

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

### 1<sup>ST</sup> ASSEMBLY- 5<sup>TH</sup> SESSION

#### OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2017

*The Assembly met at the Assembly Chamber at 2.30 p.m.*

#### **ARRIVAL OF THE CABINET SECRETARY HON. SICILY KARIUKI**

*{The Cabinet Secretary (Hon. Sicily K. Kariuki, (Mrs.) EGH.)  
escorted by the Speaker of the County Assembly (Hon. Wahome Ndegwa)  
enter the Chamber at half past two O'clock accompanied by the Mace}*

*{The Cabinet Secretary (Hon. Sicily K. Kariuki, (Mrs.) EGH.)  
takes the designated Chair}*

*(The Mace is placed on the Table)*

*(The National Anthem is played)*

*(The Speaker, Hon. Ndegwa Wahome, in the Chair)*

#### PRAYER

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**Speaker:** Our CS, for Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, Hon. Sicily Kariuki, Hon. Members and all our guests, ladies and gentlemen, we cannot be happier as an Assembly with this august visit to this Assembly by our Cabinet Secretary. More important is that she is a Cabinet Secretary who is home-grown and the only Cabinet Secretary not only to come inside this assembly because I don't there is any other Cabinet Secretary who has even 200 metres close to this Assembly. Now she is seated here with us. I will now do a convocation by way of inviting our CS. Again, *Karibukwa Assembly ya Nyandarua.*

#### CONVOCATION

Hon. Members and Cabinet Secretary my convocation is that it is with immense pleasure that I welcome Hon. Sicily Kariuki, the Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs to Nyandarua County Assembly. I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you Madam Cabinet Secretary for being appointed into the cabinet. We are proud of you as a daughter of this great county on being bestowed upon your shoulders, the privilege and honour to serve the President of the Republic and the nation at large in that capacity.

Today's sitting is momentous in many ways. We are having the first Cabinet Secretary within our midst to address this august House. Being the first Assembly in the advent of devolved government system, we are all profoundly honoured to be here today to witness this occasion. Hon. Members and Hon. Cabinet Secretary, before I invite you to address this August House, allow me to make some brief remarks.

Nyandarua County Assembly comprises of 25 elected members and 16 nominated ones. This Assembly commenced its business on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 after the general elections after the swearing in of the elected members by Justice Lucas Kimaru. The 16 nominated members represents eleven special seats for women, two for youth, two for those with disabilities and one for marginalized groups.

Hon. Members, this is no doubt that within devolved governance structure we are authors of the new chapter of our nation's history and indeed we occupy a special place in the history of our great county.

Hon. Members and Hon. Cabinet Secretary, we take cognizance that Kenya is indeed a one unitary state with devolved government structures meant to actualize the objects of devolution as encapsulated under Article 174 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. We remain committed to the ideals of promoting social and economic development and the provision of proximate easily accessible services to the great people of our County. We also appreciate the constitution and statutory opportunities provided to ensure the success of the system for posterity. We appreciate that though there are two levels of government in our republic cooperation and consultation between the two levels is salient to foster economic growth as well as the overall dreams of our founding fathers in having a united and prosperous nation.

We appreciate your gesture of positively responding and honouring our invitation today. Your visit to the Assembly is a sign of goodwill and a welcome gesture towards the full realization of Article 189 of the Constitution and other statutory provisions for laudable inter-governmental relations.

Hon. Members and Hon. Cabinet Secretary, we as a county do appreciate the diversity of our people, the various backgrounds and historical experiences that have shaped this county and the nation at large. A brief history of this county and Nyandarua County Assembly in particular reveals a lot about the challenging past that we have endured through the undying spirit of hard work and the resilience of our people, as we march towards the dreams espoused by our forefathers with our eyes glued to a promising future.

The County Assembly has made remarkable progress in the realization of the objects of devolution guided by our core values which are integrity, accountability and transparency, equity, respect and impartiality, professionalism and inclusivity as well as national values and principles.

Hon. Cabinet Secretary, the Hon. Members of this Assembly will attest that at the onset of the establishment of this first assembly, our major challenge was lack of a sitting place for this institution. Through goodwill and inconceivable cooperation with the local community, the assembly held its sittings within the precincts of a church compound at the P.C.E.A. Church in Ol'kalou for a period of 44 months. However, with meticulous and focussed planning we have

managed to have land set aside to put up our assembly chambers with meagre resources that have been allocated over the financial years from the county coffers. The Assembly Chambers, in which we proudly sit in today, has been a key milestone achievement for the County Assembly Service Board, Hon. Members of this Assembly as well as the entire service. The County Assembly fraternity takes pride in the fact that its leadership has made meaningful strides to make the best out of the previous circumstances and despite the aforesaid budgetary constraints, it has completed the construction of modern assembly chambers which sits on a five acres piece of land.

