

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

2<sup>ND</sup> ASSEMBLY- 2<sup>ND</sup> SESSION

**OFFICIAL REPORT**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

*The Assembly met at the Assembly Chamber at 2.30 pm.*

*[Temporary Speaker [Hon. Kenn Mukira] in the Chair]*

Prayer

**QUORUM CALL AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SITTING**

*(There is quorum as confirmed by the Clerk-at-the-Table)*

**Speaker:** Hon. Members, yesterday I directed that yesterday's business that was not transacted would take precedence in today's sitting. However, pursuant to standing order No.

41 (2) Business shall be disposed of in the sequence in which it appears in the Order Paper or in such other sequence as the Speaker may, for the convenience of the Assembly, direct.

I direct that we start with the business in the main Order Paper and then we deal with the business on the Supplementary Order Paper.

**STATEMENT**

**STATUS OF UTILITY LAND IN NDUNYU-NJERU URBAN CENTRE**

Yes member for Murungaru Hon. Kariuki Muchiri

*(Hon. Jecinta Githae rises on behalf of the member for Murungaru)*

*(Hon. Mbogo Mburu rises on a point of order)*

What is it member for Weru?

*(Hon. Kieru Wambui exits the chambers)*

**Hon. Mbogo Mburu:** Mr Speaker the stranger has just left the House.

*(Laughter)*

**Speaker:** I may not have seen the stranger but I have seen an Hon. member that is not in properly dressed. Hon. Jecinta, proceed

**Hon. Jecinta Githae:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I beg to seek leave and ask for one more month to be able to respond to this statement. The executive has not yet responded to us.

**Speaker:** Since the executive has not yet responded, I have given you one more month and we expect the response on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018. Next

## SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER

### STATEMENT

#### 1. POTATO PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN SHAMATA WARD

Yes Hon. Catherine Wairimu Njane.

**Hon. Wairimu Njane:** Thank you Mr Speaker sir, I rise to respond to a statement sought by Hon. James Kiiru Gachomba on proposed Shamata potato industry. Pursuant to Standing Order, No.44 (c) Hon. James Kiiru Gachomba MCA for Njabini/Kiburu ward sought a statement from the chairperson, committee of Trade, Cooperatives and Industrialization and Enterprise Development on the proposed Potato Industry in Shamata ward.

In his statement, the Hon. Member expressed concern on information in the public domain, that the county government shall construct a potato processing industry in Shamata ward. He appreciated that potato farming is the greatest economic activity in Nyandarua and most households across the county rely on it for economic gain and hence a processing industry shall raise the gain for the farmers through value addition. Nevertheless, the Hon. Member raised a concern that the proposed location of the industry has a likelihood of not serving the whole county especially the most productive parts of Nyandarua; Kinangop and upper Oljoro-Orok.

Arising from the foregoing, the Hon. Member sought that the chairperson of the committee on Trade issues a statement providing the following information;

- i. Whether feasibility study was done on the potato processing industry,
- ii. The source of funds and the cost of setting up the industry,
- iii. Information on mapping of potato producing areas and capacity for better production, and
- iv. The status of Midland Limited and possibility of its revival in view of the report and resolution of the First Assembly.

Mr Speaker sir, the committee comprises of the following members.

- i. Hon. Wairimu Njane
- ii. Hon. Milkah Wanjiru Ndirangu
- iii. Hon. Kariuki Muchiri
- iv. Hon. Wanjiru Ireri
- v. Hon. Jane Waweru
- vi. Hon. Samuel Njatha
- vii. Hon. Samuel Mathu
- viii. Hon. Joseph Waithera.
- ix. Hon. Githinji Mwaniki

It is one of the ten committees established under the first schedule of the Nyandarua county assembly Standing Orders. The committee's mandate is as set out on order number 195 (5) is to;

- (a) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- (b) Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- (c) Study and review all county legislation referred to it;
- (d) Study, assess and analyse the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- (e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the Assembly;
- (f) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Assembly to approve; and
- (g) Make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

Mr Speaker sir I wish to Acknowledgement your office and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support accorded to the committee in its pursuit to fully deliver on its mandate.

