



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY
1ST ASSEMBLY-4th SESSION
OFFICIAL REPORT



(The Hansard)

Wednesday, 24th February, 2016

The Assembly met at the Assembly Chambers at 9:00 A.M.

The Speaker, Hon. Ndegwa Wahome, in the Chair

Prayer

QUORUM CALL AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SITTING

The clerk-at-the-table confirms that there is no quorum

Speaker: There being no quorum, I direct that the division bell to be rung for an initial 10 minutes pursuant to standing order number 34, or, until such a time within the ten minutes that quorum will have been achieved.

The division bell is rung for 4 minutes and quorum is achieved as confirmed by the clerk-at-the-table

Speaker: Quorum having been achieved let us proceed with the business for this morning session. First order.

PAPER LAID

REPORT ON HARMONIZATION OF COMMITTEES' MEMBERSHIP

Speaker: Very well. Member for North Kinangop, Vice-Chairperson House Business Committee, Hon. Edinald Wambugu King'ori.

Hon. Wambugu King'ori: Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to table the report on harmonization of committees' membership.

Speaker: Very well, the report of House Business Committee on harmonization of committees' membership dated February 2016 is duly tabled and the House Business Committee shall give requisite directions on when the report shall be processed. Next order.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Speaker: Very well. Member for North Kinangop and Deputy Speaker, Hon. Edinald Wambugu King'ori.

Hon. Wambugu King'ori: Thank you Mr Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion:

That this House adopts the Report of the House Business Committee on Harmonization of Committees' Membership as a report of this House and the recommendations therein as the resolutions of the House.

Thank you Mr Speaker.

Speaker: Very well. The notice of this particular motion on the report as tabled is duly given and the House Business Committee shall give further directions on the same. Next order.

MOTIONS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES ON THE STATUS OF HUMAN RESOURCE AND ASSETS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES.

Speaker: Yes Member for Kaimbaga, Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries, Hon. Samuel Kimani Njiraini.

Hon. Kimani Njiraini: Thank you Mr Speaker. I beg to move the following motion:

That this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries on the Status of Human Resource and Assets in the Department of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries, as a report of this House and the recommendations therein as the resolutions of the House.

Mr Speaker Sir, the report is in our files and I know that majority of us have gone through it. At the outset, I would like to acknowledge your office and that of the clerk for facilitating my committee to undertake this enormous and great exercise.

In addition, I would like to thank Hon. Dorcas Kihara for raising the issues for investigations by the committee and her contributions. Lastly, I would like to thank the members of the secretariat who worked tirelessly to ensure that this report was a success.

It is now my great pleasure and honour to present the report on the status of Human Resource and assets in the Department of Agriculture on behalf of the committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

Mr Speaker, following a request of a statement from Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries on information concerning the department of Agriculture in the County by Hon, Dorcas Kihara dated 6th August 2015. The committee on Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries took it upon itself to inquire and investigate in view of providing facts to the Assembly that would facilitate the Honourable

Members in making an informed decision. Although Hon. Dorcas Kihara is not in the House, we shall proceed anyways.

As you can see, outlined in the report is the mandate of the committee, which is line with Article 186 (5) of the Standing Orders.

Mr. Speaker, after evaluation of the issues raised in the request for statement, the committee was to come up with a report that would contain the following:

- i. The Service Charter of Department of Agriculture
- ii. The human resource (staff) status of the department including those who were seconded by the Transitional Authority and those employed by the County Public Service Board.
- iii. The gaps, if any, of human resources needed to be filled in the department
- iv. The qualification of the staff in the department
- v. Departmental strategies and policies towards achieving its functions and mandate
- vi. The specific number of staff absorbed from the National Government, and
- vii. The number and status of assets owned by the department

Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention some important points in the background of the report...

Speaker: Without seeming to interrupt Mr. Chairman, I cannot see your committee clerk. May be you will have to proceed for the time being as arrangements are made because we agreed that the reason we have these problems on implementation is that whatever resolutions are done here have no one to follow. I think I had given clear directions that the clerk of the committee, which is moving a report, must be present in the House to note down all the highlights so that they are communicated to Executive's Liaison Officer. Anyways, since the Hansard reporter is in the House, I think we can continue as the matter is being streamlined.

Hon. Samuel Thuita rises on a point of information

Hon. Samuel Thuita: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to bring to your attention that the same report was to be moved yesterday in the afternoon. The chairman sought leave and thereby, it was dropped from the order paper. It is possible that the committee clerk was not informed about the report being moved now when today's order paper was being drafted.

Speaker: Very well Member for Gathanji for that information. The clerks-at-the-table, the ball therefore comes back to you squarely because when you are organizing the order paper you should ensure that the committee clerks are made aware of what will transpire in the House. Proceed Member for Kaimbaga.

Hon. Kimani Njiraini: Before I continue, I would like to thank the Speaker once again for allowing the report to be moved today given the fact that yesterday we were faced by a myriad of inconveniences. That said, let me proceed.

Agriculture is the main economic activity in the County. The County has over 96,062 hectares under crop production. The total land that is suitable for crop cultivation is 184,900 hectares, showing that over half of the arable land is being cultivated. The county enjoys adequate rainfall making it high potential for agriculture production.

Nyandarua's economy mainly relies on agriculture with dairy farming remaining as the most lucrative agribusiness. The county also produces poultry, mutton, carrots and cabbages. Horticulture and fishing are also major agricultural subsector in the County.

Mr. Speaker, section 107 (a) (b) of the County Government Act requires each County Government to come up with County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) and County Sectoral Plans which are interlinked and also linked to the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Kenya Vision 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These documents are required to guide, harmonize and facilitate development. The committee was therefore guided by the above guidelines.

Mr. Speaker, the committee held a meeting to deliberate on the matter so as to come up with a comprehensive response to the Honourable Member of this House. The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, made the following findings and observations:

The Service Charter of Department of Agriculture

Mr. Speaker, the committee noted that the department does have a service charter, which is arranged as follows, and as indicated in annex 1 of the report; Introduction, objectives, mandate, vision, mission, core values, core functions and citizens service delivery charter for the given sectors (Agriculture, Veterinary and Fisheries).

The Human Resource in the Department

The committee learned that the Agriculture Department has three hundred and thirty two (332) staff members under the County Government but absorbed from the National Government, and ten (10) who are under the National Government as it has been indicated in annexure 2.

