



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KILIFI

SECOND ASSEMBLY –FOURTH SESSION

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 26th August 2020

*The House met at the County Assembly Chamber,
Malindi Town, at 9:30 a.m.*

ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

[His Excellency the Governor (Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi) escorted by the Speaker of the County Assembly (Hon. Jimmy Kahindi) and accompanied by the Mace entered the Chamber at thirty minutes past nine a.m.]

*[His Excellency the Governor (Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi) took the Chair]
(The Mace was placed on the Table)*

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DIGNITARIES ACCOMPANYING THE GOVERNOR

The Speaker (Hon. Kahindi): Hon. Members, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 20, the procedure to hear the second Governors Address to the County Assembly being the 26th of August 2020. I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Gallery of Members and Officers of the County Public Service that have accompanied His Excellency the Governor today. I will request that each Member or Officer to stand when called upon so that we can acknowledge in the Parliamentary practices:-

1. Hon. Samuel Kombe Nzai
2. Hon. Mwachitu Kiringi
3. Hon. Professor Gabriel Katana Gona

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4. Hon. Rachel Musyoki
5. Hon. Maureen Mwangovya
6. Hon. Charles Dadu
7. Hon. Stanley...
8. Hon. Silvester Josphat
9. Mr. Mulewa Safari Katana
10. Ms. Michelle Bibi Fondo
11. Dr. Bilali Mwadzoya
12. Mr. Hassan Chirindo
13. Mr. Simon Jonah

On behalf of the County Assembly of Kilifi and on my own behalf, I welcome you to the County Assembly. Hon. Members, as a matter of Parliamentary, practices and traditions, when delivering an Address to the County Assembly the Governor shall be heard in silence and the speech shall not be followed by any comment or question. Without much ado, I wish to invite His Excellency the Governor Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi to make his Second Address to the County Assembly of Kilifi.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY

His Excellency the Governor (Amason Kingi): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This year, my address looks fairly long, so I would be asking if I can be helped with a bottle of water nearby in case I need it and maybe, it should be sanitized.

Honourable Speaker, Hon. Jimmy Kahindi, Honourable Deputy Speaker, Hon. Stanley Karisa Kenga, Leader of Majority, Hon. Adamson Mwathethe Kadenge, Leader of Minority, Hon. Valentine Matsaki Mwamanga, Honourable Members of the County Assembly, Honourable Members of the County Executive Committee, The County Secretary, The Clerk of the Assembly, and all Assembly staff, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

First, allow me to deliver apologies, from the Deputy Governor, H.E. Gideon Saburi Tunje, he is unable to be here with us here today because he is not feeling well. Ladies and gentlemen, it has been three eventful years since the people of Kilifi County gave to all of us elected leaders gathered in this August House today; the mandate to serve them. Their expectation was that we would put in place a robust development agenda that fully espouses their aspirations and dreams.

I would wish to state today, without fear of contradiction, that the Executive and Members of the County Assembly have spared no effort during this duration, to ensure the burning desire of our people to progress continues to be fulfilled and their lives changed for the better. Therefore, I take this opportunity to unreservedly commend each and every Honourable Member of this County Assembly for living up to this great expectation and working tirelessly to ensure the people of Kilifi County get the services they rightfully deserve from their County Government.

Members of the County Assembly and the House leadership have always engaged the Executive in the course of their legislative duties whenever occasion demanded. This collaboration has ensured that laws, regulations and policies they enact and, which are

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subsequently implemented by the Executive, culminate in win-win outcomes for the citizens of this great county.

Mr. Speaker, this indeed, is the right time for all of us, both in the Executive and Assembly, to undertake what amounts to a mid-term appraisal of our performance and keenly reflect on the gains and achievements realized so far and the challenges encountered, with a view to determining what more needs to be done in order to attain our shared obligation to our people. As the direct representatives of the people of Kilifi County, your supervisory role and influence over any development agenda or initiative that affects their lives cannot be gainsaid and it is the sole reason the Executive persistently reaches out to you in continuous dialogue and engagement that ensures any development programme initiated by the Executive has your approval and that of the people of Kilifi through relevant public participation forums. That is the unity of purpose envisaged in the Constitution of Kenya 2010, and whose promulgation marked the dawn of a new political dispensation, a key plank of which is the devolved government.