Mr Speaker sir, allow me to salute the members of the committee and the staff for the commitment exhibited during the committee's meetings that culminated to the compilation of this statement response.

Finally Mr Speaker sir, on behalf of the members of the committee, it is my distinguished duty and pleasure to present to the House the committee's report on the proposed potato industry in Shamata ward for adoption.

Executive Summary; Potato farming is the key enterprise in the county and contributes enormously to food security, income generation and employment in the county. Nyandarua contributes 33% of the potatoes produced in Kenya. The potatoes produced in Kenya have a net worth of Kshs.7.5 Billion in year.

Mr Speaker sir the committee was guided by the statement sought in the House by Hon. Gachomba on the proposed potato industry in Shamata ward. Subsequently, the committee sent a letter to CECM agriculture, livestock and fisheries requesting him to respond on issues as aforementioned.

Mr Speaker, sir, Introduction; potatoes are the second most important food crop after maize in Kenya. It is cultivated by over 8000 farmers in about 35000 hectares. They are mostly small-scale farmers.

Potato production in Kenya is currently worth about Kshs. 50 Billion. This figure can be increased if production and processing is optimized. The major potato producing counties in Kenya include, Nyandarua, Bomet, Bungoma. Elgeyo-Marakwet, Kiambu, Meru, Nakuru, Narok, Nyeri, Taita-Taveta Transzoia, Uasin-Gishu and West Pokot.

Mr Speaker, sir, Research Solution Africa found that potatoes are the second most consumed vegetables in Kenyan households. This superfood is the second most important food crop in Kenya after maize and the fourth most important in the world after maize, rice and wheat.

Mr Speaker, sir, approximately 11 million Kenyans work in the potato production chain. There remain many opportunities for new entrance as the average performance of potato

farming is still low. Kenyans farm averagely 6.7 tonnes of potatoes per hectare. We have a long way to go before reaching average yields in Egypt and South Africa. There are also many opportunities in a value addition that remains unexploited. This is partly because of little production of processor friendly potato varieties in Kenya and use traditional methods of tiling.

Mr Speaker sir, value addition presents new opportunities and a chance to create many more jobs. The following are some of the products that can be made from potatoes here in Kenya.

1. Potato crisps; There are very many companies and factories that make potato crisps. They have been dubbed as king of snack foods.
2. Factory made chips; Industrial scale for final consumers and restaurants. It involves the process of wash, salt, pressuring, slicing and freezing of potatoes
3. Canned potatoes; Potatoes are canned after undergoing pressure-cooking to sort of sterilize them.
4. Potato flour; It is made after crushing and gridding finely whole cooked or raw potatoes.
5. Potato starch; Starch can be used as a biodegradable alternative in making of disposable utensils
6. Animal feed; Besides the potato itself, the waste product from processing of the crop for instance peels can be used to feed livestock. Potato animal feed is a supplement to what farmers feed their animals.
7. Alcohol; Vodka is made by fermenting and distilling potato starch.

Response to the issues raised in the statement.

1. Whether feasibility study was done on the potato processing industry; no feasibility study has been done so far since the same was not factored in the current 2017/2018 budget. However, the project will be factored in in the next budget. The national government has also promised to allocate some funds for the same in the 2018/2019 budget.

2. The source of funds and the cost of setting up the industry; the main financier of the project is the national government with some input by the county government. The estimated cost of the project is Kshs.2 Billion. However, the committee noted that the processing functions falls under the department of trade, cooperatives and enterprise. The department of agriculture has been left with the primary production function.

3. Mapping of potato producing areas and capacity for better production; agricultural extension officer responded that the Irish potato is the main food and food crop for Nyandarua County. He noted that the production of the same in the county faces numerous challenges that impede the realization of the county's full potato production potential. The challenges include;

- Inadequate and inappropriate storage facilities.
- Fluctuating market prices.
- Inaccessibility to clean, good quality seeds.
- High post-harvest losses
- Enforcement of packaging standard
- Low yields
- Pests and diseases.
- Overdependence on rain fed agriculture.
- Poor marketing systems.