The staff are distributed as follows; one hundred and seventy four (174) are in the agriculture department, one hundred and fifty (150) are in the department of livestock and eight (8) in the fisheries department, Four (4) under the national government are in the agriculture department and the remaining six (6) in the livestock department. No officer is in the fisheries

department from the national government. This is a big challenge because no one has actually be forwarded to come to the National Assembly.

Human Resource Gaps in the Department

Mr. Speaker, the committee learnt also that there exists some human resource gaps which if addressed would lead to better service delivery. Other gaps identified were: staff training, promotions, and some positions that needs to be filled. The positions that need to be filled are:

- ✿ 20 security personnel to guard the department’s installations and institutions

Mr. Speaker, I remember sometimes back, some people stole a lorry pump belonging to the department. However, I am sure that the security has improved tremendously.

- ✿ 5 fisheries assistants and
- ✿ 2 leather technology assistants

Mr. Speaker, we talked about this issue when we tabled a report that was almost similar to this report.

Qualifications of the Human Resource

Mr. Speaker, the committee requested from the department the qualifications of the three hundred and forty two staff in the department. Annexure 2 provides detailed information.

Departmental Strategies and Policies

When you go to the last page of the annexures, we were provided with the information about the hiring of the staff members. As indicated the committee was given the list of names hired by the CPSB and I don’t intend to go through all of them.

Mr. Speaker, I go through just a few.

NYANDARUA COUNTY MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES STAFF RETURNS							
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT							
A STAFF FORWARDED BY THE TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY							
NO	Officer's name	PF-Number	Designation	HIGHEST QUALIFICATION	J/G	Ministry	STATION
1	Agatha Wamuyu Thuo	20130015619	CEC – Member	MBA	T	Agriculture	CEC’S Office
2	Daniel Maina Gikaara	20140023847	Chief Officer	PhD	S	Agriculture	CEC’S Office

These are just some of the people in the ministry. As I had mentioned that, I need not go through all of them since every member has a copy and can look at the names. The members can also go through the staff members in the livestock development and fisheries departments of the ministry.

Departmental strategies and policies

The committee did not get detailed strategies and policies for the department, but the department has a number of strategies and policies towards achieving its functions and mandates. They include creating an enabling environment for agricultural development as well as increasing agricultural productivity and output. The latter is to ensure that the farmers get high quality seeds and other farm inputs. This is bearing in mind that our farmers have been victims of rotten seeds.

The department also intends to promote market access and product development and enhance accessibility to affordable inputs and credit. This should go hand in hand with the department of cooperatives to ensure that the farmers access affordable inputs and credit.

Mr. Speaker, the committee also learned that the department of agriculture has policies geared towards promotion of sustainable land use and conservation of the environment and enhancement of institutional efficiency and effectiveness in implementation and service delivery. During the olden days, there were cultural and extension officers who would visit the farmers and demonstrate on the best practices of farming including planting, weeding etc. We need to go back to those days.

Annexure 3 show the assets the department owns. The committee found out that the department has around 30 vehicles some of which ground while others require major repairs. Other assets include Ol'jororok ATC and Njabini ATC. Njabini ATC land, which is about 75 acres, is yet to be titled owing to the ongoing court case but remains a major asset of the department. Everything else that the department own has been as per the annexures.

On the recommendations, the committee came up with the following recommendations after going through the documents provided by the department of agriculture, livestock development and fisheries:

1. That a thorough audit be done on the members of staff since the committee noted that they were so many.

This one is very true because we found out that there are so many employees whose output leaves a lot to be desired. Their impact is not felt at the ground.

2. That the department of agriculture, livestock development and fisheries should consider conducting civic education to the public outlining the department's functions.

There should extension services for farmers to understand mean by livestock production. You will find the workers in the office and all they do is sit in the office and wait for the farmers instead of going to the farms.

3. That the department does give an account of the distribution of its staff in the sub counties and wards and details of what they have been doing for the past two years.

We need to know the work that the staff members have been doing as well as how long they have been employed. Some of these people have worked in one station, which can actually lead to complacency that negatively affects the work done.

In conclusion, being aware that agriculture is the backbone of the Nyandarua County Economy, the membership of this House is aware that almost every resident of the county depends on agriculture for household income.

Mr. Speaker, Most farmers in the county mostly depend in traditional methods of farming or rather, outdated methods. With the changes in climate being experienced now and then, there is need for farmers to get updates on best farming practices to avoid losses. The department of agriculture, livestock development and fisheries needs then to make sure that this information is readily available to farmers when needed. The department needs to boost its extension services to the farmers.

This can only be achieved if the department has clear strategies, policies, and work plans with the required competent and focused personnel to implement the strategies and policies. The committee hence take this opportunity to thank Hon. Dorcas Kihara for raising the issues answered in this report. The information will not only help the committee but also members to track any significant changes in the department.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion it is my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries Committee to table this report and its recommendations to this Honourable House for adoption.

With those remarks, I call Hon. Samuel Thuita to second the motion. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to move.

Speaker: Yes Member for Gathanji Hon. Samuel Thuita.

Hon. Samuel Thuita: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to second the report by the Committee on Agriculture Livestock Development and Fisheries. The report was in response to statement by Hon. Dorcas Kihara who asked about the human resource status at the Department of Agriculture. Why human resource Mr. Speaker? The reason is that human resource correlates closely with service delivery. When you look at the annexures, you will find that the department has more than two hundred people implying that it has the largest proportion of workers in the county. Despite their high number, we feel that they have underperformed and their effect is not felt directly by our farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I happened to visit the department's office in Ol'jororok and was surprised that the office has no electricity and other office equipment. In other words, these offices are completely neglected. When electricity is cut, you find that the officers at sub county levels had to write letters and probably come here in order for the bill to be paid. This a very long process and therefore, they have to work without electricity many times.

Mr. Speaker, Agricultural Extension Officers (AEO) have to undertake numerous activities on the ground. However, they are never facilitated and their effectiveness is therefore compromised. There is a lot of mistrust between the county official and sub county officers. Not that the people on the ground lack sufficient knowledge and expertise, it is because there a lot of challenges they encounter and therefore, they are usually unable to transfer their acquired knowledge to then farmers.

