy in its membership.

Terms of Office and Conduct of the Board

10. (1) The chairperson and the members appointed under section 7 (i), (d), (e) shall hold office for a term of three years renewable for one further term only.

(2) The Board shall conduct its affairs in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule and shall sit at least once every quarter of calendar year or three months period, but subject thereto, the board may regulate its on procedure.

(3) The Board may establish committees for each produce as may be necessary to enable the carrying out of any specialized activities with respect to the promotion or management and the membership of the committee shall be drawn from the Board.

(4) The organic farming unit under Section 15 of the Act shall at as the secretariat of the Board.

(5) The Board may, with the written approval of the CEC engage the services of experts of any of its functions in which the experts have special competences.

Remuneration of the Board

11. The membership of the Board shall be paid such sitting allowances and reimbursement for expenses as may be approved by the County Public Service Board and in consultation with relevant circulars issued by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Board

12. (1) There shall be a Chief Executive Officer of the Board who shall be appointed by the Board through a competitive process.

(2) The Chief Executive Officer shall be an *ex-officio* member of the board and whose functions shall be —

- (a) operations of the Board;
- (b) administration, organization and control of staff of the Board;
- (c) management of property and affairs of the Board;
- (d) implementation of the policies and program of the Board;
- (e) development of operation plans for achieving the boards objectives; and
- (f) performance of any other duty necessary for the implementation of this Act as may be assigned to the Chief Executive Officer by the Board.

(3) The Chief Executive Officer shall submit to the Board for approval not later than three months before the commencement of each financial year a program of activities of the Board in respect of that financial year.

(4) A person shall for appointment as the chief executive officer if that person—

- (a) is a citizen of Kenya;
- (b) holds a minimum of a bachelor's degree in—
 - (i) agriculture or agro business;
 - (ii) agro ecology;
 - (iii) business or marketing; or
 - (iv) any other relevant field;

(c) has not less than five years' experience in the agroecology sciences and/or organic agriculture fields.

(5) The chief executive officer shall hold office on such terms and conditions of employment as the board in consultation with the County Public Service Board may determine.

(6) The Board may remove the Chief Executive Officer from office in accordance with the terms and conditions of service on grounds of—

- (a) inability to perform the functions of the office arising out of physical, or mental incapacity;
- (b) gross misconduct misbehavior;
- (c) incompetence or neglect of duty or
- (d) any other ground that would justify the removal from office under the terms and conditions of service.

(7) before removal under subsection (6) above—

- (a) the Chief Executive Officer shall be informed in writing of the reasons for the intended removal; and
- (b) given an opportunity to put in a defense against the allegations.

PART III— ROLE OF MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Allocation for Organic Agriculture

13. (1) The county executive member shall set-aside at least ten percent of the agriculture sector budget to support and promote organic farming.

(2) The allocation shall be expended for the following functions —

- (a) training and sensitization of farmers in organic farming;
- (b) to facilitate extension services to organic farmers;
- (c) provide subsidies and economic support to organic farmers;
- (d) any other projects and programs under this Act; and
- (e) organize annual trade fairs for promotion and exhibition of organic products.

(3) The County Executive Member shall formulate regulations to operationalize section 2 (c) of the Act.

Role of the County Government

14. (1) Pursuant to the Fourth Schedule of the constitution, the county government will implement the national governments policies to the

extent that the policies relate to the County and in particular shall be responsible for —

- (a) establishment of fora for coordination of agroecology development partners and service providers;
- (b) mapping and alignment of all agroecology and organic projects and programs to existing government policies;
- (c) regulation and enforcement of national standards related to organic agriculture and agroecology production, handling marketing and food safety for local trade;
- (d) collect and collate production and marketing statistics for planning and sharing with industry players; and
- (e) facilitate establishment of infrastructure for produce from agroecology aggregation centers, transportation, processing and storage facilities.

(2) In execution of the roles provided in sub section (1) the county may establish technical working groups to provide for technical guidance in the agro ecology matters in the County.

Organic Farming Unit

15. (1) The County Executive Member shall establish a unit within the agriculture department in charge of organic agriculture.