- Erratic weather conditions

Mr Speaker sir the officer stated that the department is putting interventions to address the above challenges and that the county is finalizing on the county's potato implementation strategy. They are collaborating with stakeholders both public and private to address the above stated issue while improving on extension service delivery.

Mr Speaker sir next is the potato producing trends. There is the Sub County, acreage, years of the study; 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

The other question Mr Speaker sir was why Shamata ward was chosen. The committee members needed an explanation as to why Shamata ward was picked as the host of the industry. The officer informed the committee that it was a presidential declaration during the campaign visit in the area. However, he insisted that the same was open to change especially after a feasibility study. He said that the study would give more information. Other factors to be considered are availability of land and production capacity of the area. The construction of the industry is estimated to take less than two years though this was dependent on the availability of funds. Status of midlands limited company and possibility of its revival in view of the report by the first county assembly.

Mr Speaker sir the officer noted that the recommendation of the report affirmed the existence of Midlands Limited Company in the county which offers a great potential to the county's economic growth and development either directly or indirectly. This is either by providing ready market for agricultural products locally or for export.

Mr Speaker sir on the part of reviving Midlands Limited Company, the officer informed the members that there is an established Inter-Ministerial Committee amongst the department of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries and Lands Housing and Physical Planning and Trade to investigate on the possibility of its revival and give the way forward to the governor. The committee is being spearheaded by the CECM Trade.

In conclusion, potato farming is key enterprise in the county and contributes enormously to food security, income generation and employment in the county. A potato industry will facilitate collection of potato, grading, storing and selling them through established networks such as supermarkets and hotels. Potato value addition presents new opportunities and a chance to create jobs. This will lead to an increase of farm products prices resulting to farmers earning millions in a single season.

A cooling facility, which can keep potatoes fresh up to three years and a processing factory, will enable farmers to collect and store produce and then release it as per the market demand. The county should therefore allocate funds in the year 2018/2019 to facilitate the feasibility study. This would go a long way in providing information on factors to consider for example availability of land and production capacity of the area. That is all, thank you Mr Speaker, sir.

**Speaker:** Very well, now that Hon. James Kiiru Gachomba is not in the House to say whether he is satisfied, I direct that the office of the clerk to serve him with a copy of the response.

Hon. Members, I will allow a few comments on this emotive issue since potato farming and industry is a crucial sector in our county. Member for Githioro, Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah.

**Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I would like to say that the idea of processing potatoes or value addition for any agricultural product from Nyandarua is more than welcome. However, Mr Speaker, I have a few reservations that should be put into consideration. First, we should not take the president's pronouncement that he is going to assist us get a potato processing plant in Shamata as being absolute. This is to say that the president could have said this because he was in Nyandarua. I think the president would not like to do

anything without carrying out a feasibility study and get to know the comparative advantage of having the same located in Shamata and not in Kinangop or anywhere else.

Mr Speaker, we have been told that 33% of potatoes in Kenya are produced in Nyandarua but the statement has not told us what percentage of the 33% comes from Shamata. We have also been told that there are 35,000 hectares under potato production with a total income of about Kshs. 50 Billion. Mr Speaker we would like to get a breakdown per the sub county to know how this is distributed.

We know that there are factors that influence the location of an industry. One of the basic requirements is the availability of raw materials. We know that Kinangop and Kipipiri would be best suited when looking at that particular factor. Second is the availability of power. We know that Kinangop and Kipipiri lie squarely on the national grid. These are comparative advantages that would not make Shamata the most favourable. We also look at labour. We know that factories are labour intensive and Kinangop and Kipipiri would definitely produce a higher labour force. Looking at the geographical lay to of Shamata, it would be completely wasteful to transport raw material like potatoes all the way from Kinangop to the hills of Shamata than transport them back to the market. It would be a double cost and it would not be advantageous to the farmers. We know that our market is mainly in Nairobi. Even if we would have market in other countries like the US Netherlands and UK, it would not make any sense to get potatoes all the way from Shamata while we could have gotten them easily from about 50 Kilometres from the Capital City.