Mr. Speaker, this could be the case in other departments and the primary reason that we are not moving forward as a county. Since we have devolution and some functions and powers were devolved, why is that many functions of the department of agriculture have not been devolved to the sub county and ward levels? It is because some wants to have all functions centralized in one office. I want to reiterate that the officers on the ground are willing to work but they are not facilitated and they become very demotivated. Something needs to be done about this department. The same we saw people form procurement department being sent to other departments is what needs to be done in the department of agriculture.

They should devolve some resources to the Sub County and levels failure to which, we shall not benefit from the knowledgeable and skillful individuals we have hired. The reason I am saying this is that the people I met when I visited that office said that they have no facilitation. They have to stay in the office so that the farmers can meet them there instead of the other way round. Actually, the officers only require around Ksh. 300 to be able to move around on daily basis and since usually pass a budget on operations I think it is possible to facilitate them.

I therefore second this report and the Executive ought to implement the resolutions if the House adopts this report. They should this to all sub counties and facilitate the officers. The trend is worrying because the sub county and ward administrators also facing the same predicament due to lack of facilitation. Although our role is primarily to oversight, people require services and it is important that we deliver them. Let the Executive ensure they facilitate each and every person in their work at all levels. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Question proposed

Speaker: Yes Member for Githioro, Hon. Silvester Kagiri.

Hon. Silvester Kagiri: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to second this report with very many reservations. During our investigations, we received various responses from government officials, which were really wanting. Mr. Speaker, the report says that there 332 staff members in the department of agriculture. This is a very huge number of staff members yet we cannot feel their impact on the ground.

The last paragraph on page nine of the report indicates that the department of agriculture has 174 staff members. According to my thinking, the number is inclusive of the extension officers who are supposed to be deployed per ward. Do we have extension officers in our wards? Absolutely no. Where are they? They are concentrated in the offices. The role of this particular department is not to stay in the office but to go and help our farmers in the wards. These people are hardly seen on the ground. We will be marking our third year in office. What shall we tell our people we have been doing in office? Three years down the line and we have nothing to show especially in this department.

Just recently, we were in a meeting alongside Hon. Dorcas Kihara. The people grilled us especially on the methods we are using in agriculture since we have not changed a bit from the colonial times. Due to failure of some people, it is only important that we admit our failures and pick up important lessons. We employ professionals in the hope that they will transform our sectors only to learn later that they are not the right people.

Applause

I heard the seconder and understood what he was talking about. When you go to sub-county offices and ask the officers why they do not extend their services to the farmers, they say that they are not facilitated. The law is very clear that when someone is outside the workstation, he or she should be facilitated. I don't know what we need to do. Although we have recommended that the department should give an account of staff distribution to sub county and ward levels, we need to do more. Let us do something. I think they should be producing quarterly reports, with all due respect. What are the activities on the ground?

Mr. Speaker, we give this department a lot of money and it is only fair that we follow it up. In the department of livestock development, we have 150 staff members that ought to include veterinary officers. Where are they because we do not see them in the farms helping our farmers?

Mr. Speaker, that is why sometimes we recommend that the department should be denied money because we are not feeling the impact. It is time we improved service delivery to our people. We noted that the department has no service charter and you wonder what services they offer and how they do it. The department is a disappointment to this county.

With those few comments, I support. Thank you.

Speaker: Very well. Yes Member for Mirangine, Hon. David Ndirangu Ngigi.

Hon. David Ndirangu (Mirangine): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am so disappointed that we have over 332 staff members working in the department of agriculture yet they are not helping our people. There are no field officers in Mirangine, which has forced residents to be using alternative ways of accessing information on agriculture and other services. This department has actually underperformed yet it has been receiving a lot of funds Mr. Speaker. The docket has disappointed us and I think, as Hon. Kagiri has said, may be the office holders are not competent enough.

On the issues of cattle dips, I have visited the offices many times. Actually, the committee came and saw the status of the cattle dips but nothing has happened until now. They have not even refilled the dips. People have started complaining because the water dips have now began cracking due to lack of water.

The staff members in this docket are being paid and are not doing their jobs properly. Therefore, I want to urge the Committee with all due respect, the chairman of the committee should focus on ensuring that the employees in this docket are held accountable because they have been paid for work not done. We need to know where they work and who they are because 332 is a big number of people whose impact must be felt in the county.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Yes, Member for Karau Hon. Kamau Ngotho.

Hon. Kamau Ngotho: Thank you Mr. Speaker and the committee for their job. Agriculture is very dynamic. If you look at the column on the qualification of the staff, it is worrying, most of them simply have diplomas. Very few of them are degree holders and I have only seen four master's degree holders. They acquired these certificates very many years ago and they seem not to be putting any effort to go back to school. These people were taught how to vaccinate, for instance, twenty years ago. Vaccination methods must surely, have changed over the years, what value are they adding to the department? These are the issues that should be looked into. The county must set some minimum thresholds in terms of academic qualifications. Let those who were seconded from the national government with certificates be sent back to school. Let us get professionals that have specialized knowledge in, say, potatoes and milk. There are also degrees in animal husbandry, not just diplomas. Let these people go back to school so that we can get more value.

On the vehicles listed, it would have been more useful if they also gave the make and the descriptions of the vehicles rather than simply indicated the plate numbers. I understand that

they bought a truck but you cannot get this information from what they have indicated here. All I see are numbers, you cannot tell whether they belong to tractor, a pickup or a truck. On asset disposal, I see they have just indicated grounded. It has been three years now since the county governments took over and the CEC should have devised an elaborate disposal plan.

The other issue I would like more clarity on is SCHOMAP. Are SCHOMAP markets not part of the assets of the department? How about the land the markets sit on? I am aware that the land on which the Ole Oriondo market in Kaimbaga sits is still under the name of the original owner. This person had been Promised Land elsewhere but has not been given, to date. Consequently, he has confiscated the title deed. This is something that the minister is well aware of. I am also of the view that Midlands should be listed as an asset.

I do not understand how the valuation of livestock was done so as to value a freshian cow at kshs.50, 000 and a heifer at kshs. 20,000. I wonder what kind of animals we are talking about, maybe it is the kind we refer to as ‘kunyurus’ in our village. I support what the member for Githioro has said. How can we compete with counties like Kiambu who sell their heifers at kshs. 180,000? The other day, I heard they bought rams from Wambugu farm valued at 20,000 and ewes at 5, 000, they need to upgrade these ewes so that we can have quality pedigree.

