



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NYAMIRA**  
**THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER**



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**SPEECH BY THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY ON OPENING OF THE  
SECOND SESSION OF THE SECOND ASSEMBLY, TUESDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 2018**

The Esteemed Leaders of the County Assembly;

Honorable Members;

County Executive Committee Members;

Chief Officers;

Invited Guests;

Ladies and gentlemen;

It is with immense gratitude and honor that I welcome you to this opening of the Second Session of the Second Assembly. Your presence here is a true testimony of your individual and collective commitment to the devolution agenda and consequent development of our county.

**Honorable Members,**

Coming out of a long recess, I believe you are all relaxed, re-energized and ready to once again embark on your core mandate of legislation, representation and oversight as enshrined in the constitution of this great nation.

The Public Officers Ethics Act, the Leadership and Integrity Act and the County Assemblies Powers and Privileges Act, 2017 further augment the immense responsibility bestowed upon this honorable House. The overriding tenet in these pieces of legislation notably is integrity which is an invaluable asset in public service.

In this regard I thank the almighty God for keeping us all healthy and reuniting us here today. Just to echo the words of our Assembly prayer may His continued blessings descend upon us here assembled and that He may behold us with abundant favor as we deliberate on matters brought before us in so just and faithful a manner.

**Honorable Members,**

The County Assemblies Service Act No. 24 of 2017 Section 11 (1)(e), obliges the County Assembly Service Board to provide services and facilities that are necessary for the well-being of the Members and staff of the County Assembly. Being cognizant of that fact, the Board has set aside funds for a number of projects that will enhance efficient service delivery to the residents of Nyamira County.

Some of these projects are to be initiated whereas others are ongoing and they include; Construction of offices for staff & MCAs, purchase of a standby Generator, automation of Broadcasting & Hansard Recording, refurbishment of existing County Assembly offices & furnishing and installation and configuration of Local Area Network.

In addition to that all Assembly Ward Offices will be supplied with furniture to beginning tomorrow the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2018. All honorable Members are therefore asked to furnish the office of the Clerk with details on the location of respective offices and contact details.

In order to further enhance the capacity of honorable Members in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities effectively, the Board has and will continuously ensure that Members are apprised on the legislative making processes including introduction of Bills and Motions, the Budget Making Process, the Committee System, the Rules of Debate and various aspects of County Assembly Powers and Privileges. This is in partnership with institutions such as Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST), the Senate, AHADI among others. The CASB in the performance of these functions is guided by the national values and principles of governance set out in Article 10 and the values and principles of public service set out in Article 232(1) of the Constitution.

I won't forget to acknowledge the significant role played by the previous Board in laying down the foundation for some of these transformative projects.

**Honorable Members,**

House Committees are integral in propelling the legislative agenda of the Assembly. Besides participating in plenary sessions, each Member is placed in various committees where they are provided with an enabling platform to handle matters touching on development in various sectors of the economy. Such matters are well articulated in the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution and include but are not limited to agricultural development, regulation of trade within the County, promotion of sporting activities, provision of pre-school education, provision of affordable health care, conservation and protection of water sources, opening and maintaining of county roads and planning and developing urban centres.

The committees act as units of specialization therefore enabling the Assembly to examine a large scope of agenda in reasonable time which would otherwise take ages to be handled on the Floor of the House. The Committees then report their progress to the Assembly and present their reports for debate and adoption.

In exercise of their respective Committee mandates, the Constitution in Article 195(1) and (2) confers upon them the same powers as the High Court which include, the power to summon any person to appear before the Assembly or any of its committees for the purpose of giving evidence and providing information.

The County Assembly embraces and upholds the legal principles outlining the demarcation of roles between the two arms of county government which are the Executive and Assembly. However, it is our collective responsibility even in our respect for the principle of separation of powers to work harmoniously towards the realization of the objects and principles of devolution encapsulated in Articles 174 and 175 of the Constitution.

The Executive is entrusted with implementation of county development agenda whereas the Assembly is tasked with over-sighting the same.