The other factor is water. We know that Shamata is in Ndaragwa and Ndaragwa is a dry zone. Where will they get water that is going to be used in the industry? We also do not have a site for it. If we had an existing historical site, it would be advantageous to them. When we look at the climate, it is a dry zone that is not favourable for potato farming. So with those reasons, I oppose.

We also look at this being a capital intensive...I am not opposing, I am making my comments. Mr Speaker, you also realize that this particular factory is capital intensive. We have just been told that it will cost Sh.2billion to put up. The chair has not told us which percentage of the Kshs. 2 Billion will be sourced from the National Government and the County Government.

We also know that there is what we call industrial inertia. An industry cannot just exist in an area that does not have any other possibility of having another industry. We know the advantages of having several industries in the same area.

We also know that the same area does not have organizational skills that would maybe influence the location of the same. There are no banking facilities. We know that this being a capital intensive industry, then we expect that there will be a lot of money changing hands because there are labours that need to be paid on a daily basis. I would urge that these points be put into consideration.

Not to mention that we already have an existing factory named Midlands that would require not even a cent to start operation. Let us utilize what we have and after we have utilized it to the capacity, then we can look for a new location. Thank you.

**Speaker:** County member, Hon. Milkah.

**Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu:** Thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity. I am a member of the trade committee, and I want to thank this team because they tirelessly researched for the answers to the statement that was sought by Hon. Gachomba.

I think the member who has just spoken did not read the report well, or if he read it, he failed to understand what a feasibility study is. The report has not said that the industry will be in Shamata. It says that a feasibility study will be carried out to determine where the factory

will be. Therefore, it is important that when we are responding to such, we go through the information.

*(Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah rises on a point of information)*

No, I don't need the information now.

*(Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it member for Githioro?

**Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah:** Is it in order for the Hon. Member to stand here and say the report does not specifically address the location of this factory as Shamata, and even goes ahead to talk about the feasibility study, which they have alluded to in this report?

**Speaker:** Member for Githioro, Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah, I bring to your attention that the feasibility test has not been done, and after it is done, it will be open to any change. Continue county member, Hon. Milkah.

**Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the clarification. I actually repeat again members, let us be reading reports as they are. The Speaker has ruled it right but I would have read the statement that said the feasibility study would be done.

*(Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah, what is it?

**Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah:** Is it in order for the Hon. Member to go to the same topic after you have ruled on it and start addressing me as such?

**Speaker:** County Member, Hon. Milkah, it is not in order to just go back to the issue after the Speaker has ruled, though we are in a learning mode. Continue County Member.

**Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu:** I am not going back to the same point but I want to contribute about Shamata and the feasibility test that will be carried out. When we met the representative from the executive, we put them to task on these issues and they explained why the feasibility test needs to be done. There are many things that need to be considered when such an industry is being set. Therefore, they are in the process of doing that and determining the actual location of the industry.

Water is an issue but Shamata is a water tower. It is not dry. It is a very good place for production. The convenience to the town is also very good. These are some of the issues that the government will be looking at and I do not want to go into details because my work is oversight. They will know what to do and when they bring the report, we are going to look into that issue.

On the issue of Midlands, this is a very viable project that is going to waste. We know the capacity of production of this industry; and when right information will be given, that report will still come to this Assembly. I can tell you that, if we revive Midland industry, we will not even have issues on where to place a potato industry because we will have one in Kinangop and another one in Shamata. If the Government decides to do an industry, it is for our own benefit. There is no harm when we revive the Midland industry in South Kinangop. We have potatoes in Kinangop, Kipipiri and Ol'kalou being processed in that industry and we will also have potatoes from maybe Oljoro-Orok, Ndaragwa and, neighbouring Laikipia and Nyeri being processed in Shamata. Having the two industries in one county will have benefit in the Northern part of Nyandarua and Ndaragwa.

So having looked at this report, we are waiting for the committee that has been set to look into the Midland issue to give us a report. My prayer is that everything be done legally to revive that industry and be put on the table. We know what is right so that our people can benefit.