I see there are staff that are based in Nyahururu. What value are they adding to our county? The likes of John and Beatrice, number 38 and 39. Finally, I would like the chairperson to clarify on the issue of motorbikes that I know were bought. I hear counties are buying tractors for every ward. We have very arable land. Agriculture is the backbone of Nyandarua but the other day when we were in Sagana, the president was laughing that we claim to be producing potatoes yet potatoes are still being imported.

I do not want to touch on the issue of the competence of the CEC but on Midland, I feel we are not in the same boat. If the CEC is of the contrary opinion to that of the members, this plane will crash. Fast and hard. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Yes Member for Engineer and majority leader Hon. Mwangi Gichuki.

Hon. Mwangi Gichuki: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to support the motion with an amendment. There is only one thing as Nyandaruaans that we cannot go wrong on is Agriculture. We were so hopeful that the Agriculture department would serve as our link to Wanjiku. It is this department that has the capability to make us be felt and seen by the mwananchi in the grassroots. This sector has failed us. The department has listed the assets they have but they have not listed an entire veterinary department in Tulaga, North Kinangop.

I have been there and I have seen a laboratory, a theatre, about six offices, two garages and a fully-fledged staff. The department seems unaware of a six acre plot belonging to their department. A plot with 12 residential house units for lower and 5 higher cadre offices. The other day, this facility received equipment from the national government. It is the only facility that carries out livestock surgery for in the entire Kinangop. They have staff I have interacted with every day and they are perpetually complaining

Speaker: Is the staff in the facility listed?

Hon. Mwangi Gichuki: Yes Mr. Speaker, they are listed here. These are the people who go to work every morning but have absolutely nothing to do. They leave the office to go do their work elsewhere, come back at two, stay for an hour and close the offices at three. The only thing they do is give licences to those who are transporting cattle.

Laughter

I would want to put the CEC to task. I have engaged with her and the CO and asked how such a facility that is so well equipped that it can basically perform every livestock related task. This is a genuine concern. We have an ATC of 75 acres. Is it the correct position? It is in public domain that 25 are now with Midlands.

Hon. Kimani Njiraini rises on a point of information

Speaker: Member for Engineer, do you require the information?

Hon. Mwangi Gichuki: Yes Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Proceed member for Kaimbaga.

Hon. Kimani Njiraini: Thank you, Mr. Speaker; I would like to inform the leader of majority that on acreage the state department of Agriculture was in the process of processing a title deed for 50 acres but was stopped by the ethics and Anti-Corruption commission due to ongoing case of 25 acres taken over by Midlands.

Speaker: Member for Engineer, I hope you have been informed.

Hon. Mwangi Gichuki: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am informed but insufficiently, considering the area indicated in the table is 75 acres. The speaker knows that even when it comes to the subdivision of land, there must be an original title deed that is then 'split' to have the individual plots issued with their own title deeds. The only viable explanation here is that the department of Agriculture has not paid. As it is, the fifty acres belong to the department and only 25 acres are with Midlands

Hon. Kimani Njiraini rises on a point of information

Speaker: Member for Engineer, do you require the information?

Hon. Mwangi Gichuki: Yes Mr. Speaker

Speaker: Proceed member for Kaimbaga

Hon. Kimani Njiraini: Thank you Mr. Speaker. We still have a Midlands report in the pipeline. These 25 acres did not even belong to the ATC, they belonged to the settlement Fund Trustee and the 25 acres given to Midlands belonged to SFT.

Speaker: I did not want to get into this debate but the land in question did not belong to SFT but reserved for ATC and it is the minister for Agriculture who donated the land, not ATC and the transfer was effected to Midlands. Proceed member for Engineer

Hon. Mwangi Gichuki: Thank you Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the confusion in the department of Agriculture has even affected the chairperson, he is saying that they did not know that a 25 acre piece of land belonged to them or not. That notwithstanding, I must say that there is need for the department to rethink and reorganize themselves. Even before I was elected, I was a beneficiary of AMS. In an area called Mutiini, we were able to use the equipment of AMS to do water plans for a lot of people and at that time the resources were centralized to the national government. Now I would like to know, which areas have benefitted from AMS, what projects have the departments come up with? We are always talking of dams but are there no machinery that can help clean these dams? All we talk about is value addition. I know the AMS has a dozer and a tractor that are not in use. We bought a potato mechanization tool but these machines are still in Nyahururu and to access them, we have to hire another vehicle to move this equipment. Why did we not consider these things? Why would we buy machinery that will not help us in the long run? There is so much failure in this department. Too much incoordination. Three years on, we cannot stand in a public forum and claim we have done a single thing in Agriculture. The other day they brought us rotten seeds to take to our people. Who is to take responsibility? It is us the MCAs who are to blame because we are the ones who go back to their people. They call themselves agricultural experts yet they let these potato seedlings to rot in the airport for three months. Three months mr. Speaker. These people must be told that we are not happy. Let the resolutions and the Hansard be taken to them so that they can see that we are not impressed. We cannot continue to take their blows. It is time they took responsibility. You cannot tell us that we have a vehicle that is lying idle and you do not indicate whether there are plans to repair the vehicles and how much it would cost.

I would wish to move an amendment on the recommendations to include a recommendation number 4 that all grounded equipment; machinery and motor vehicles be considered for immediate repair and if found not economically feasible be competitively disposed of.

Question on amendment proposed

Question on amendment put and agreed to

Speaker: Yes member for Kanjuiri Ridge, Hon. Suleiman Kihika

Hon. Suleiman Kihika: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the report and commend the committee on Agriculture for the work well done. However, I know of a number of cattle dips in my ward whose lands have no title deeds and they have not indicated anything on them. There are cattle dips that are no longer functional yet there is a standing committee that should ensure they are repaired. I do not know what the committee is doing about that. There is a time we were given wool sheep yet the one they brought to my ward was a 'doba' a kind of sheep that cannot survive in a place as cold as Kanjuiri. Truly, this department has failed us. They do not bother to assess the needs of the people first because if they did, we would have told them the kind of the sheep that would survive in our area. I support the report. Thank you Mr. Speaker

Speaker: Yes member for Kipipiri and deputy leader of majority, Hon. Michael Kirumba

Hon. Michael Kirumba: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the report even as I air my sentiments. I am very frustrated with the department of Agriculture. What we saw is not what we expected. This is the third generation since our forefathers settled here and we all remember how things were done in the 60s. I remember the facility that the leader for majority has talked about because I used to visit my uncle whose land bordered the facility and the law courts and the facilities were very functional then. To indicate that the department does not know of it is worrying to say the least. There are over 300 employees with very high qualifications in that department but most of them are not captured in this list. We must know who is where. We cannot be spending so much money on recurrent expenditure paying salaries to people we cannot see. We never see extension officers training Wanjiku or even children in schools. I remember in our time they would come to school and train us on 4k clubs and how to preserve our soil but now you go to River Malewa and all the soil has been carried to Lake Naivasha. They have left everything to us. This department is a great let down. The confusion and lack of coordination in the department is embarrassing. Now I have learnt that the A.I. launching will not be done on 26th February as we had earlier been told but will take place on 1st of March yet we had already informed our people that it would take place on 26th.

