



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KILIFI

SECOND ASSEMBLY –THIRD SESSION

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 10th March 2020

*The House met at the County Assembly Chamber,
Malindi Town, at 2:30 p.m.*

[The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

STATEMENTS

INCOMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF KACHORORONI DISPENSARY SEPTIC TANK IN GANZE WARD

Hon. Chengo: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to read a Statement to the Executive Committee Member in charge of Health Services through the Chairperson, Committee Health Services on septic tank at Kachororoni Dispensary, 2016/17 project.

Whether, the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Health Services (CECM) is aware that the septic tank at Kachororoni Dispensary project has stalled.

If yes, what measures is the CECM taking to ensure that the project is completed to benefit the great people of Ganze?

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NON-CONSTRUCTION OF JILA DISPENSARY SEPTIC TANK

Hon. Chengo: I also want to read another Statement to the Executive Committee Member in charge of Health Services through the Chairperson, Committee Health Services on septic tank at Jila Dispensary, 2016/17 project.

Whether, the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Health Services (CECM) is aware that the septic tank at Jila Dispensary a Project for Financial Year 2016/17 is yet to be done.

If yes, what measures is the CECM taking to ensure that the project is started and completed for the benefit of the people who use the facility? Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

MOTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH MOBILE CLINICS

Hon. (Ms.) Carol: Thank you Mr. Speaker. The Motion is on the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Health Services and that of Gender, Culture, Youth and Social Services Departments;

THAT, AWARE THAT, a majority of women and girls in Kilifi County are faced with reproductive health challenges,

FURTHER AWARE THAT, these women suffer for lack of proper information and support from concerned officials.

CONCERNED THAT, Kilifi County has also been ranked top in early pregnancy cases with statistics from Children's Department alluding that 14,000 girls succumbed to teenage pregnancies in 2018.

ALIVE TO THE FACT THAT, early pregnancies expose teenage mothers to a wide array of health complications including but not limited to pre and post-natal depression, fistula and nutritional deficiency;

NOW THEREFORE, this honourable House urges the Department of Health Services in collaboration with the Department of Gender and Social Services to set up reproductive health mobile Clinics in every sub-county that shall focus on delivering reproductive health care including screening and treatment.

The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi): Yes proceed.

Hon. (Ms.) Carol: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. I stand here on behalf of the suffering women and teenage girls of Kilifi County. These women are our wives, are our daughters and mothers. Reproductive health challenges have exposed our wives, women, and daughters to sexual violence, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions, STI including HIV and also maternal illnesses that lead to death. But why, Mr. Speaker? This is because these women or teenage girls cannot access medical facilities; the only facilities available are far from the villages. They also do not have proper information or cannot access the medical facilities. The only facilities available are far from the villages.

They also do not have proper information or support from clinical officers. Some of the information that they lack is on contraception, sexual transmitted diseases, abortion, female genital mutilation, child or teenage pregnancies and reproductive health. Due to all this, it has

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ranked Kilifi County top in early teenage pregnancies. This has exposed our mothers to STIs, pre and postnatal depressions, fistula and other deficiencies.

The urge to have mobile clinics in all the seven sub counties is because our women and mothers do not have access to the few facilities that are in the wards or sub counties. That is why this hon. House urges the Department of Health Services in collaboration with the Department of Gender and Social Services to set up reproductive health mobile clinics in every sub-county that shall focus on delivering reproductive health care.

Mr. Speaker, it is a want; we have the right to health care as it is a fundamental human right guaranteed in the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. We have Beyond Zero mobile clinics which are stationed at the Department of Health; this was launched by the First Lady, Her Excellency, Margaret Kenyatta and its goals were to improve maternal and child health care. Unfortunately, since it was launched in 2014, the people of Rabai have not seen these mobile clinics. I do not know of my fellow hon. Members. In Rabai, if I can give you a case study of Mwawesa, we have only one facility, being a dispensary. In a population of 16,000 we just have one facility. The other facility is 20 kilometers away and that is the Shika Adabu hospital. Our mothers, our wives and daughters are dying; the rate of maternal deaths is very high because these women cannot access the facility.

So, with this mobile van, it should be able to get into the very interior of the wards. The van that is available in Kilifi County has just been stationed at the hospital and personally, I have not seen any move that the Department has done to serve the people of Kilifi County. The Constitution provides that every person has a right to the highest attainable standard of health which includes the right to health care services including reproductive healthcare. With those few remarks, I humbly request the House to support this Motion so that we help our women and mothers or even teenage girls in accessing health services in Kilifi County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi): Who is going to second the Motion?