Hon. Members and Hon. Cabinet Secretary, the assembly has further finalized the design and all the relevant documentations for the construction of an ultra-modern office complex for Hon. Members and the Assembly's staff on the same piece of land. The completion will go a long way in providing an enabling environment for maximum productivity and realization of the Assembly's core mandate in the service of the county residents. The Assembly also aspires to complete the development of a recreation park and play court.

In the year 2014, Nyandarua County Assembly launched its first five-year strategic plan as the blueprint upon which to deliver on its mandate of legislation, oversight and representation. We pride ourselves in that so far, 90 percent of our targets have been achieved with considerable effort being made towards realizing the remaining 10 percent of our targets within the shortest time possible. Indeed, we have been left with no option other than to kick start the process of drafting a new strategic plan for the 2018 to 2022 for the reason that the initial one which was to run up to the year 2019 is almost completely implemented.

Hon. Cabinet Secretary and Hon. Members, the first assembly prides itself in having managed to diligently realize its mission to be a leading county assembly in representation, legislation and oversight for good governance. The assembly has made tremendous progress in legislation, oversight and representation. Twenty one (21) bills of the county assembly have been considered and passed into laws. This has greatly aided the laying of a firm foundation on which devolution within our county is thriving. The Assembly committees have also done numerous reports on the county executive budget implementation raised and dealt with contentious issues concerning the residents in the county government policies.

Hon. Cabinet Secretary and Hon. Members, being an arm of the county government, we shall endeavour to foster good working relations with the national government. We are hopeful that through the esteemed office of Hon. Cabinet Secretary we shall make progress particularly in areas that appertains to our docket with emphasis on women and youth empowerment in our county.

Finally, it is now my pleasure and privilege to invite the Hon. Cabinet Secretary to address this House.

*(Applause)*

## CABINET SECRETARY'S ADDRESS

### ENUMERATION OF JUBILEE ADMINISTRATION ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr Speaker, let me begin by appreciating you and the members of this assembly for having me as your guest today. This is a special occasion noting that this is the first assembly under the devolved County Government. I become a part of this great legacy as we reflect on the achievements made in the last 5 years under the Jubilee Administration and collectively recommit ourselves to a greater future for our beloved country.

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The spirit and the letter of devolution as expressed by the constitution is that the two levels of Government should work in the spirit of consultation and cooperation to bring services and resources closer to the people.

I wish to commend the County of Nyandarua and specifically this assembly for ensuring the necessary legislation and policies are in place to execute the devolved mandates.

I am informed that you have been able to pass 15 bills, achieved the 1/3 gender provision and incorporated special interest groups (SIGs) into the composition of your assembly. This spirit of “not leaving anyone behind” also underpins the legislative and programmatic interventions executed at the National Government. In this regard, Kenya has ratified international and regional frameworks on gender equality and women empowerment. Indeed Gender equality has been a critical pillar of the Jubilee administration and remains a flagship initiative under MTP III

Mr Speaker, the Jubilee Administration has in line with its manifesto strategically invested in areas of greatest impact to the Nation and the County of Nyandarua has seen great transformation under these sectors.

### **1. Health**

Two level five hospitals fully equipped in Ol’Kalou and Engineer to handle emergency and other cases. A total of 96 million has been invested in the maternal health care FY2015/2016 and 7 million in the free primary health care program.

### **2. Education**

Enormous investment in education has been done, capitation has been granted to over 128,000 pupils enrolled in primary and 52,221 in secondary school.

In terms of Educational infrastructure, a new teachers college namely Aberdares has been started, 3 Technical Training Institutes – Kipipiri, Ndaragwa and Kinangop have been constructed while the digital literacy programme has trained 926 teachers across 328 schools- Ksh 20 million has been directed towards digital infrastructure in schools.