Mr. Speaker, the introductory part of my speech would be incomplete without a mention of a phenomenon that has come to define our waking moments and dictated virtually every action we take and conversations we have not only in this county but the entire nation of Kenya and indeed the whole world. This is the COVID-19 pandemic. Ever since it reached our land early this year, COVID-19 or Corona virus has occasioned untold agony, pain, anguish and losses of such an astronomical magnitude never before experienced in our country or globally. No household in this country has been left unscathed – directly or indirectly. For those not infected by the virus, the effect has manifested in a host of other ways such as dead or ailing relatives, friends and work mates. It has occasioned job losses and neutered business opportunities on a scale never witnessed before. The radical changes imposed on our lifestyles by COVID-19 and the dos and don'ts it has occasioned will be here with us for a long time to come, albeit grudgingly, we have to accept this as the new normal.

Mr. Speaker, Kilifi County has not been spared the ravages of the pandemic. COVID-19 has changed every aspect of our life and every sector of our economy. From closed schools and other learning institutions, to shut businesses, changed work environment, limited interactions in socio-economic spheres and eroded purchasing power of our people, the devastation of COVID-19 is clear to all of us.

As at Tuesday, 25th day of August, 2020 Kilifi County had cumulatively recorded 154 positive cases out of 6,000 tests conducted since the pandemic was first reported in Kenya in March, 2020. This figure includes the six cases recorded in the first wave of the infection in the county. Currently, there are six patients in facility isolation at Sahajanaad in Mtwapa, while 12 are recovering at home. We have had a total of four deaths since we reported our first case. I am happy to report that the rest of the patients recovered and have subsequently been discharged. With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I would at this point humbly urge honourable Members of the House and all of us present to observe a minute of silence in honour and memory of our fellow Kenyans and indeed all those across the world who have lost their lives to this pandemic. Thank you.

[Hon. Members observed a minute of silence]

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would wish to thank, most sincerely, our health workers for their selflessness, sacrifice, hard work and dedication that has enabled the county respond effectively to the pandemic. They placed their lives on the line, serving as the frontline soldiers in the battle

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against the killer virus. Our health workers have endured long and odd working hours and risked their lives taking care of those infected, counseling them and their relatives and basically ensuring the rest of the population is safe from the virus. This is the highest form of sacrifice one would ever expect from any cadre of workers and we forever remain indebted to our heroes and heroines-the county health staff and their families.

On its part, my government has rolled out a raft of measures and interventions to protect the public from further infections and mitigate the impact of the pandemic. To this extent, we have been in constant touch with the National Government on how to adopt public health best practices to limit new cases, manage infections and generally work towards enabling the people engage in gainful economic activities as a key step towards getting both the county and national economies back on their feet. As leaders, it is our duty to use every opportunity to mobilize the public to do everything possible to avoid contracting the virus.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has persistently implored in its daily address and updates that our people be continuously reminded to adhere to the guidelines issued by the MoH and World Health Organization (WHO) to avoid catching this deadly virus. These preventive measures are: Wearing of a facial mask, frequent cleaning of the hands using soap and water or alcohol based sanitizer, social distancing, and move out when it is really necessary, seeking urgent medical attention if one exhibits a fever, cough and difficulty in breathing.

In the absence of a cure and vaccine for the virus, these measures remain our only hope and this reality must be made clear to our people at every opportunity. As we have been constantly reminded, our safety is in our hands, in as far as keeping this virus at bay is concerned. I would wish to thank a majority of our people for adhering to these measures and urge them to continue.