Hon. Suleiman has touched on the issue of cattle dips. Surely, we cannot have our people going to drain the water in buckets when we have boozers lying idle. We cannot expose our people to such risk in this century. We have not even provided them with safety gloves. You are sending people to the river miles away to fetch water to replenish the cattle dip yet we

have boozers that can refill over 10 dips in a day. How much would it cost the county to buy a portable water pump? I am ashamed to be associated with this county. We are now talking of mechanizing farming. Is it so expensive to buy five new tractors one for each sub county? It would be so easy for our people to go to the sub county administrator and have the tractor at a subsidized price. I remember we also proposed that we step up our water harvesting strategies by constructing water pans. This will also help us in preserving our roads.

We have an ATC in Ol Ojororok on page 9 with over 108 acres and anyone who has been there can tell you that it is a very arable land. Why don't we use this land to plant these potatoes we are importing and multiply the seeds to give to our people?

We are not getting returns on our investments. Most of these self-help groups we are giving these rams have no capacity to utilize these resources. The staff in the department are even frustrated because they are not consulted yet most of them are professionals. These officers were not consulted when they bought these animals that cannot thrive in this climate. We are running out of time and we must wash our hands like Pontius Pilate. Most of us were beneficiaries of yesteryear's pyrethrum and milk and we expect better than what we are getting. This is the only county in central region where farmers have considerable acreage not the small plots they have in the counties we came from. I am sure if the white settlers came back, they would wonder if we were really ready for independence. We have not been able to utilize the land they left us, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, they are being paid and as you are aware, there is no free lunch here; it is you scratch my back and I will scratch yours. If you mess my people, I will also mess you up. Just the other day, we were talking about the 26 young men and women who ought to have been employed in the last eight or so days. You will be surprised that the resolutions have not reached the County Secretary yet. Then you keep wondering how shall we synchronize operations? Unless, now, the Committee on implementation follows up on the matter, I don't what we shall do.

Mr. Speaker, let this report be accompanied by the Hansard so that they can know what we are saying and also know our frustrations. We have discussed this issue with chair bearing in mind time is not on our side. We are now on the 'climbing lane' and faster trucks that in this case are our competitors might overtake us, and they will make us fall.

Mr. Speaker, when we were headed to Malaysia, we briefly stopped in Addis Ababa, Bole Airport, and from there we only made a refuelling stop over in Bangkok. You can imagine if the pilots made even a marginal error at thousands of feet above sea level. We could have all

perished. So, in our case, we should not let some mistakes made by some senior officials in the Executive to make us all ‘perish’.

Although I am not saying that we go to the rooftop and begin shouting, I am saying that someone should not make mistakes at our own peril. We should let *Wanjiku* know that we have been let down by the other arm of the government.

Mr. Speaker, it is actually very hard for me, as the Deputy Leader of Majority, who is supposed to work *in tandem* with the government of the day. Because, we are very frustrated since we say things and nothing happens. Again, it as though we made a major mistake of hiring professionals who were learned and highly educated in the hope that they would deliver. We would rather have hired ‘not so learned’ individuals who would deliver services to the people. That is my message Mr. Speaker.

With those few remarks, I support.

Speaker: Yes County Member from Member Njabini/Kiburu, Hon. Rebecca Nyangati Weru.

Hon. Rebecca Nyangati: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this report by the Committee on Agriculture. As you can see, many members who have risen to contribute have actually expressed disappointment in the department.

Mr. Speaker, we have been saying that agriculture is the backbone of Nyandarua’s economy. Since 2013, we have played our part, supported this department fully, and consequently, allocated huge sums of money to the department. However, what can we show our people? What have they done?

Mr. Speaker, in the department of education, we can really see the impact especially when you talk of ECDs, bursaries and increase in the number of the hired teachers in our schools. What will the people in department of agriculture tell *Wanjiku* that they have been doing?

Mr. Speaker, the subsidized fertilizer that the department of agriculture supplied to our farmers left many of them complaining. The farmers paid for the fertilizers early enough but they waited for even five months before they received it. Subsequently, the farmers had to dig deeper into their own pockets and bought fertilizers from alternative outlets so that they couldn’t miss out during the planting season.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot see any benefits of cold rooms. The CEC Member in charge of agriculture is always on foreign trips supposedly aimed at improving the agricultural technology and productivity, which we have not realized. Her counterpart in education who had been suspended has gone on very few trips abroad but his results are being felt.

My proposition is that we need to do something. We can seek an audience with the department of agriculture, register our disappointment, and tell them that we have not seen

any work they have done since 2013. We have only one year remaining and it is my feeling that we should do something. This House should also let H.E. the Governor know our frustrations with the department.

The other thing is that the department should do is stop undertaking projects that are not relevant to Wanjiku by getting their priorities right. The projects that they have embarked on are not resonating with needs of our people yet they are consuming a lot of money. Is there no agriculture committees that can help them prioritize on the things that are important to *Wanjiku*?

Mr. Speaker, I feel that we need to meet with agriculture committee the way we meet frequently with education committee so that we can consult and do things right. It is important that they sit with agriculture committee so that they discuss the entire project before embarking on any sort of implementation. This way, we shall not waste our money especially now that we are in the final year in office. To that end, I support the report and request that the department to take these issues seriously so that we can move forward as a county. Thank you.

Speaker: Yes County Member from Kipipiri, Hon. Nancy Ng'ang'a.

Hon. Nancy Ng'ang'a: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to contribute to this debate. Much has been said by the Hon. Members and similarly, I am here to register my disappointment in the department of agriculture.

