

REPUBLIC OF KENYA <u>THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF THARAKA NITHI</u> <u>SECOND ASSEMBLY – (SIXTH SESSION)</u> <u>COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR</u>

Honourable Members,

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to the penultimate ordinary sitting of the Second Assembly Sixth Session as per the Assembly Calendar.

We are all alive to the fact that this is an election year and running the Assembly through this period has certainly presented its fair share of challenges. I thank the Honorable Members for debating while still upholding the decorum and dignity of the Assembly.

Honourable Members,

This being the last sitting day of the Sixth Session also serves as the last sitting day of the Second Assembly. As we come to the close of the sittings of the Second Assembly, it is worth noting that this Assemblyhas been able to distinguish itself fromand buildonthe foundation created by the First Assembly. The Second Assembly has improved on its output in terms of the number and quality of Bills passed by the Assembly, in terms of Motions and resolutions considered by theAssembly, in terms of how it processes requests for Statements, in terms of processing public Petitions, and in how it responds with solutions, from time to time, to the challenges facing the County.

Honorable Members,

Unlike the First Assembly which faced numerous challenges that affected its operationalisation, we must acknowledge that the foundation has now been laid by the Second Assembly, and the Third Assembly will carry-on the exemplary execution of this important task of legislation and oversight of the County Executive.

Honorable Members,

In the Second Assembly the Honorable Members went above and beyond the call of duty in discharging their constitutional mandate and, considered Thirty-nine (39) Bills, thirty-six(36) of which have since been assented to and are now law, one (1) is on the order paper for consideration today and two (2) that are pending at second reading.

Honorable Members,

I wish to thank all the Honorable Members for their zeal and commitment in execution of their mandate of Oversight, Legislation and Representationdespite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the Second Assembly, pursuant to Article 185 of the Constitution, the House was able to pass the following Bills:

- 1. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2017
- 2. The Tharaka Nithi County Bursaries (Amendment) Bill, 2018
- 3. The Tharaka Nithi County Emergency Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2018
- 4. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2018
- 5. The Tharaka Nithi County Appropriation Bill, 2018
- 6. The Tharaka Nithi County Finance Bill 2018
- 7. The Tharaka Nithi County Investment and Development Corporation Bill, 2018
- 8. The Tharaka Nithi County Finance Bill, 2019
- 9. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2019
- 10. The Tharaka Nithi County Climate Change Fund Bill, 2019
- 11. The Tharaka Nithi County Appropriation Bill, 2019
- 12. The Tharaka Nithi County Persons Living with Disability Bill, 2019

- 13. The Tharaka Nithi County Tea Bill 2019
- 14. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill(2), 2019
- 15. The Tharaka Nithi County Public Nuisance Bill, 2020
- 16. The Tharaka Nithi County Traffic and Transport Management Bill, 2020
- 17. The Tharaka Nithi County E-Waste Management Bill, 2020
- 18. The Tharaka Nithi County Reproductive Health Rights Bill, 2020
- 19. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill (2), 2020
- 20. The Tharaka Nithi County Appropriation Bill, 2020
- 21. The Tharaka Nithi County Pre-Primary Education Bill, 2020
- 22. Tharaka Nithi County Laws Inspectorate Compliance and Enforcement Bill, 2020
- 23. Tharaka Nithi County Disaster Management Bill, 2020
- 24. Tharaka Nithi County Flag, Emblems and Name Protection Bill, 2020
- 25. Tharaka Nithi County Youth Empowerment Bill, 2020
- 26. The Tharaka Nithi County Alcoholic Drinks Control Bill, 2020
- 27. The Tharaka Nithi County Water Services Bill, 2020
- 28. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2021
- 29. The Tharaka Nithi County Appropriation Bill, 2021
- 30. The Tharaka Nithi County Health Services and Sanitation Bill, 2021
- 31. The Tharaka Nithi County Finance Bill, 2021
- 32. The Tharaka Nithi County Road Asset Management Bill, 2021
- 33. The TharakaNithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2021
- 34. The Tharaka Nithi County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2022
- 35. The Tharaka Nithi County Appropriation Bill, 2022
- 36. The Tharaka Nithi County Finance Bill, 2022

In addition, over this period the Assembly has considered, adopted and approved various committee reports, Motions, Petitions, Statements and transactedother Business.