Mr. Speaker, in my First Address to this House on the 24th day of April, 2018, I gave a commitment that my government would for the remainder of its lifespan, give full attention to keeping Kilifi County moving forward on all matters of development. This it has done, and continues to undertake through prudent management and utilization of resources placed in our hands for the benefit of the people of Kilifi County. My government has remained resolute in the pursuit of this goal and today, I stand before you to give a report on the achievements of my administration so far, with specific reference to the financial year (FY) 2019/2020. My address will also highlight what we intend to do this financial year and going forward.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I must state that despite the many challenges that we had to contend with, including the Corona virus pandemic that had negative repercussions on our operations and project implementation programmes, we managed to record achievements in all sectors of our economy, all of which will go a long way in changing the lives of our people for the better. I reiterate our commitment to continuing faithfully on this trajectory in the FY 2020/2021. I now proceed to present to you highlights of the achievements of my government, as captured in Department's Reports in each and every Department of the County Government:

1. FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

Mr. Speaker, my government has consistently prepared development plans and Fiscal Policy documents within the set statutory timelines. In the past one year, the following documents were prepared and submitted to the County Assembly within the set timelines:

1. The County Annual Development Plan (CADP) for the FY 2020/2021- submitted in August 2019,

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2. The County Budget Review and Outlook Paper (CBROP) - Submitted in September 2019,
3. The Finance Bill, 2019-submitted in September 2019,
4. The County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) -submitted in February 2020, and
5. The Budget Estimates for FY 2020/2021 - submitted in April 2020.

I am happy to note that the County Assembly approved these plans and Fiscal Policy documents within the timelines set in law. My government has made notable improvements in its operations and financial reporting. In the audit of FY 2017/2018 financial statements by the Office of the Auditor General, the County obtained a qualified report with a marked improvement in the quality of the audit report. This achievement enabled the county to qualify for the Level II Kenya Devolution Support Programme Grant of Kshs102 million for the FY 2019-2020.

A qualified report was among the pre-requisites for the funding which the county managed to attain and maintain for two consecutive financial years. The County Government of Kilifi is among the first twelve counties to settle their pending bills as audited by the Office of the Auditor General in February 2019. This measure ensured our service providers and contractors are not subjected to painful waiting before being paid what is rightfully theirs. This show of financial prudence also enabled the County to enjoy uninterrupted disbursement of its equitable share from the National Treasury at a time when the National Treasury decided to stop funding for counties that had not settled their pending bills.

Mr. Speaker, in the FY 2018/2019, the county recorded its highest own source revenue collection of Kshs864 million compared to Kshs508 million in FY 2017/2018. This is evidence of improved revenue collection efficiency partly as a result of automating our revenue collection. This achievement qualifies the County for a share of funds under the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) fiscal responsibility criteria in the sharing of revenue between counties during FY 2020/2021. The revenue collection performance for FY 2019/2020 was badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic of which the County Government had to grant reliefs and waivers to its taxpayers in order to cushion them against the adverse economic effects caused by the disease. That notwithstanding, the county managed to collect Kshs788 million, less than Kshs100 million from the collection of the previous year. My government has also maintained healthy working relationships with the various donors and think-tank institutions.

Over the last one year, my government has sought technical assistance to review the revenue raising measures potential for own source revenue to electively measure the impact of revenue raising measures. We have also sought for technical assistance to review the existing public investment management policies as well as strengthen investment promotion policies for the government. In this regard, I am happy to report that my government has entered into a partnership engagement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC-World Bank) in which IFC is supporting the County Government in putting up a county headquarters fiber metro network. This will strengthen internet connectivity between County Departments and in turn allow effective delivery and utilization of E-government services. It is also supporting the County Government in the technological upgrading of own source revenue processes with focus on revenue streams not yet automated.

My government also is still implementing the Sustainable Urban Economic Development (SUED) programme with support from UK Aid. This programme, which we signed-off last year aims at strengthening sustainable urban economic development for strategic urban areas within the county with focus on the Malindi Municipality.

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With Kilifi being among the first counties in which COVID-19 cases were reported, there was an urgent need to heighten the level of preparedness in mitigating against the spread of the disease. This came at a time when there was no budget for emergency interventions. My government drafted the Kilifi County Emergency Fund Bill, whose enactment established the Kilifi County Emergency Fund. I applaud the County Assembly for expeditiously passing the Bill into law and appropriating Kshs220 million into the Emergency Fund through a Supplementary Appropriation Act.