### **3. Youth Empowerment**

Enormous empowerment of youth has been achieved through the NYS Program and the Youth Enterprise Development Fund where over 113 million has been disbursed to the youth. Under NYS, transformative programmes like the Huduma Kitchens, road upgrades and SACCOs have been implemented. Three SACCOs have been registered in Ol Kalou and Kipipiri with a total cash transfer of 7.3 million to the SACCOs. Overall the NYS project has registered and engaged about 3000 youth up to July 2016

### **4. Women Empowerment**

Jubilee has delivered on its promise to empower women through funding to grow their businesses and create job opportunities. Nationally the Women Enterprise Fund has disbursed over USD 50 Million, National Government Affirmative Action Fund over USD 127 Million, Uwezo Fund over USD 56 Million.

Nyandarua county has benefited through these funds to the tune of 72 Million under NGAAF, 210 Million under Women Enterprise Fund and 104 Million under Uwezo fund.

Mr Speaker, through out independent Kenya's history, no administration has focused its attention to the vulnerable citizen like the Jubilee Administration. Under the cash transfer framework close to 700 million has been disbursed to about 10,000 beneficiaries; now the aged and vulnerable can live in dignity.

Mr Speaker, as you are well aware the Government has also deployed enormous resources in the area of energy and I am aware that in Nyandarua ,upwards of 36,000 homesteads have been reached with lighting under the Government "last mile" initiative; this is besides the lighting of primary schools and public streets lighting.

Similar investments have been deployed in all other sectors whether its water, road network, environment and land. Clearly the fruits of transformation have been felt across all counties. Overall all services that touch on the lives of our people, are now not only closer to the people, but they are better and more impactful, helping change lives and livelihoods.

The operationalization of Huduma centers across the Republic remain the greatest and most visible testament of the Government's commitment to its people. In Nyandarua, the Government spent 84 million to construct the Huduma Center at Ol Kalou.

Mr Speaker, as the life of the current Government comes to an end, you can conclude with pride, knowing you have served the people with dilligence, despite the many challenges of our new form of devolved Government. I am sure this has been a great learning experience and its my hope these learnings gathered will be carried forward in the execution of the plans the county Government has put in place.

As we reflect on the many achievements, at both levels of Government, the need for sustainability and continuity should not escape us.

Mr Speaker, His Excellency the President has pronounced himself on the need to continue the transformative journey towards a greater and better Kenya. You have been part of this transformation and your voice and efforts need to be brought to bear on the President's vision in the capacities you be serving this nation in.

*(Applause)*

It is in this regard, that i have enumerated the many achievements of the Jubilee Administration as they give us the Platform and the legitimacy to face the people and present the agenda of continuity OF the Jubilee administration.

I urge you, Hon. Members, to arm yourselves adequately with information and data on these achievements and echo His Excellency the President's message of transformation as you communicate to *wananchi* during this campaign period.

We are in a political season, Hon. Mmembers, a season when emotions can run high; a season when friendship can be thrown through the window; a season when we are struggling to come as the winner; but I urge you to be ambassadors of peace and unity above all else. We have one huge responsibility before us, we need to encourage our people to come out and vote when the time comes.

So, as i conclude, let me reiterate on the need for all of us to focus on the big picture and strategic picture as espoused by H.E. the President – Kenya is bigger than all of us and so we must be careful to guard and protect this Great Nation.

Once again I wish you well as you move to build this county and country in the coming days. I also thank you this afternoon for having me as your guest. God bless you, God bless Nyandarua, God bless Kenya.

*(Applause)*

**Speaker:** So Hon. Cabinet Secretary and Hon. Members, this was a day set aside for the Hon. Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs and I think she delivered her message unequivocally and the members will have time to look into her message and internalize it so that we are able to dispatch it to our people for the good of our county and country. Now, and without much ado, is to again thank the Cabinet Secretary and to assure you that you are welcome into this assembly. You are a friend of this Assembly and you are a citizen of this county and country and therefore, feel at home whenever you feel you want to interact with the members of this assembly.

### ADJOURNMENT

Now, I wish to adjourn the House to tomorrow, Thursday, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017 at 2.30 pm. In the meantime, there is a cup for the members to share with the Cabinet Secretary at the restaurant and thereafter, the ladies had sought for a session with the Cabinet Secretary. One of her core duties is to deal with ladies and we have them in this Assembly. She has consented sitting with them and hearing about their needs and their aspirations. Therefore, that will happen when we go to the restaurant.

### DEPARTURE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY

*(Hon. Members rose in their places as Hon. Cabinet Secretary left the Chamber)*

*(The House rose at 3.05 pm)*