Everyone who has been born and raised in Nyandarua can bear me witness that this county used to have extension officers who would traverse the entire county on motorcycles or sometimes on bicycles showing the farmers what they were supposed to do in terms of increasing yields and adopting best practices in agriculture. This is a thing that our children cannot witness simply because it is a thing of the past and these officers ceased their visits. This is really disappointing because the department receives so much money and especially in terms of compensation of employees. It is quite a pity to our county as Hon. Mwangi Gichuki said, people just walk in their offices sit for an hour and then leave only to come back at 3:00 p.m., pick their coat and leave the office. It is a disappointment that at the end of the month they receive their salaries.

The implementers have really failed our county. If they did things right, then, I believe so much would have been done. For instance, Mr. Speaker, as a member of the PIC PAC committee, we summoned the CECM in charge of Agriculture and her Chief Officer. There were so many audit queries but we found out that they do not care about whatever is

happening in their department. It is therefore a pity to note that ‘these are the same monkeys in different forests.’

According to a report there, all these people are the same ones who worked under the national government. They have just been devolved. You can remember before devolution people did not care and so they used to neglect their duties. This is unlike today where you find everybody is on their toes. A real example being the Cabinet Secretary for Education Mr. Matiang’i, he is on his toes moving from school to school and thus the teachers are all on their toes too.

Mr. Speaker, what is happening is that when these people are devolved and they carry their slackness with them, they are passing it to their juniors and thus nothing much will be done and so much money will go to waste. As we were carrying out our investigatory duty, as you all know that PIC/PAC is an investigative committee, we went to some place only to find equipment out of place, others even rotting, incubators had been grabbed by some individuals and the CEC member was not even aware.

Mr. Speaker, when we summoned the said CEC, the story appeared different and it appeared as if the committee was lying and this were allegations based on our visit to the irrigation schemes and other places there. What I want to communicate is that this Agricultural department have really failed us a lot. Yet out there, we are bragging that Nyandarua is a land of agriculture. These people really do not care about Nyandarua.

Mr. Speaker sir, this Hon. House has been saying, not once, that it is time they act but there is nothing much that has been done that we can show to prove to Wanjiku that we care of her welfare. We should not be making resolutions and nothing is done about it as it has been the trend. I have said this again that this house is the heartbeat of this county meaning that this is a very powerful house, which can transform this county. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we should do something to be seen and felt not just passing resolutions and making so much noise here and there after five years we go home a failed house that would have saved this county.

Mr. Speaker, with those few remarks I beg to support.

Speaker: Yes Member for Gatimu, Hon. Kieru Wambui.

Hon. Kieru Wambui: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to talk about this report as I support it. In the general recommendations of the report and in as much as it is a very short report which has been compiled by the annexures. They have three recommendations that:

1. The audit be done for the members of staff since the committee noted that they were so many.

2. The Department of Agriculture Livestock Development and Fisheries should consider proactive Civic Education
3. The department does give an account of the distributions of its funds to the Sub-Counties and wards and details of what they have been doing for the past two years.

Mr. Speaker, I want to support this. This is because it is very much important in Human Resource Management to equate input with regard to the number and the staff of the Human Resource conducting the activity that is measurable with the output of whatever the input was.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that we have a problem and as much as we are condemning the department and its leadership, we need to know where these problems emanated. We need to ask ourselves; when were we supposed to learn about the matters that are getting to us now? I realize that there is what we call the Transition Authority that was given the mandate by the constitution, that is, the Transition Act, to bring on board these kinds of issues and tell us what we have as a county.

Today we think we own lands, in agriculture, for example, they have given us and you can see them say, title not processed or title in the process of being processed. They have talked about the status of these kinds of issues and in their own understanding as a department.

Mr. Speaker, they have done that as a department but there was somebody who was in the transition authority, who was supposed to tell us, as the county government of Nyandarua, and in agriculture, you have had this number of staff members. We are giving you this number of staff who are qualified and we believe they have what it needs for this field. This did not happen. So, let us not throw out the baby and the bathwater.

Mr. Speaker, we need to condemn some actions or inactions and if this has to go to the media let it go because we need to be told what the transition authority has transferred to us as Nyandarua in the department of Agriculture. There is nothing. We only know of a vehicle, which has been sent to Nyandarua County by the National Government. We are even not sure who owns the vehicle because the transition authority has failed to transfer the records. So, Mr. Speaker, as much as the transition authority is trying to transfer functions they should also transfer records. This committee has gone on and asked for information from the department, but how reliable is the information?

The information may not be reliable because they are not the custodian of land. The Kenya National Archives is not actually in the Agricultural Department and therefore the only person who can give valid information on this matter is the Transition Authority Kinuthia wa Mwangi, who has never delivered any document in this kind of a matter. That is why they are

moving all over the country pleading that the National Government, through the Senate, add them time to continue working after the expiry of their term in office.

Mr. Speaker, I have come to learn concerning some KARI Land, which is in Gatimu Ward. We are all aware of the KARI Land in Gatimu, which is 1000 acres and was ear-marked for agricultural reasons. We are very happy that they willingly donated 100 acres for the Nyandarua Institute and some other acres to AHITI whose construction is underway.

Mr. Speaker, there is matter that is really agitating me. Immediately when this Government came to power, the Deputy Governor by then, under the delegation of the Governor went to have a physical survey of the housing units on this farm...

Hon. Kamau Ngotho rises on a point of clarification

Speaker: What is it Member for Karau, Hon Kamau Ngotho?

Hon Kamau Ngotho: Mr. Speaker sir, the Hon. Member has said the Deputy Governor by then. I don't know whether he means time or the person himself.

Speaker: actually, that also confused me because it has no other literal interpretation. It only means that there was a Deputy Governor then and there is another one in the current.

Applause

Speaker: Proceed and make yourself clearer, Member for Gatimu.

Hon. Kieru Wambui: Thank you Mr. Speaker, making myself clear, by then, I meant 'at that time.' The Deputy Governor was sent, immediately they came to power, by the Governor to go and do a physical survey of the 19 housing units on that land. 12 of them are classified very well. The ministry indicates that there are 12 medium grade houses and other 7 low grade houses. According to the Governor, the houses were meant to be occupied by the CEC Members after the County Government has done a renovation of the houses. These renovations were never done. What are we saying about this department? \

The department has 332 staff all over Nyandarua but they cannot, for the last two years, come on board and tell us that we have the housing units that we need as a county government to renovate so that they can be occupied by then staff of the county government of Nyandarua. We have so many people who sleep in Nyahururu, Mr. Speaker...

