

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

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024

The Assembly met at 9:55 a.m.

*[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta) in the Chair]*

**PRAYER**

**PAPER**

REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS UNDER THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

**Hon Hillary Muigai:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper;-  
That, the Report of the Implementation Committee on implementation status of adopted resolutions under the department of Education and Technical Training.

Thank you

*(Hon. Hillary Muigai laid the Paper on the Table)*

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS  
UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL  
TRAINING

**Hon Hillary Muigai:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to give a notice of Motion on the following that; -

This Assembly adopts the Report of the Implementation Committee on implementation status of adopted resolutions under the department of Education and Technical Training, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

Thank you.

## MOTION

### ADOPTION OF REPORT ON PROGRESS OF PROGRAMS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND E-GOVERNMENT FOR THE PERIOD JULY TO DECEMBER, 2023

**Hon. Moses Mirara:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion; -

That, this Assembly adopts a Report of the sectoral Committee on Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) and E-Government on its consideration of progress of programs by the department of Information, Communication Technology and E-Government for the period of July to December 2023, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday April 9, 2024. I want to read through this huge document that I have but I will be brief enough for the benefit of members to get involved on what is going on in the ICT platform.

At the beginning of the current financial year, the department on ICT presented to the Committee an annual work plan containing the programs that they intended to deliver to the residents of this great County. The work plan was in line with the financial estimates and therefore there were resources allocated to carry out the tasks as planned.

Hon. Speaker, I am glad to report that the department has worked within the work plan and has in some areas exceeded the expectation. Their delivery level is high and I remain optimistic if the department keeps delivering at the pace they did during the first half of financial year, then we are going to have the county government operations fully automated within a very short time.

Hon. Speaker, the work plan had focused mainly on automating the County Government operations. The plan had earmarked critical areas of revenue collection, health sector and land sector as priority areas where the automation was to be done.

Hon. Speaker, I am pleased to submit that all the priority areas have systems in place and running. Despite a few teething problems, the priority areas are now digitized. There are other areas where the automation has taken place like on fleet, Murang'a Youth Service management system among others. I call upon the department to hasten automating the remaining sectors.

Finally, there's need to keep on improving on the existing systems. This will ensure any challenges that may arise are addressed and as result of continuous improvement the County will gain optimum benefits from the information.

Hon. Speaker, for the benefits of members, let me highlight the progress in implementation of the work plan. The department submitted the following report showing the progress made in

implementing the work plan for July 2023 to December 2023. And as indicated Hon. Speaker on a table detailing on program and vote, status and remarks, I want to read through a few and I want to encouragement members to read through the table as indicated.

Hon. Speaker on fleet management, the status is complete and the cost was 2.1 million and supplier is awaiting payment. Hon. Speaker on issue of procuring ICT equipment to all health facilities, it has attracted a cost of 77.6 million and all these things have been delivered to all sub county hospitals and awaiting delivery to other health facilities.

Hon. Speaker, there is land management system which is complete and didn't attract any cost because it was done by our staff. And so, Hon. Speaker I would encourage other members to read through the other programs and their votes and maybe if there is a matter that they need some clarification I'll be able now to clarify later.

Hon. Speaker, there's another table showing what the programs intend to achieve and Hon. Speaker if I highlight on a few, there is a program on development of County fleet management system that is in the department of transport. And the project fleet management system actually improved performance of drivers and improved maintenance of the vehicles. Hon. Speaker, the fleet management system was implemented and employees were trained on how to use the system effectively.

Hon. Speaker, the other program that I want to highlight is health. Hon. Speaker as indicated here; the hospital management system has achieved a lot. One of the achievements is it has provided critical patient information in emergency situations, monitored and reduced patient waiting time to appointment procedures and consultations. Optimized the allocation of resources including staff, equipment and facilities. And finally, ensured timely restocking. On remarks Hon. Speaker, the health staff trained to effectively use the system consume time and resources. The system was tailored to specific needs.

Hon. Speaker, I would wish to encourage Members to read through the other programs because they are very critical but I want to touch briefly on the history and development of the ICT infrastructure. Procurement of ICT equipment to all health facilities has been done and equipment delivered to Murang'a level five hospital. Further, the equipment had been delivered to all sub- County hospitals. The Committee noted that the equipment had not been delivered to other health facilities, other than the referral hospitals and sub-County hospitals.

Hon. Speaker, (b) hospital pay bills have been acquired for all sub-County hospitals and Murang'a level four hospital and integration completed; hence they are currently in use. C, cloud hosting; the necessary facilities have been put in place and operationalized and it is complete. The County data is safe and secure. Hon. Speaker, let me get to automation of the County services. The County Government has embarked on automation of County services. This has seen the County develop some systems and acquire others to ensure automation is taking place. The analysis of implementing management information systems has been done per department and the Committee satisfied itself on progress made on this front as follows;

On health department, the hospital management system, this is the system that is currently in use at Murang'a level four hospital and all sub- County hospitals. The system in place as Afia Care which is in collaboration between Ministry of health at the national level and department of Health at the County level. The system is beneficial to the County as it provides critical patient information in emergency cases. Further, it monitors and reduces patient waiting time for appointment procedures and consultation. The system has optimized the allocation of resources including staff equipment and facilities. It has also ensured timely restocking of pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals. For optimum utilization of the system, healthcare staff were trained to effectively use the system. Further, the system was tailored to the specific needs. So, it is elaborate and effective on the intended use.