Hon. (Ms.) Carol: I hereby request hon. Saumu (hon. Sidi) to second the Motion

(Hon. (Ms.) Sidi seconded)

The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi): Thank you.

(Question proposed)

The Speaker(Hon. Kahindi): Yes hon. (Ms.) Sidi.

Hon. (Ms.) Sidi: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity and to also appreciate the Mover of the Motion for selecting me to be the seconder of the Motion. We are here courtesy of reproduction and it is by the reproductive systems that help to have generations and generations. Kilifi is lagging behind in terms of taking care of the women especially when they are pregnant.

The mover of the Motion has highlighted the Beyond Zero initiative that was brought by the First Lady, Ms. Margret Kenyatta. This initiative is not felt at the grass root. I am saying this without fear that it has not helped the people in the coastal region. As the women of this hon. House, we have decided that this Motion will be a replica of the Beyond Zero initiative but tailor made to our own issues at Kilifi County.

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Most of the patients are vulnerable during pregnancy. For that it becomes difficult for them to move from one place to the other to seek medical care. For example, KambeRibe where I came from, the only facility that one can get good services is in Mwawesa or Kaloleni which beats the essences of right to health. This Motion is important since it will provide better health care for our women and teenager girls and improve access to health care. With those few remarks, I wish to call especially the hon. Members from the male gender because these are our mothers, sister and daughter. We are proud that the Health Committee is being held by our able Chairperson, the hon. Member of Sokoke, and we are hopeful that this Motion will see the light of the day.

Hon. Thaura: Thank you for this opportunity. I want to make my contribution towards the Motion that has been brought by the hon. Member from Mwawesa.

Reproductive health is so fundamental considering the fact that there have been rampant cases of early pregnancy in the county that have affected the lives of our young girls. We also have the cases of HIV infection; most teenage pregnancies lead to HIV infection and S.T.I. Though we have few facilities in the county but our girls are not regular visitors to them. My opinion is, the mobile clinics should put more emphasis on school giving awareness to the young girls and boys.

I would also want us to look at the budgetary allocation; one thing that I have noticed is that we have not allocated monies to projects and issues that affect our people. There is failure of drugs getting to the health facilities in *mashinani*. So, if we do not have drugs, how are we going to implement this Motion? As we pass this Motion, we should also consider its implementation measures in terms of monies.

Hon. (Ms.) Koki: Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I stand to support this Motion. A lot has been said by my fellow Members but I want to add on something on the early pregnancies. Most of these children fear stigma which makes them not to go for anti-natal clinics. When we take the mobile services down to the women and girls to the *mwananchi* then the young girls will be willing to come out and get the services.

I will give a practical example. I worked at Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and I was based at a labuor ward for three years and most of these women were not attending anti-natal. When they come to give birth, a woman is telling me and I quote “*nilikuwa nikichukua mihaso*” claiming dispensaries are very far. The number of children born without anti-natal is worrying. How would you imagine a kid being born with the head looking behind or a kid being born with a lot of deformities because of the hustles the women were taking back at home?

So, when these services are brought down to the woman, they will know they are supposed to go for anti-natal services. They will know how to take care of their pregnancies and their health. So I stand to support this Motion. I think it is long overdue and I urge this House to support it so that we can have these services brought down. As I sit also in the Committee of Health, we have to make sure that through the Chairperson, we have to see that these Motions that we are passing are very important and we have to see that they come to operation before our term come to an end. Thank you so much.

Hon. Shaban: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this opportunity to support this Motion which has been brought by hon. Carol Maku Kalume who is among one of the best

MCAs we have in Rabai Sub-County and that is why we are preparing her for a big position come 2022.

Mr. Speaker Sir, allow me to say that, this Motion has been brought at a time when our mothers and our young girls need these facilities. When I was in high school, we use to have a facility which offered reproductive health issues at the youth counseling centre in Mombasa and sometimes we used to do some outreaches in all the Sub-Counties at the time it was District and many young people used to know adolescent and reproductive issues at a very tender age. That is why I was able to pass through adolescence stage very well and having attained the age of 29 that is when I got married and that is when I was first involved in these all issues. This is because of the education I got at the Mombasa youth counseling centre which empowered me at the time which in Kiswahili we say ‘*wakati wetu*’.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to say that this facility will help many people especially our young girls so that at the end of the day, they may concentrate in school at the right time so that after they have completed school, they are able to do all these things. I support this Motion brought by the hon. Member and I urge my fellow Members to support it fully so that it may see the light of the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir and I beg to sit.