Hon. Kimani Njiraini rises on a point of order

Speaker: What is it member for Kaimbaga, Hon. Kimani Njiraini?

Hon. Kimani Njiraini: Mr. Speaker, I see there is a strange bird in the House, and I request it to be driven out for the Hon. Members to feel okay.

Consultations

Speaker: I think it is a blessing in disguise and it is harmless.

Applause

Speaker: Proceed, Member for Gatimu.

Hon. Kieru Wambui: Thank you Mr. Speaker, for that. Let what we say be done. It is as simple as that. I also want to request that the staff ratio versus the facilities and the work be at par, Mr. Speaker. Let us see the outcomes of the staff we have. As the member for Kaimbaga and the chairperson of this committee has told us, we need to understand and properly address these matters so that we get what is relevant.

Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight the issue of Midlands Company. This is a matter that we have addressed not once and am not even sure for how long this will be addressed. We have been talking about the Department and what it is supposed to do about this land and the company. We said that Midland is a one of the major facilities that we have in the County Government of Nyandarua. This is therefore not a matter of the CECM of the department alone but also the office of His Excellency the Governor. So let us know the position and the stand of the Governor pertaining this matter. We might be victimizing the head of the department, yet the head of this county has no information about the matter at hand.

With the Governor having this issue at hand, then I believe he should address it with the CECM and the CECM then should sort it out. This is not a simple thing to be forgotten. About issues like the AHITI, the Governor can forget and I would not have much problems with that because it is very minor but as for Midlands he should come out and tell us what he thinks about the same.

Mr. Speaker, I expected that after the Governor learnt about our visit to the Midlands Company he would have incorporated the same in his speech.

Applause

Hon. Kieru Wambui: He ought to have told us that the CECM is under performing because her boss is too much on her. So, let the Governor come clean on this matter. Let him tell us that, "I told the department to do this but it failed." This should be a policy issue in Nyandarua County. Mr. Speaker.

As the leader of majority tabled an amendment in this house about the issue of management, we have vehicles, which according to this report are grounded. It is true there are but most of them got grounded even before the County Government came to being. Therefore, we talk so much about them and yet we don't know the real owners of these grounded facilities. We expect that the 332 staffs give us the records on how they manage these grounded facilities, Mr. Speaker, this is because the facilities are there and they see them every day. For instance, in Nyahururu, there are staffs who work for the County Government of Nyandarua, in those

Agriculture Offices and they pass them every morning, as they go for lunch, as they go back from lunch and in the evening as they leave their offices for home since the time they were employed. How do you tell me that you are a department that works in the Government and yet you cannot manage such a simple thing?

Mr. Speaker, we need this matters to be addressed and sorted out but the problem is that our work is only speaking. We have always passed resolutions in this House. I remember one time Kireru - the then County Secretary telling me, "you guys are doing very good work but I am sorry because I do not think anybody can buy what you say since those people do not do the work for you." He went on and told me, "I feel pity working here and the best thing to do is to resign and go." You come to realize that maybe this person had seen some light because for the last two years, whatever that has been done in this County is as a result of the County Assembly. Can't they initiate something on their own?

Today we are talking of roads being constructed and believe you me that the window period that was given by the National Government about procurement is coming to an end at the end of this month. They have not yet procured and come next month, rain shall fall before these roads are started. We passed these people a supplementary budget sooner than we did last time but how can they achieve this kind of a thing. That is why we told Gachomba and his team, "Do not tell us about checking the wage bill at the time of making the budget. Check whether these are real staff, check them as early as now so that we really know and have records." So Njuguna and the Budget Committee Speaker actually should tell them to access the staff register now that the budget is being made so that they truly know whether they have these 332 or 100 staff.

This is because, we might be making compensation of Ksh. 640 Million to employees in a certain department and the money benefits some people and maybe that is why they do not care. They argue that, "if you sack me or not I have earned enough." To avoid that, as we are used to keep off matters touching salaries, let them do as the County Assembly does, the Assembly produces a list of each employee under the Assembly and the much each one earns and then did the total. I feel they should do the same.

At least they can be commended for returning to the Finance Department the issue of salaries. That is the only resolution they have adhered to in centralizing the salaries to the finance. The finance department now pays the about Ksh. 1.7 or 1.9 billion on salaries can we know whether that money is worth for the same by assessing the register that the Finance Department and the committee for finance is asking for through the assembly.

Those National Government registration machines that were being done by Waiguru called the BVR, I do not know what outcomes they gave. Staffs were registered but we could not trace ghost workers and thus very ineffective to the SRC.

Let the County Assembly do its work the way we are supposed to. We can even summon all the Agriculture Department staff even if we have to see the 300 people here. We can spend all the business of the day. Let them queue here and we do the headcount and know them by their names led by Agatha Thuo followed by Dr. Gikara. These people know how they have been working, they know how to lie, and we cannot ever live in lies forever.

So, I support this report and commend Hon. Kimani Njiraini and his committee and we shall give him all assistance he deserves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Applause

Speaker: Yes County Member from Githioro, Hon. Dorcas Kihara.

Hon. Dorcas Kihara: Thank you, Mr. Speaker sir. I rise to contribute to this motion. I start by thanking the committee since I was the one who requested for the report and I believe we have done almost all that was required. I also thank the members for seeing the need to know the status of every department, what they are doing, the assets and the gaps.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite disappointing and equally concerning because in these departments we could not see any service delivered to our people on the ground. I grew up knowing that we need to take of our cows to the cattle dips, to the crutches for Artificial Inseminations and knowing that Agricultural Officers would visit our farms for advice on farming matters. We were therefore, beneficiaries of all those, Mr. Speaker.

Having a total of 332 staffs in the Agriculture Department sends a signal to us that if a farmer requires something on land planning, enterprise selection, he or she should do a formal request and service offered. This is the reason these staff members are paid with tax payers' money.

Their Citizen Service Delivery Charter leaves a lot of questions. We require them to obtain service and if the farmers do not call them formally, then they sit back in their offices, do their private work and when you seek any service like for a veterinary or AI, he comes and charges you because they do their things privately. This being as a result of the realization that nobody is watching them.

Mr. Speaker, a lot needs to be done. As we are saying that Agriculture is the backbone of this County, we need to do something in this sector in order to empower our people economically. So, let us see services that equal the number of people in this sector.