(2) The unit shall be in charge of the overall organic agriculture in the county, but in particular shall—

- (a) ensure compliance to approved standards of organic inputs to the farmers;
- (b) encourage the farmers to use on farm organic input; and
- (c) provide training and basic infrastructure to the farmers for making on farm organic input.

Collaboration on Organic Agriculture

16. (1) The County Government shall collaborate with relevant stakeholders on—

- (a) training;
- (b) research;
- (c) monetary and input investments; and
- (d) markets.

(2) The county may in accordance with regulations made under this act and subject to any other law, put in place programs for ensuring the provisions of the following incentives and facilities to growers —

- (a) affordable farm inputs including quality seeds, planting materials and market linkages; and
- (b) technical support including linkages to research and extension services.

(3) The County Executive Member shall prepare and present annual reports on any ventures under subsection (1) and (2) on engagements with stakeholders with regards to organic agriculture.

Partnerships and MOUs

17. The County government shall enter into partnerships and memoranda of understanding with international, national and local organizations to encourage and promote organic agriculture in the county.

Collaboration of Farmers

18. The County government shall encourage organic agriculture farmers to collaborate with regards to organic input and output for economies of scale and marketing the organic produce.

PART IV—PROMOTION AND MARKETS

Promotion of Organic Agriculture

19. (1) The Board shall promote and register all organic produce and products produced in accordance with existing certification marks including geographical indication and regions to enable traceability.

(2) The Board shall coordinate and be the lead agency in promotion of marketing of organic production under agro ecology locally and at national and international level for Murang'a County.

(3) The Board shall collect and collate data and market intelligence for advisory and market intelligence.

(4) The Board shall be responsible in development of strategies in collaboration with the county government to promote private investments and in particular —

- (a) continuous data capture and updating;
- (b) planning production and marketing and input estimates and financial services; and
- (c) quality assurance and traceability.

Promotion of Sale of Organic Products

20. The county government shall adopt marketing policies of organic products produced in the county in local, national and in international markets.

Organic production management systems

21. The county shall promote agricultural production management systems which adopt the approach of agronomical, biological, and machinery operation that uses natural resources.

Balance of Supply and Demand

22. The county government shall uphold the balance of principle of supply and demand in promotion of organic agriculture by —

- (a) proceeding with the development and implementation of new technology prudently and reasonably;
- (b) improving production techniques and product quality;
- (c) making the organic agricultural products accessible to consumers; and
- (d) broaden the understanding and gaining consumer trusts.

Improvement of Agricultural Practices

23. The county government shall continuously ensure the improvement of agricultural practices, research and development of agricultural technologies, and personnel training for organic agriculture and organic agricultural products.

Promotion of Organic Produce

24. (1) The county government shall ensure the promotion of organic agriculture in learning institutions.

(2) The Board shall in collaboration with local institutions of higher learning develop memoranda of understanding on collaboration and development of curricula and assessment guides for practical courses in agro ecology.

Value Addition of Organic Produce

25. (1) The County government shall promote the value addition and encourage cottage industries for the processing of organic agricultural produce, provided that the value of organic produce shall be maintained.

(2) The County Executive Member shall enact regulations for the value addition and processing of organic produce in the county.

Use of Public Land for Organic Farming

26. The Executive Committee Member in charge of lands and Executive Committee Member for Agriculture shall collaboratively map out suitable public land or lands of state-owned enterprises suitable for agricultural production shall be prioritized for the establishment of organic agricultural promotion zones and organic agriculture.

County Planning Framework

27. The County Executive Member shall ensure that organic agriculture shall be part of the County Planning Framework.

PART V— LICENSING AND REGISTRATION PROVISIONS

Licenses issued by the County Government

28. (1) A person shall not produce, handle, process, transport, market, or deal in any way with organic or and produce or produce from agro ecology within the county unless that person is registered by the Board and the county government.

(2) The county and the board shall issue producers license, brokerage license, transporters license, processors license, marketing license and an exporters license.