Hon. Kiraga: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also stand to support this Motion but before I give my submissions, I also wish to thank the hon. Member for bringing this Motion to this House. This shows how best the Member is well concerned with the agony we are seeing as far as our young girls and women are concerned.

Mr. Speaker, in reproductive health, there are some concerns which are seen which we should talk about when talking about reproductive health. One of the concerns we have what we call the uterine fibroids. This is something which is very alarming especially to young girls and this is one of the reproductive health concerns and also HIV and AIDS which is also a concern; and not forgetting STDs which are Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Another concern we have is abortions. We all understand when abortion is done by unqualified personnel; you will see the repercussions behind that. Again, another concern in the reproductive health you see among young girls is usage of crude rags when it comes to menstruation periods, and this is due to lack of sanitary pads. This in fact is the major cause of fibroids in most of the young girls.

The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, is also very much concerned with the health of the citizens of Kenya and that is why it is entirely enshrined in some of the Articles, that every human being is entitled to quality health care. More so, if you look at the Policy Statements both of the National Government and the County Government, they are talking of good health care. We talk of the Five Point Agenda for the National Government and currently we have the Seven Point Agenda in the County Government; they are talking deeply about quality health care. So I believe the young ladies are not exempted to those aspirations of both levels of government. It is true that by setting up mobile clinics, these mobile clinics will be able to enter the remote areas of the County, and at least to salvage the situations we are having in those areas.

Mr. Speaker, I was in one girl’s secondary school and I had I talk with the principal of that school and she told me a lot of bad experiences of those girls because of poverty. The items they are using to contain themselves when it comes to menstruation periods and I think I talked to hon. Carol and I requested for pads for that school. I also had an opportunity to call the Women Representative and I also contacted my fellow Member for Bamba; there is a group in Bamba which has done tremendously well in those areas. I had a talk with my fellow Member if

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that group could come to my ward and try to give awareness and if possible distribute those sanitary pads to the young girls.

Some of the girls contracted HIV and AIDS out of poverty; this is something that we need to look at as an Assembly and this is where laws are made and we should not fear the issues to do with recourses in these areas; we have a lot of partners when it comes to the issues of HIV/AIDS, STDs and reproductive health. If you look at our budget and as the Chairperson was putting it, you will not see a substantial amount of money placed under those programmes because there are so many partners who are doing these things. The monitoring aspect of these partners is very weak. So I would wish the Health Committee of which I am also a member, we need to up our game, to make sure that these development partners are doing whatever they are mandated to do in this County.

I would wish also to thank a partner by the name Institute of Public Finance in Kenya that has a component which was created recently to do some monitoring and evaluation to these partners who are responsible with issues to do with various health programmes not limited to reproductive health, immunization, advocacy and very many programmes which these partners are doing. So, it is our committees both the Health and Gender Committees collectively to see into it that these partners are doing whatever their mandate commands them. The money they receive from various donors is public funds and should be utilized correctly. I therefore support this Motion for its adoption. Thank you so much.

Hon. (Ms.) Winfred: Asante sana mheshimiwa Spika kwa nafasi hii uliyonipa mchana wa leo. Nachukua fursa hii kidogo pia mimi nimkaribishe mheshimiwa Riziki akiwa mwanafunzi mwenzangu pale Kilifi Township, alinikaribisha nilipoenda kidato cha kwanza. Nasimama kuunga mkono Mswada huu ambao mheshimiwa wa Mwawesa ameuleta kwamba kukawe na hizi *clinics* katika maeneo yale ambayo yameathiri wasichana wetu. Mimi pia nataka kusema machache kuhusiana na hizi zahanati kwamba zikaweze kuenea katika kila sehemu hasa zile sehemu ambazo ziko ndanindani.

Nataka nitoe mfano kama kule Wadi ya Chasimba. Kuna sehemu inaitwa Bayamose. Bayamose ni sehemu ambayo iko mbali kabisa hata wakati mwengine tukifanya kampeni walikuwa wanasema sisi ni kama hatuko Kenya. Na kule kuna shule za wasichana, wavulana na kina mama zetu ambao wakati mwengine wanatatizika. Unapata msichana wa shule amepata mimba ama ugonjwa na hata yeye mwenyewe hajifahamu na kwa sababu mahali ambapo kunapatikana usaidizi ni mbali, unapata msichana Yule anapata wakati mgumu wa kutembea mpaka kwa ile zahanati, kwa sababu labda anaogopa ama anaona haya ama wakati mwengine wanakosa uwezo wa kifedha kufika katika ile zahanati.