It is quite disappointing to remember that in 31st December 2015 we stayed here up to about mid-night, almost coming to the New Year in this premise passing the supplementary budget. Later on, it is coming to this is a nonperforming department. You even fail to understand; does His Excellency the Governor really know that there is nothing being done to our people by this department?

The other issue is on status of the number of assets owned by the ministry. If you look at the numbering, it is numbered up to 30 but if correctly numbered, it the list rest at 21. If these people can do such simple mistakes in numbering where they skip some numbers, it communicates how disorganized this department is and yet we depend on this same department to offer good services to our people. It is a disappointment that it has been receiving a very huge amount of our finances and yet it is the very undeforming department. Mr. Speaker, I fail to understand whether the CECM and the Chief Officer can stand to own this document. We had another instance where they gave us a document and when they were called to do a verbal explanation of the document and they said that there were errors and they would want to produce another correct document.

Mr. Speaker, we also cannot continue with staffs as senior as supervisors can and yet their credentials are the CPE or CSE certificates. This is so unfortunate. I would state that the CECM of Agriculture be asked to do a clear audit and come up with the qualified people to work in this department. Staff who can give live and valuable services to our people.

Therefore, I support the recommendations of this committee and especially on the issue of the staff audit. As Hon. Kieru Wambui has said, we need to do a headcount because we may be dealing with ghost workers and thus, no service to our people. This is not realistic that 332 staff are working in a department and there no services.

Mr. Speaker, if you divide 332 staff by 25 wards and you give each ward 10 of them that is 250 staff at least what the 10 staff could be doing to our wards could be noted.

I am therefore very grateful on the recommendations of this committee and feels it should be handled with all the seriousness it deserves. The CECM for Agriculture should know that it is time she got from the comfort zone she has been into and walk out, go to the field and see what her staff are doing.

Mr. Speaker, we all at times eat meat. You find that despite this, our slaughterhouses have no enough inspectors to test the standards of the product for consumption. You will find owners of the butcheries we have been waiting at the slaughter houses for the inspectors to come for inspection at their own time and at a cost.

Mr. Speaker, I fully support all that the committee has done. Thank you, and therefore call the mover to respond.

Speaker: Yes the mover and Member for Kaimbaga, Hon. Kimani Njiraini.

Hon. Kimani Njiraini: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank all the members for their contributions and concerns. I also thank them for what they have expressed - passionate love for their County. Agriculture being the backbone of our County, all the ideas and concerns of the Hon. Members will be captured in the Hansard and these grievances will be given to the County Executive for them to understand these concerns.

On the issue about the poultry report, we shall be asking for it and also other issues such as the number of staff and their effectiveness. Not leaving behind the issue on Midland Company and the AMS in Nyahururu. About the AMS, we as the Hon. Members are given the mandate on the same and we shall investigate and know much about its functions and benefits to the county. On the issue about the AI, the committee shall also elaborate on the need and purpose for that to the farmers.

As pertains to the grounded vehicles and their state, we have talked about their repair. As a committee, we would like to clearly know about their status and in that case, we shall confirm, Mr. Speaker.

The status of the department should be noted as well since we have seen the concern from the Hon. Members. The other issue as Hon. Dorcas Kihara has stated is about the slaughterhouses and the inspectors in those slaughterhouses. There has been a lot of negligence and our butchery tradesmen are suffering. I also request for that report, Mr. Speaker. This negligence of workers and lack of facilitation is something that calls for a lot of seriousness when it comes to addressing it.

On implementation, Mr. Speaker, this is an issue that has raised a lot of concerns from the members. For instance, there are the beehives, incubators and other facilities that had been bought. All these are in their stores waiting for the Governor to launch them. We should not always wait that the Governor launches a project for it to run.

Mr. Speaker, with those few remarks I beg to move and I thank the Hon. Members.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Speaker: Hon. Members, I believe that the Official Report (Hansard) has captured all the sentiments and the disappointments registered by Hon. Members on this particular department. Actually, I think that the chairperson of the Agriculture Committee and your

members, your heads are full from what the members have expressed and there is a lot that need to be done.

From some of the findings and recommendations it is clear that what we call assets like the animals in our farms and the crops we are growing in our demonstration farms can only train our farmers to fail or be bad farmers. That we have not been able to process the titles for the lands under the department of Agriculture is a serious indictment.

I also believe with the 332 workers we should at least have 14 workers per ward and I have never seen any. Really, I have two names and I know these people as a grocer and a second hand clothes seller. I have never known that they are workers in the Ministry of Agriculture.

Laughter

Speaker: Actually, this is a very serious indictment and I think the issue on the audit of staff, should come as early as today. You find somebody employed and the only certificate is the KCPE one that person was employed over 30 years ago. This person having not attained another certificate beyond that one and he/she remains in our employment system, then there is something bad in this system.

What we are going is to present this matter to the Governor, ask him to have a sitting with the CEC Member for Agriculture and this House to discuss the state of agriculture in this county. We are going to be very serious on this matter.

Applause

Speaker: So, we are going to communicate accordingly and the disappointments are going to be registered with the seriousness they call for.

Next order.

MOTION

Hon. James Mwangi Gichuki is not in the House to move the motion

Speaker: It seems the mover of the motion is not available and pursuant to the standing orders, that motion is dropped until otherwise reinstated by the speaker.

Hon. Joyce Nyambura raises a point of clarification.

Speaker: Yes county member from Magumu, Hon. Joyce Ng'ang'a.

Hon. Joyce Ng'ang'a: Mr. Speaker, I request for clarity from you because the motion is a continuation of yesterday's debate.

Speaker: The motion was already there?

The Speaker consults with the clerk-at-the-table and confirms that the motion had already been moved in the previous session

Very well for that information. So the motion has been moved and therefore we do not require the presence of the Leader of Majority and therefore the previous direction is vacated and that motion is alive and any contribution is welcome.

Hon. Members it seems there is no member who is interested to contribute to the motion and therefore it will continue as directed by the House Business Committee. It was supposed to go for about four days. Therefore, it is still alive and will continue in anticipation of debate by the members on the same.

Next order.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The business of this house having been exhausted, Hon. Members, this House will now adjourn to today Wednesday in the afternoon. That is, the 24th day of February, 2016 at 2:30 pm.

The House rose at 12:14 p.m.