(3) A person shall not process, import or export organic or any other produce of agro ecology or product unless they possess a valid license issued under this Act.

Renewal of Licenses

29. (1) An application for renewal of a license shall be made to the board or the county government not later than two weeks after the first day of the month of July in which the current license.

(2) A late application may be made provided that a late application fee of five percent of the prescribed application fee is paid.

Offences

30. A person who contravenes any provisions of this section commits an offence and shall upon conviction be liable to imprisonment for term not exceeding one years or to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings or both.

Registration of Dealers

31. (1) A dealer shall not conduct any business in respect of agroecology or organic produce or product unless that that dealer is registered by the county government in accordance with this Act.

(2) The Board or the county governments may register organic or agro ecology producers, produce handlers and marketing agents supplying produce for the domestic markets—

- (a) packing facilities supplying produce to the domestic markets;
- (b) farm inputs producers, distributors and supplies; and
- (c) processors and promoters.

Database of Growers

32. (1) Every grower shall be registered by the Board or the county governments as the case may be and where the farm is located for purposes of—

- (a) continuous data capture and updating;
- (b) planning production and marketing and input estimates and financial services; and
- (c) quality assurance and traceability.

(2) The County Executive Member for the time being responsible for Agriculture may prescribe regulations for registration of growers.

PART VI—PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING

Sustainable Agriculture Practices

33. (1) The Board shall in collaboration with the County government develop and implement a sustainable organic and quality inputs supply system.

(2) All growers of organic produce under agro ecology production may use inputs from sources registered under the board.

Certification of National Organic Standards

34. The Board in collaboration with the County Government shall register and monitor a certification schemes to be established in conformity with national and international market requirements for organic production in Kenya.

Packing and Processing of Organic Produce

35. (1) Packing, processing and storage of export organic produce and products shall only be conducted at premises registered and licensed the county government.

(2) A person who contravenes the provision of this section commits an offence and shall on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand or to both.

PART VII—FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality Assurance

36. (1) The Board in collaboration with the County government shall ensure produce and products for domestic and export market conform to quality standards in line with this Act.

(2) The Board in collaboration with the County government shall set strategies for monitoring and evaluation of set standards in the value chain.

Food Safety and Packaging

37. All dealers shall ensure for purposes of food safety —

- (a) produce and products are handled, graded, packaged, transported and stored in a manner to prevent product contamination; and
- (b) all personnel handling organic produce shall meet personnel hygiene standards.

Packaging and Storage

38. The Board shall prescribe the requirements for packaging, labelling, transportation and storage of all organic products under the agroecology system.

Trainings on Agroecology

39. The county government in collaboration with other agencies, the board and private sector undertake regular trainings to growers under agroecology.

Traceability of Produce

40. The Board in collaboration with the county government shall ensure implementation of traceability standards of the produce and products.

Produce Inspectors

41. (1) The Board in consultation with the CEC may appoint qualified inspectors as inspectors for quality control of produce for purposes of this Act.

(2) For purpose of section 39 (1) the Board shall set the qualification for the inspectors.

(3) A person duly appointed as an inspector may—

- (a) enter any farm or building occupied by the holder of a license issued under this Act or a person registered under his Act;
- (b) make such inspection and enquiries as the person may deem necessary for ascertainment whether the provisions of this Act or the items and conditions of the respective license or registration are being complied with.

(4) A person who hinders or obstructs any person duly exercising or attempting to exercise any of the powers conferred by sub section (3) or who fails to give any information reasonably required commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand or to imprisonment not exceeding one year or both.

PART VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Annual Report of the Board

42. (1) The Board shall, not more than three months after the end of each financial year, prepare a report setting out—

- (a) the description of the board's activities during the year;
- (b) whether the objectives of the board for the year under review were met and the reasons why any targets were not achieved;
- (c) the progress made towards the improvement of the agro ecology sub sector;
- (d) efforts made to achieve the challenges by both the Board and the county government;
- (e) any further efforts relating to the functions which may be necessary to achieve the objectives of the Board;
- (f) recommendations on any legal and administrative measures necessary for the objectives to be fully met; and
- (g) any other information relating to the function of the Board.