Through the Emergency Fund, the County has managed to finance a number of critical interventions including the procurement of medical equipment, personal protective supplies and other non-pharmaceutical public health items. These interventions have also enabled the County to effectively contain the spread of COVID-19 and made it to be ranked high in terms of its preparedness to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. HEALTH SERVICES

Mr. Speaker, health has been earmarked as one of the big four development agendas for the County and my administration has undertaken a number of investments as effort to ensure the County responds to the call for Universal Health Care for people of Kilifi. Appropriate investment and budgetary commitment in this sector are key if we are to deliver on the agenda as envisioned.

Over the years, our budgetary allocation for health services has been increasing rising to 28 percent of the total County budget in the last financial year. In a bid to improve and increase health infrastructure capacity in the last financial year, we opened new health facilities including the Kilifi County COVID-19 Complex and Doctors' residence and maternity theaters in Jibana, Bamba and four dispensaries in Mtwapa and Muyuwa Kaya, Shirango and Kavunyalalo.

The opening of maternity theatres in Jibana and Bamba Sub-County Hospitals has helped improve access to maternal and child healthcare services. Additionally, the maternity theatres in Rabai, Mariakani and Marafa are all above 90 percent construction progress and will be operational by December 2020. The 64-bed ward in Mariakani hospital is complete and awaiting the delivery of equipment and furniture whose tender has already been awarded. It is scheduled to open possibly by September 2020. This will greatly reduce the congestion that is currently experienced within Mariakani hospital. We have procured two medical waste collection trucks as part of our environmental safeguards that shall collect waste from peripheral health facilities and deliver it to central incineration sites in Kilifi and Malindi hospitals.

Under human resource strengthening, my administration has made significant strides in reducing the gap in staffing levels in health facilities with a view to meeting the global standards as set by World Health Organization (WHO).

In the last financial year, we recruited a total of 139 mixed cadres of health personnel under Universal Health Care Program, about 44 percent of them being nurses who are the backbone of health service delivery. The County Government under the Transforming Health Systems (THS) project has strengthened community health strategy in the County through the establishment of 145 Community Health Units. This has increased the coverage by community health units in the county from 30 percent to 78 percent in the last financial year. The remaining units shall be covered during this financial year to achieve the 100 percent target. In addition, we have procured and distributed 48 motorbikes and 200 bicycles to the established units for use by the Community Assistants, and Community Health Volunteers respectively to facilitate their day

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to day movement as they discharge their duties, especially in the less accessible areas of the County.

Mr. Speaker, my government is cognizant of the economic hardship facing the ordinary Kilifian in the County as they strive to put food on the table. Quality healthcare being a basic need that is enshrined in the constitution as a right, my administration has undertaken a program to ensure that the vulnerable and indigents in the County are cushioned in terms of access to healthcare through a government-sponsored financing mechanism. My government has partnered with National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) to provide medical cover that is targeting over 5,000 households in the county.

Last financial year, we enrolled initial 1000 households to the cover that mainly targeted those that suffer from chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension and renal diseases. Moving forward, we commit to progressively scale up the coverage to ensure that every deserving Kilifians benefits from this program.

Mr. Speaker, The Department of Health Services is a prime mover in the management of the prevailing COVID 19 pandemic. A number of measures and interventions have so far been undertaken within the health sector to ensure that Kilifians are protected from the morbidity and mortality associated with the ongoing pandemic; these include: awareness campaigns on COVID-19 in all the 35 wards in the County; refurbishment and establishment of seven isolation centers across the County (COVID-19 Medical Complex, Jibana Sub-County hospital, Mbudzi Health Center, Sahajanaad, Msumarini Dispensary, Gede Health Center, and Kambi yaWaya) with a combined bed capacity of 318; installation of 468 hand washing facilities targeting markets, bus parks and other areas of congregation; mounting of four road blocks to screen and control entry of persons to the County; closure of bars and eateries as outlined in the COVID-19 protocols; and disinfection of public areas and offices.