Kwa hivyo, hizi zahanati zikiweza kufikia yale maeneo ambayo yako ndani na kina mama zetu wanaotatizika wakaweze kufikiwa ili wakapate kusaidika. Itakuwa ni vyema na inapendeza. Hivyo basi nauliza Nyumba hii ikaunge mkono huu Mswada upite ili hizi zahanati za kuzunguka zikaweze kuenea kila mahali na akina mama wetu, wasichana, vijana na wazee wakaweze kusaidika na kupata maendeleo katika Kilifi yetu. Asante sana mheshimiwa Spika.

Hon. (Ms.) Messo: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. Where I get mad is because of early pregnancy. Because according to the Statement I can see in 2018 early pregnancy statistics were 14,000; now we are in 2020 which means the number has increased. Which it is very bad and hon. (Ms.) Carol, I congratulate you. Thank you so much for this Motion. I think these 14,000 girls are mostly HIV positive, because men have been lied to that if they have sex with a virgin it

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will cure them. That is why HIV is very high in Kilifi and again most girls are dropping out of school. What is their future? So I think any mature man who has sex or rapes an innocent girl should be castrated. Most men are beasts; they do not have human sympathy.

So, I beg this House to support this Motion but I also urge this House that any mature man who has sex with underage girls should be castrated and I repeat, should be castrated. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi): Yes hon. Maitha Masha.

Hon. Maitha: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I rise in support of the Motion. Mr. Speaker, let me congratulate the mover of the Motion because the Motion is in line the Kenya Health Policy that had a vision of 2020 to 2030; that in Kenya we should have access to quality and effective health. The objective of this policy and I urge the Chairperson of the Committee of Health to make a close follow up of this policy because objective number four states that ‘the health sector should provide essential health care’ of which in Kilifi County we are yet to reach there. The mobile health clinics are very important especially to us representing wards in the remote areas, though it does not mean the wards in towns are not suffering or experiencing the challenges of reproductive health.

There is one aspect we should put emphasis on and the Chairperson Health should listen carefully. In towns we have so many herbal clinics which use literature that is not in compliance with medical guidelines. They use words that make our people to believe that herbal medicines work well but there is no research on them. Hon. Kiraga has pointed the issue of fibroids. These are cases that can be handled in the hospital if detected early. Instead, they will use herbal medicines from China and believe they will get assistance but after certain duration, the fibroids have enlarged and the medication is very costly. If there is good civic education on reproductive health, our people will be aware and seek medication earlier. I fully support this Motion and urge the Chairperson Budget to push the CECM to come up with a policy to implement the mobile clinics so that our people can access the health services.

Hon. (Ms.) Victoria: Asante sana mheshimiwa Spika. Nimesimama kuunga mkono Hoja iliyoletwa na Mheshimiwa wa Mwawesa. Kama viongozi tumeshuhudia visa vilivyowapata wasichana wetu kwa kukosa huduma hizi mashinani. Mwaka wa 2008, nikijifungua mtoto wangu wa mwisho, nililazwa wadi moja na msichana wa shule kutoka sehemu za Ruruma. Alikuwa na uoga wa kuenda hospitali. Nilijaribu kumhoji yule msichana maana kwa kumuangalia alikuwa umri wa mwanangu wa kwanza. Aliniambia mvulana aliyeweka ujauzito huo alitoroka na alipoanza kuhisi matatizo kwa tumbo alienda kwa mkunga na kwa bahati mbaya yule mtoto alivurujika ndani ya tumbo hadi madaktari wakasusia kumtibu.

Iwapo kungekuwa na huduma hizi, msichana yule angesaidika. Naunga mkono Hoja hii natuipitishie kwa haraka ili kuokoa kina mama na wasichana wetu. Siku hizi kumekuwa na kesi nyingi za kujifungua kupitia upasuaji. Kina mama wanapoteza watoto maana vituo vya afya viko mbali na maeneo wanayokaa. Naunga mkono Mswaada huu; wacha upite bila kupingwa.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi): In the absence of any other business in the Order Paper, the House stands adjourned.

The House rose at 3:16 p.m.