(2) The Board shall publish and publicize all important information within its mandate affecting the agroecology sub sector.

(3) Any person may request for information from the board and such request shall be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer.

Regulations

43. The County Executive Member in charge of Agriculture may in consultation with the Board make regulations for the better carrying out the functions under this Act.

SCHEDULE

Conduct of Business and Affairs of the Board

1. (1) The Board shall meet not less than four times in every financial year and not more than two months shall elapse between the date of the one meeting and the date of the next meeting.

(2) A meeting of the board shall be held on such date and at such time as the chairperson shall appoint.

(3) Unless the majority of the membership of the Board otherwise agree, at least fourteen days' notice of every meeting shall be given to every member.

(4) The chairperson shall on the written application of at least one third of the members convene a special general meeting of the Board.

(5) The quorum for the conduct of business of the Board shall be one half of all the members.

(6) The chairperson shall when present, preside at every meeting of the board but the members present shall elect one member to preside whenever the chairperson is absent, and the person so elected shall have all the powers of the chairperson with respect to that meeting and the business transacted thereof.

(7) Unless an unanimous decision is reached, a decision on any matter before the board shall be by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting and in case of an equality of votes, the chairperson or the person presiding shall have a casting vote.

(8). subject to sub paragraph (5) no proceedings of the board shall be invalid by reason only of a vacancy among the members thereof.

2. (1) A member who has an interest in any of the matters present in a meeting shall at the meeting and as soon as reasonably practicable after the commencement disclose the fact thereof and shall not take part in the consideration or discussion of, or vote on , any questions with respect to the that matter or be counted in the quorum of the meeting during consideration of the matter.

(2) A disclosure of an interest made under sub paragraph (a) shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is made.

(3) A member of the Board who contravenes sub paragraph (a) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand shillings or both.

3. Any person or instrument which, if entered into or executed by a person not being a body corporate would not require to be under seal, may be entered into or executed on behalf of the board by any person generally or specifically authorized by the Board.

4. The board shall cause minutes of all meetings of all resolutions and proceedings of the meetings of the Board to be entered in books kept for the purpose.

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill of the County Assembly of Murang'a that seeks to provide for the development, promotion and regulation of the organic food industry, to provide for the establishment of the agro ecology development and marketing board, in furtherance of the relevant provisions of the fourth schedule to the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and for connected purposes;

PART I of the Bill provides for preliminary matters including the short title, commencement and the interpretation of words and expressions used in the Bill and the objects and purpose and application of the Bill.

PART II of the Bill contains provisions the establishment, functions and powers of the Board including the role of the Board in the development of agroecology, terms and conduct of the board, remuneration of the Board and the tenure of the Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

PART III of the Bill contains provisions on the role of the county government, the collaboration of organic agriculture, partnerships and MOUs, as well collaboration of Framers.

Part IV of the Bill is concerned with promotion and markets, and specifically promotion of organic products, organic agriculture and the balance of supply and demand, the improvement of agricultural practices and the promotion of agricultural practices produce at all levels, value addition use of public land for organic farming and the county planning framework.

Part V of the Bill contains licensing and registration provisions, licenses issued by the county government, renewal of licenses, offense and creation of a database for growers.

Part VI of the Bill contains production and processing provisions on sustainable agricultural practices, certification of natural organic standards and packing and processing of organic produce.

Part VII of the Bill contains food safety and quality assurance specifically on the packaging, trainings on agroecology, traceability of organic produce, and a provision on produce inspectors to ensure organic standards are maintained.

Part VIII of the Bill contains miscellaneous provisions including the annual report of the Board and regulations.

This Bill is not a money Bill within the meaning of Section 21(4) of the County Governments Act, 2012 and its enactment shall not occasion additional expenditure of public funds.

The Bill does not contain provisions limiting the fundamental rights and freedoms set out under the Constitution.

Dated the 28th March, 2022.

CHARLES KAHORO,
*Chairperson, Agriculture,
Livestock and Fisheries Committee.*