On e-procurement portal, the County Government digitalized hospital procurement to promote transparency, equality and efficiency. Besides enabling smooth procurement processes, the system is also integrated with health management systems to help in inventory management. Further, the system helps in record keeping for audit purposes. On maternal program management system, this is a system that is raised to help manage maternal programs. The system was brought on board following a maternal support program which was introduced by HE the Governor which aimed at encouraging expectant mothers to visit antenatal clinics and deliver in hospitals. The added advantage of the system is that community health workers are able to on board expectant mothers to the system and hence to the program.

Hon. Speaker, I will not dwell on transport department which includes fleet management systems but I wanted to bring to your attention on the land management systems. Land issues have been a quagmire to this County. This system that is aimed at managing land within the County. The system will assist in maintaining accurate records of land ownership, boundaries and land

rates. Further, it will provide valuable data for urban and rural planning which will facilitate informed decision making. The other advantage of the system is that it will ensure accurate and up to date property records and valuation information. The system will eliminate traditional paper-based land systems; thus, enabling resolutions of land related conflicts with clear documentation and evidence. Honourable Speaker, my Committee made the following observations; one, the automation process is within the time frame and the work plan, two, hospital management system is experiencing down time once in a while. Three, personnel are not very conversant with the health management system thus a challenge while operating the system. On number four, there is need to expedite installation of health management systems to all health facilities across the County. The public is not aware of the system processes hence encounter challenges. There is also an observation that there are many systems in operation within the County. Honourable Speaker the new County website is long overdue and we need to improve on it and open another one, number eight there is a number of existing systems that members are not acquainted to.

Honourable Speaker, in that, we made some recommendations to the relevant authorities be carrying out continuous improvements of the systems that are already in place for optimum operations. Secondly, consider establishing a hybrid system for manual/offline use during major systems interruption especially in hospitals. Three, we undertake a thorough training of hospital personnel on the system for effective operation. In the meant time, ICT support staff should be deployed in hospitals at all times to monitor the system. Four, we need to prioritize connecting the remaining health facilities to hospital management system since the necessary equipment are already purchased and only installation is remaining. Five, carry out public sensitization program especially on revenue system, lands system and e-Recruitment portal. Six, due to the number of several systems in place, integration is recommended for easier access and monitoring. Seven, ensure that the new County website that is currently on trial is operationalized as a matter of urgency and lastly organize a workshop to enlighten the Committee members on all the existing systems for effective oversight.

I humbly request the honourable members to support this Motion and I call upon honourable Mark to second the Motion.

**Hon. Mark Wainaina:** I stand here to support this Motion and Report in regard to the work plan for the ICT Committee on matters touching on automation of programmes in the executive. I really want to commend the members of this House for agreeing to come up with this Committee because

it will enable us to continue monitoring the automation of programmes that are happening in the County Government. Secondly, I wish to commend the Governor for taking the bold step to automate County services and programmes because one of the greatest benefits of automation is you reduce incidences of fraud and theft and are able to make sure that there is efficiency in the programme. I will not dwell much because the honourable chair has touched on the issues that we discussed during our Committee but I have a few comments that I will like to make.

You realize that in terms of the systems that we are having, and being implemented in the County Government, we have around ten of them, luckily majority of them have been developed internally and thus you not been able to bear much cost. My challenge to the IT team at the executive and those that are heading them, is try and integrate some of these programs and come up with an ERP, because when you have programs that are disintegrated, it becomes very hard to monitor in terms of security and in terms of access.

Secondly, we touch on the issue of infrastructure, where IT equipment were procured and delivered to County hospital and the sub-County hospital. My challenge is to my colleague MCAs is to make sure that the equipment as proposed, that they have been delivered and make sure that they are in operation. One of the other things that we noted is that we are still having challenges especially at the hospital, especially when the system goes down. Unfortunately, the system is being hosted by the national government and at times you don't have much control over it. So, my challenge is for the team; IT team, is to come up with say an offline system or a manual system where people will still be attended to and then when the systems come up, they can be able to be updated, because you find like sometimes a patient has been sitting for hours just because the system is not working.

The other challenge is that, as much as the system is that good, you say they are as good as the user. If the users are not well trained that's another challenge that we are having. We encourage continuous training of the---- I mean of the users, because some of the issues that you face is maybe a computer has gone off and the user is not sure what is happening. Also increase the number of IT staff to backup those people up there, otherwise----the programs and the ICT programs that have been implemented, I think they are good to my observations. They will really help us improve on our revenue; we must commend that. One of the areas that revenue grew without even adding more revenue streams was the parking management system and the hospital management system. If you're able to gradually automate all other programs, I think we will also be able to hit our

revenue target very easy. As I wind up, let's continue monitoring what's happening in our County and I'm sure we will be able to achieve the targets we have set. Thank you.