Mr Speaker, I support this statement as it is. The committee did a lot of research. We knew that there would be politics and therefore tried to be as objective and balanced as possible. That is why we are saying that any resource that comes to Nyandarua belongs to the people of Nyandarua. It does not matter where the resources will be channelled; whether in the dry area where the Majority Leader comes from or the wet area where our Deputy Speaker comes from. They are all in Nyandarua and we shall welcome such initiatives. Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Member for Ndaragwa Central, Hon. Maitai.

**Hon. Mwangi Maitai:** Thank you Mr Speaker for noticing me especially when we look at it from the perspective of independent members because we are usually left out most of the time. Well, I rise, although it is not a motion, to support and congratulate the committee for a job well done. The committee is not biased since its members represent the entire Nyandarua County. They are objective and they did not dwell so much on regional politics.

I think the issue of division of regions is a matter of the past. I also think that that was happening during the First Assembly whereby the wrangles contributed significantly towards the delayed construction of a university. We were supposed to get a university just like other counties but due to these fights, we ended up with nothing. If we start doing that again especially focusing on where the industry will be located, we might end up with nothing. This is a presidential declaration that was done in Shamata. So, let us have this factory in Shamata as we work out on Midlands Company. I think Shamata is in neither Laikipia County nor Nyeri County. It is in Nyandarua. It has met the threshold and the factors of consideration when putting up a factory. The place is connected to the national grid; it has water, available labour and the raw materials, which in this case are potatoes. I beg the Hon. Member who has said that Shamata is a dry place to visit other parts of Ndaragwa. We have two parts of Ndaragwa; one, which is arid, and another that is very fertile. Shamata lies in the latter and it might even be more productive than areas that some of us may have in mind.

For me, I will go for the idea that we try to salvage Midlands Company because we know it has been operating and therefore, through the county or the national government, it is easier to save it as we work out on the pledge made by the President. We do not have a problem if we had two factories; one located in the North and the other in the South. So let us not fight but first receive what we have been given by the President as we wait for other things.

I think everyone is aware that most of the funds will come from the National Government and if we start fighting, we might end up with nothing. We have plenty of land where the factory can be situated. According to the statement, feasibility study will be carried out and therefore, as an Assembly, let us push for this factory to be built in Shamata so that it serves the people of Ndaragwa, Oljoro-Orok as well as Ol'kalou. Midland Company will serve Kipipiri and Kinangop due to their geographical location.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** County Member from Magumu, Hon. Salome Gathoni

**Hon. Salome Gathoni:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I rise to support the report by Hon. Wairimu Njane on the statement sought by Hon. Gachomba. As we wait for the feasibility study to be done, I support the idea. We know the main financier will be the National Government, and therefore we should support this factory because if we continue fighting, we might end up going the same route as the previous regime...

*(Hon. Sambigi Mukuria rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it Member for Githioro?

**Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah:** Mr Speaker, is the Member in order to start supporting and giving her opinions when we know that this is not a motion but we have been given a chance ,to comment on it?

**Speaker:** Hon. Member for Githioro, I think she is just giving her opinions. Yes, it is not a motion but it was my discretion that I allowed members to discuss and contribute on the same. She is giving out her opinion. Continue County Member from Magumu.

**Hon. Salome Gathoni:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I will continue by saying, having been a potato farmer and business lady of the same produce, that I visited Shamata and it is indeed very productive. There are a lot of potatoes and I support the proposal that the factory be located there. The major produce is potatoes in that area. Since a factory cannot run without water, our people stand to benefit, as more water is likely to be channelled there. In addition, we might see more financial inclusion of our people as banks establish themselves there to target the workers of the factory. With that, our people will benefit and the factory will be useful.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

**Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Githinji Mburu, Member for Geta.

**Hon. Githinji Mwaniki:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I am not Hon. Githinji Mburu but Hon. Githinji Mwaniki...

*(Hon. Kamau Kariuki rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it Member for Gathaara?

**Hon. Kamau Kariuki:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I seeking guidance on how many minutes one is allocated to contribute on a statement?

*(The Clerk-at-the-Table consults with the Speaker)*

**Speaker:** Member for Gathaara, it is a good concern about the number of minutes a member is allocated to contribute. For general statements, the Standing Orders allocate three minutes but with the discretion of Speaker, it could be more or less than that. As it stands now, I will only allow two other contributions and comments. Continue Member for Geta.