In fact, as a demonstration of its unfettered commitment towards supporting the executive government the Assembly vetted, debated and adopted all the nominees to the cabinet in order to enhance effective running of various departments under their

charge. In this regard I take this opportunity to heartily congratulate the ladies and gentlemen who have been elevated to these coveted positions in the management of our county. Kongole!

**Honorable Members,**

The Assembly received proposed priority shifts in the County Budget Estimates for 2017/18 Financial Year. The Supplementary Budget was committed to the County Budget and Appropriations Committee as required. Indeed, the Committee just like other House Committees held sessions over the recess period and conducted a thorough scrutiny of the revised estimates in consultation with members of the cabinet and is expected to table a report on the Floor of this House for adoption.

I further urge various departments to draft and present to the House legal proposals necessary for the prudent management of public resources in the County. Delayed legislation definitely denies the public much deserved services. In order to demonstrate this, let me single out the following Funds in the Departments of Sports, Gender, Culture and Social Services meant for the Economic Empowerment of People Living with Disabilities (PLWDs) and Credit to Cooperative Societies and Loans for Traders in the Department of Trade, Tourism and Co-operatives Development which could not be disbursed due to lack of requisite legislation for their administration.

On the other hand, I wish to laud the Department of Education and Youth Empowerment for the roll out of Education Bursary Fund which without any doubt will have a great long term effect in promotion of education in the County. I call for continued synergy between the Executive and Assembly to ensure that such important development agenda are implemented without unnecessary hitches.

**Honorable Members,**

In the First Session, the Assembly debated and adopted five committee reports namely:

1. Report of the Committee on Selection on the Composition of the County Assembly Committees
2. Report of the County Assembly Service Board on Recommendation of Board Members

3. Report of the Committee on Appointments on the Nomination and Vetting of Nominees to the County Executive
4. Report of the Committee on Sports, Gender, Culture and Social Services on the KICOSCA/CASA Sports Held in Machakos on 19<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017
5. Report on the Car and Mortgage Management Committee on the Financial Status as at 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

The Assembly further considered three petitions and a number of Statements presented on the Floor the basis upon which some of the above reports were generated. It is now expected that various committees of the House will table their reports on matters deliberated upon during the period of long recess.

Furthermore, honorable Members, you need to note that there is every need to expedite the processing all pending bills and other forms of legislation. Some of these bills include;

1. Public Participation Bill, 2015
2. Revenue Administration Bill, 2017
3. Trade Licensing and Markets Bill, 2015
4. Finance Bill, 2017

Honorable Members, your work is clearly cut out and you are all expected to hit the ground running. In this Session I look forward to introduction of new Bills, generation of more committee reports and other necessary legislative proposals in an effort to delivering efficient service delivery.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

This Assembly recognizes and upholds the Constitutional entitlement of public involvement in the legislative and other business of the Assembly and its Committees. The Assembly conducts its business in an open manner and its plenary sittings and those of its committees are open to the public. On their part, members of the public are encouraged to be proactive and constructive in carrying out their mandate in the process of legislation as enshrined in Article 118 of our Constitution.

I, in the same breath recognize and appreciate the continued cooperation by members of the Fourth Estate in covering proceedings and activities of the Assembly. I

encourage all to uphold, with high regard the prescribed code of ethics and conduct in the discharge of their responsibilities.

**Honorable Members,**

As I conclude, let me emphasize the fact that we are representatives of the people and therefore when we rise to speak, the people should hear their voice. We must always endeavor to act in the interests of the people we represent. You are the voice of the people.

I appreciate and urge the County Assembly staff to continuously facilitate the honorable Members in their duties diligently with a limitless degree of proficiency and professionalism.

I wish you all the best as we look forward to a re-energized and vibrant Second Session.

With those remarks let me now wish all of you all the best in the execution of your mandate.

Thank you all and may God bless the great County of Nyamira.

**THE HON. MOFFAT TEYA**  
**SPEAKER OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NYAMIRA**  
**Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2018**