My government is currently sustaining the measures that were established to ensure the pandemic is controllable within the county despite the challenges we encounter. I take this opportunity to urge us all to pass the message on adherence to COVID-19 protocols to the community, especially on social distancing and basic hygiene in order to control the prevalence of the pandemic that has spread to community level. We have recently recorded two deaths in the County and we must re-energize and re-strategize to avoid more deaths that may be preventable.

Mr. Speaker, we have earmarked a number of key projects in the FY 2020/2021 budget and the coming of Annual Development Plan (ADP) of the health sector in line with the Big Four Agenda geared towards achievement of Universal Health Coverage. These include;

- a. Construction of a Medical Complex at the Mariakani Hospital, which will house a trauma centre, two surgical wards, two theatres and a laboratory.
- b. Expansion of Bamba Sub-County Hospital to include an emergency unit, surgical and medical wards, a pediatric ward and laboratory.
- c. Construction of two surgical wards, six-bed ICU (Intensive Care Unit) and HDU (High Dependency Unit), two theatres, and a trauma center at Malindi Hospital.
- d. Expansion of Kilifi County Hospital New-born Unit to accommodate an ante-natal ward, neo-natal ICU, post-natal ward, and a theatre.
- e. Upgrading of Marafa, Rabai and Mtwapa Health Centers to level four facilities.
- f. Facilitate land survey for purposes of securing land for health facilities (Boundary establishment and acquisition of title deeds/lease documents)

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- g. Develop Master plans for Kilifi County Referral Hospital, Malindi Sub-County referral, Mariakani Sub-County referral, Marafa Sub-County referral, Rabai Sub-county referral, Mtwapa HC and Bamba Sub-County referral.
- h. Completion of Kilifi County Medical Complex project phase 2 which is currently ongoing.

3. TRADE AND TOURISM

Mr. Speaker, in the financial year 2019/2020, the Directorate of Trade initiated several infrastructure projects with the goal of creating an enabling environment for businesses to prosper. Markets across the seven sub-counties were constructed and refurbished thereby increasing the number of trading spaces in the county. This culminated in major milestones which have increased space for our traders. For instance, the Gongoni market in Magarini Sub-County, which officially opened in July this year, has a total of 146 trading spaces; Mtwapa market which is complete will accommodate over 200 traders; Mkwajuni market has 34 trading spaces while Kwajiwa market in Malindi which is also in operation has accommodated over 200 traders.

Cumulatively, the Department of Trade has created over 572 trading spaces in the 2019/2020 financial year. A number of markets have also been refurbished which include Mkwajuni market, Charowa Mae and Malindi Handicraft shade. In this financial year, the Department intends to complete the construction of Matsangoni market in Kilifi North Sub-County and Bamba market. The Department will also initiate the construction of Kaloleni market as well as refurbish other small markets in various parts of the county namely Marata and Sosoni in Magarini Sub-County and Matano Manne and Ganze markets in Ganze Sub-County.

Mr. Speaker, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are key drivers of the economy. They are significant in scaling up the economy of the county. To ensure the MSMEs sector is fully empowered and supported, my government set aside Kshs105, 000,000 million for the Micro Finance (Mbegu) Fund that targets women and youth groups engaged in MSMEs activities. To date, Kshs94, 238,200 has already been disbursed to 573 groups and Cooperatives within the county to help boost their respective businesses. So far Kshs22, 926,717 has been recovered from loan repayments.

Further, my government embarked on capacity building programs where loan beneficiaries in various value chains within the county were trained in order to further their abilities and ensure they meet their set goals, and eventually leading to the expansion of their respective businesses. This will indeed aid the groups in increasing productivity which will culminate in the general growth of the county's revenue. My administration will continue to roll out such programs in order to equip the traders with the necessary requisite skills to enable them manage their businesses effectively. To continue strengthening the MSMEs sector, this financial year we are set to disburse Kshs201, 800,197 to groups, cooperatives and further extend it to individual clients. Worth noting is that this financial year we are rolling out lending to individual clients in addition to the groups and cooperatives loan, asset financing and LPO (Local Purchase Order) finances currently being offered. The LPO financing loan products provides opportunity to women and youth to do business with the county.