**Hon. Githinji Mwaniki:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise in support of this report. I am a member of this committee and according to the report, it is apparent that we were neutral. All of us are leaders of this county and I believe that when it comes to having a factory, several factors are worth considering. We are therefore not opposed to the project being undertaken in Shamata but we have to ask several questions. Is land available? Will they be able to sustain the factory? I do not believe that one ward can sustain the factory but I also appreciate that whenever there is such a project, ultimately, there is job creation...

*(Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it County Member, Hon. Milkah Wanjiru Ndirangu?

**Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu:** Is it in order for Hon. Member for Geta to stand in this House and insinuate that only one ward in Ndaragwa produces potatoes? I come from a different ward and I think he should visit and see the production of potatoes there. So, it misleading to the House for the Member to make such an insinuation.

**Speaker:** Hon. Milkah, what the Member for Geta was trying to put forward, based on the document that I have, is that the figures for Ndaragwa Sub County in terms of potatoes

production are given. This could have been the source of his inference. Continue Member for Geta.

*(Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it again County Member, Hon. Milkah Wanjiru Ndirangu?

**Hon. Wanjiru Ndirangu:** Mr Speaker, he categorically said one ward yet we have other wards within Ndaragwa that produce potatoes.

**Speaker:** County Member, Hon. Milkah, once the Speaker has given a direction or made a ruling, the issue cannot not be revisited. Continue Member for Geta.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Githinji Mwaniki:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to inform the member that she is also a member of that committee. We have the research that was handed to us by the County Executive and it indicated potato production for every Sub County. You can see that Ndaragwa has the least amount of potatoes produced compared to all other Sub Counties. So, I do not think...

*(Hon. Mwangi Maitai rises on a point of order)*

**Speaker:** What is it Member for Ndaragwa Central?

**Hon. Mwangi Maitai:** I would wish the Hon. Member to understand that this was a President's declaration. He said the factory should be in Shamata.

Thank you.

*(The Clerk-at-the-Table consults with the Speaker)*

**Speaker:** Okay, Hon. Members, this is a statement and it has not been deliberated on. There is no need therefore to be emotive. The report has just given us room to look into the issue in a deeper way.

Member for Geta, continue.

**Hon. Githinji Mwaniki:** Thank you Mr Speaker for making the matter clear. I believe the Hon. Member for Ndaragwa Central is still in the learning curve.

Conducting a feasibility study is a process and the moment we have decided that it shall be done, it will be the one that will guide us on where the factory will be constructed. We must know whether land is available. Back in our mind, we know that there will be an investors' conference in this County. This is when we shall have a law that will address the issue Public Private Partnership (PPP) so that we can partner with other investors who are willing to invest in such projects. So, there so many issues pertaining to this factory although we are not objecting its construction. With those few remarks, I support.

**Speaker:** Okay, Member for Wanjohi.

**Hon. Isaac Kung'u:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to make one or two comments about this statement. I first want to commend the committee for responding to the statement but I have noted with a lot of concern that the members of the committee have indicated that they have done a lot of research. It is my sincere belief that they are not the ones who were supposed to conduct the research. This was supposed to be done by the County Executive and particularly, the department of Industrialization and Cooperatives. So, it is not the committee. The committee was supposed to bring a report as they received it....

*(Hon. Wairimu Njane rises on a point of order)*

**Hon. Wairimu Njane:** Mr Speaker, I am wondering whether the Member listened carefully when I was reading the report. It said that the Chief Officer for Agriculture did the research and at no one time did I say that we did it.

**Speaker:** Hon. Catherine Wairimu Njane, what was it?

**Hon. Wairimu Njane:** Is it in order for the Member to claim that we, as the committee, said that we have done the research yet it is well indicated in the report that the Chief Officer for Agriculture did it? Actually, I said that thrice. Hon. Member read the report well please.

*(The Clerk-at-the-Table consults with the Speaker)*

**Speaker:** Hon. Isaac Kung'u, Member for Wanjohi, you know that everything that is tabled in this House becomes the property of the House. As for the committee, you have to own that document. Now that this debate is becoming very emotive, Hon. Kung'u, please make your comments in approximately two minutes so that we can cut out the debate.