Honorable Members,

I wish to bring to the attention of the Assembly that, going by our practice and the Standing Orders, certain business that has not been concludedat the end of this Session, such as Bills and Statements, have lapsed. The following Bills that are currently pending at second reading have lapsed and may be considered afresh in the Third Assembly:

- 1. The Tharaka Nithi County Equitable Development Bill, 2019
- 2. The Tharaka Nithi County Livestock Sales Yard Bill, 2020

Honorable Members,

I wish to extend gratitude to the chairpersons, vice-chairpersons and Members of all the Committees for their dedication and performance in their respective committees.

Honorable Members,

In addition to its representative, legislative and oversight roles, the Assembly has achieved various milestones over the last five years. Among these is the refurbishment and improvement of the County Assembly Chuka offices, procurement of the County Assembly Bus and construction of the Speaker's official residence at Kathwana. The Assembly has also developed various polices, the strategic plan, conducted successful Corporate Social Responsibility activities and run its first internship programme.

Additionally, the Assembly held itsfirst and successful sitting outside the County Assembly Chambers dubbed 'Bunge Mashinani'.

Honorable Members,

I wish to also thank the County Assembly Service Board and the Tharaka Nithi County Assembly staff for their dedication and devotion to the County Assembly Service and its smooth running regardless of the challenges that have been encountered from time to time.

Honorable Members,

I wish to also extend special gratitude to the executive arm of the County Government under the Leadership of His Excellency the Governor MuthomiNjuki, for the cooperation and support they have extended to the Assembly through honouring Committee invitations and timely response to Statements among others.

Honorable Members,

I wishto most sincerely thank His Excellency the Governor MuthomiNjuki for the functional relationship between the executive arm and the legislative arm of the Government that has ensured smooth operation of the Assembly and the entire government. I wish to also thank him for recognizing the leadership qualities in this second assembly and thus choosing his running mate from one of us. Indeed, that is of leader of the calling а good the people. Congratulations HonourableMuisraeliNyagaDerebia on your nomination to vie alongside His Excellency the Governor to be the next Deputy Governor of the County of Tharaka Nithi. We wish you the very best.

Honorable Members,

Let me take this opportunity to wish all the Honorable Members seeking various elective posts in the upcoming General Elections scheduled to be held on 9th August, 2022 all the best. The Second Assembly has elevated the sense of duty for members and for the first time Members of the County Assembly are Seeking higher offices of the deputy Governor, the Senator and Women representative. Honourable Members, it is my hope that you will all continue serving the people of Tharaka Nithi faithfully and diligently.

Honorable Members,

As the Assembly proceeds to adjourn *Sine die* later this afternoon, let me give some guidance on the following matters:

First, the Clerk of the County Assembly will issue a memogiving guidance matters of clearance, handover of assets, ward offices, as well as the expected transition of staff serving at the ward offices.

Secondly, both the Assembly and its Committees will cease transacting Businessonce the assembly adjourns*sine die*, save for consideration of very urgent and important County issues, during which a Special Sitting of the Assembly may be called. Accordingly, the sittings of all Committees stand suspended effective this afternoon.

Honourable Members,

It has been a great honour and privilege to serve this Assembly and the people of Tharaka Nithi as the Speaker of the Second Assembly. I am humbled by the immense confidence and trust you bestowed upon me in entrusting me to serve as Speaker of the Assembly, and for the support you have extended to my Office throughout this term of the Second Assembly. I have the hope that we will meet and work together in future irrespective of the outcome of August 9th whether in private or public service.

Philippians Chapter one Verse six says that 'be confident of this, that he whobegan a good work in you will carry it on to completionuntil the day of Christ Jesus'.

God bless you.

God bless Tharaka Nithi.

I thank you.

RT. HON. DAVID MBAYA SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THARAKA NITHI

8thJune, 2022