*(Question proposed)*

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta):** Honourable members the Floor is now open for debate. Yes Hon. Chefman.

**Hon. Chefman Njoroge:** Thank you very much Madam Speaker. First, I will congratulate my fellow colleagues and Honourable members of the Committee for taking their time and doing the observations and the Committee recommendations. However, as we have been doing this, there are matters arising and I would also like my chair, Committee, to put with amendments the recommendation regarding the government change in terms of the revenue whereby a holding institution like Murang'a level four, is supposed to be holding about 30% of the income, but also, we should be aligned with the same system so that we can be able to fight corruption and as we know, our Governor has been on the forefront by improving the ICT issue in terms of fighting corruption. However, with the Report, something that has come of late, I would request, with amendments that we add the issue of integrating, the revenue collection and the 30% of the institution so that we can be able through the system itself, we are able to do its own monitoring, so that we can be able to achieve what we are saying that fighting corruption and also knowing exactly the 30% when it remains in the hospital, how it will be managed so that it can be improved with the issue of the procurement.

Madam Speaker, I continue just like putting my other recommendation, it is to try and reduce with the recommendation about the ten internal systems. That is a creation of either creating another line for corruption or inefficiency. I think we need to merge and have at least five or three, to avoid unnecessary systems because with the unnecessary system, it can jam or be a creation of incompetence by the members. You know we are coming away from the paper work, not everyone is ready for the change so I suspect if we embrace this which has shown a lot of improvement in terms of revenue collection discipline and time allocation, I think with recommendation is that we can also reduce the number of systems from 10 to at least five and know what is exactly there and I support the seconder because as an ICT expert, I think he can also put more advice. Which are these systems, are they still old systems, are they current and upgraded and such other stuff?

Madam Speaker, I am also on the side of the Committee observation and I am more concerned about our time of service to our client. We need to have a clear charter of time for the services. You will find us in Murang'a County, majority of our women or our people, from our own kikuyu tribe and sorry to use the word kikuyu tribe but you will find most of them do not understand the system; we need to have a monitoring. We need to have efficient, quick to assist old women, sick people about the current system how it is going and until they are used to that. That is not only in Murang'a County level four hospital but other health facilities. You find majority of these old aged people, or even the young ones, have not understood how the system is operating. You will find that for the three hours they will stay there, they do not understand where to follow up. We need to have people on the ground as we are migrating to the ICT but for the manual purpose and the connection within the corridors that we assist our elderly. So that they can not waste a lot of time as we try to migrate. As we have seen in the same recommendations, our hospital personnel should have more improvement in terms of their technical knowledge about the systems and this can only happen if we reduce those kinds of systems they cannot have only one system. It is like accounting, where we have bookkeeping and the rest. So, with those few remarks, I rise to support and I wish our Committee on implementation will put pressure for the implementation and follow up of whatever they recommend. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta):** Hon. Sharleen, I saw you whispering to Hon. Morris, what is it that you would want to tell the House through the Chief Whip?

**Hon. Sharleen Wambui:** Hon. Speaker, you caught me off guard but I rise to support this Motion. It is a good morning because it is a Motion whose time has come. I mean, everything is going digital, we are living in a global economy and I mean, everything should just follow suit. I mean the world is a global village so it's commendable the work Committee has done through my MCA *mheshimiwa* (honourable) Mirara and I just want to encourage the ICT Committee to continue pushing to make sure that even in our Assembly here, everything is digitalized. We should have tablets as members here when the honourable member is making his speech we should be having our speeches here. We are going digital we should not be having the manual papers; I mean we should start from here. So, it is through you Madam Speaker, it is a challenge to the honourable members of the ICT Committee to make sure that honourable members are served with ICT equipment not to use these manual papers. Thank you, honourable Speaker



**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta):** Thank you Honourable Sharleen, the mover can now respond. I think you have also noted that members are lobbying for tablets. I hope you have noted that one.

**Hon. Moses Musa:** Thank you honourable Speaker, I agree with you that members of this House need to be equipped as you have said they need to be equipped because they need to have the documents in time so that they may be able to contribute in this House and I also want to agree with honourable Chefman that more needs to be done and he is a member of this Committee and we should enhance for the retainer of 30% maybe we are going to see because this is an ongoing process, and we need to sensitize our clientele for purposes of making use of the system maybe to reduce corruption and everything especially the health management system.

Honourable Sharleen I want to answer you that a lot of resources have been allocated to improving and making this Assembly paperless, and it is ongoing and maybe by next quarter you will find that we will be so efficient and so effective. Honourable Speaker I want to urge members to support this Motion which will ensure and actually say that the essence of automation is to increase on transparency, accountability, efficiency and the effectiveness and the Committee members need to integrate those systems so that if they become one then we do not have to maybe say this system or that system, we will have it on interface where honourable members can actually also be included to actually so that they follow during the automation. Thank you Hon. Speaker and I rest my case.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

## ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta):** Honourable Members this house now stands adjourned until today Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

*The House rose at 10:35 a.m.*