Continue Member for Wanjohi.

**Hon. Isaac Kung'u:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I think it is in the Hansard that one of the Members who made comments said that it was the committee that did research. I want to say that this is a good report and I am impressed that the committee has been able to answer the reason they chose Shamata ward. They have indicated that finally, it is the feasibility study that will determine the location of the factory, I know it is a requirement that before an industry or factory is set up, a feasibility study should be done. I do not think we need to come here and argue over the issue. If the study shows that Shamata is the appropriate place to set up the industry, then so be it. If it is Wanjohi, let it be because that will have been a technical and professional advice. We will not have to bring regional politics as to where the factory should be or should not be set up.

I also want to indicate that it is misleading to say that the president declared that the industry would be in Shamata. He was only visiting Nyandarua County and he happened to visit Shamata. If he had happened to visit Nyakio, he would have also said that a potato industry would be put up. That does not mean that it would have been set up in Nyakio.

*(Hon. Mwangi Maitai rises on point of order)*

**Speaker:** Member for Central, Hon. Mwangi Maitai.

**Hon. Mwangi Maitai:** The president categorically said, "I am going to put up a potato industry here in Shamata, in this location that I have landed". He did not land in Kinangop neither in Kipipiri nor in Karau.

**Speaker:** Hon. Maitai, anybody can say that it be established anywhere in Nyandarua and we do not want to open this because it is a slippery ground. Continue member for Wanjohi.

**Isaac Kung'u:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I also want to say that the president said they are going to tarmac 6 Km of road in Ol'kalou. It is not only Ol'kalou that will receive the tarmac but the larger Nyandarua County.

I support this but we need to be keen so that when this industry is being set up, the due process is followed, we should especially follow up on the feasibility study. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Members, now that the spirit of this house is to make debates interesting, I think that the matter has rested, thus, this house will wait for the feasibility study to be done.

Next order.

**MOTION**

## ADJOURNMENT

Majority leader, Hon. Peter Gathungu.

**Hon Gathungu Kamau:** Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

THAT with the leave of this House and pursuant to Standing Order 29 (3), this House does adjourn to a day other than the next normal sitting day to enable members attend the Fifth Devolution Conference in Kakamega County. As such, this house does adjourn today Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018 and resume on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2018 at 9.00 a.m.

Hon. Members, as you are aware, we have national holidays and 1<sup>st</sup> May which will be on a Tuesday, happens to be Labour Day, which is a National Holiday. I wish to take this opportunity to Thank H.E. the Governor for funding the Hon. Members so that they can attend the Devolution Conference. It will be the first for the members who are holding the office for the first time and we would like to go and learn what other counties are doing. We have always said that we want to see this county prosper and become better than the other counties we have. We want to see how Makueni and Machakos counties are faring given that Machakos County took the first position in the last Inter-counties competitions. It will be a great learning experience for the Hon. Members.

The reason why I have said that we thank H.E. the Governor is because, when we were doing our supplementary budget, we never factored in money for the Devolution Conference but after some consultations, he agreed to fund the County Assembly. So for the one week we shall be in Kakamega, let us learn on how to improve this County from the Counties that have excelled in devolution. With those few remarks, I wish to call upon Hon. Mbogo Mburu to second this motion.

**Speaker:** Hon. Mbogo Mburu.

*(Hon. Mbogo Mburu bows in secondment)  
(Question proposed)*

Hon. Members, pursuant to Standing Order No. 29 (3), that;  
A day when the Assembly is scheduled to adjourn, to a day other than the next normal sitting day in accordance with the Assembly calendar, the leader of the Majority Party or the leader of the Minority Party or another member of the House Business Committee, shall move a motion of adjournment which shall be debated for not more than three hours after which the Assembly shall adjourn without question put.

So this motion does not require a question to be put, and now this House adjourns until Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2018 at 9.00 a.m. Hon. Members, have a fruitful session at the devolution conference.

*(The house rose at 3.39 p.m.)*