Additionally, my government will commence facilitation of KEBS (Kenya Bureau of Standards) certification for products produced by groups. Further, we are planning to automate

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Mbegu Fund by procuring an accounting and loan management system. The fund will also embrace online and mobile phone application that will allow real-time status checks and payments. To spur growth in the MSMEs sector, my administration has developed Strategic Plans for the Fund and the Co-operatives division to provide a road map for their success.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Kilifi County is home to many tourist attraction sites that range from beaches, historical sites, nature-based scenic areas as well as activity-based attractions. My government has in the past developed a documentary for all the tourist and heritage sites in the County for marketing purposes. The County takes pride in being among the first counties to launch and use a digital marketing platform dubbed "This is Kilifi" that has continued to market Kilifi as a tourist destination online.

The events tourism niche sector has taken Kilifi to another level with the hosting of "Kilifi new Year"; the only carbon neutral event in East Africa that attracted over 4,000 international tourists at Beneath the Baobabs, The Churchill show, Kilifi Gold Triathlon, Mekatili Wa Menza Cultural Festival and the "Khanga" festival (launched) are among the activities that have seen Kilifi County become a vibrant tourist destination. The County was represented in two international trade and tourism fairs in Italy and London where the impact was instant with a record of over 95 percent bed occupancy during the second quarter with majority of the guests from the Italian market segment.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Kilifi County has been able to sensitize over 55 hospitality establishments on COVID-19 operating protocols and have so far over 30 hospitality establishments comply and re-opening with about 50 percent average bed occupancy within one month.

The Annual Humpback Whale migration takes place between July and September where the whales migrate from Antarctica to warmer climates, congregating in Kenyan waters to breed. Kilifi, just recently pitched the whale migration in Watamu to stimulate the tourism sector following the lifting of travel restrictions. The CS (Cabinet Secretary) for Tourism and Wildlife Hon. Najib Balala and several media houses were present, showing the importance of the event in placing Watamu and Kilifi County on the tourism global map. This also gives us an opportunity to show case to the world the diversity we offer in the hospitality and tourism sector.

My administration will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Tourism & Wildlife to promote this event. Worth noting, this migration happens simultaneously with the annual wildebeest migration in the Masai Mara. At a time when the Corona virus has hampered the tourism sector globally, the whale migration has great potential of reviving the industry by attracting both beach lovers and adventure tourists. Without doubt, this migration unlocks our potential of attracting both local and international tourists, consequently creating new investment opportunities and benefiting the many local people engaged in the tourism industry. We will continue to empower our tourism players and beach operators by providing both financial and technical support. This will encourage investors to invest in the sector and improve our rating globally. Our local men and women will be provided with fiber glass boats to undertake sea excursions to our visitors as an income generating activity.

The establishment of a one stop shop tourist market at Watamu is underway; phase one having been completed. The next phase will encompass the construction of state-of-the art stalls purely for tourism souvenirs products and services. Mapping and development of our attraction sites will also be done to ensure Kilifi County stands out as a premier tourist destination. We will continue to collaborate and engage with stakeholders in mutually

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beneficial arrangements that will ensure sustainable tourism development to Kilifi County and its citizens.

Mr. Speaker, my government recognizes the co-operative movement as a critical player in attaining social and economic objectives for rapid economic growth and sustainable development. The movement has witnessed tremendous growth in terms of memberships and financial performance in recent years. The sector has so far grown total assets in excess of Kshs8.9 billion up from Kshs3.76 billion when we assumed office in the year 2013. In addition, the movement boasts of a membership of slightly over 155,000 members' and has provided employment to over 311 Kilifi residents and many more indirectly through co-operative related investments. The number of registered co-operatives has grown from 175 before devolution to 279 as at the end of FY 2019/2020.

During the FY 2019/2020, five dormant societies were revived. The county also carried out a feasibility study on revitalization of co-operatives dealing with coconut and cashew nut value chains. The study recommended the revival of the County Co-operative Union and its affiliate farmers' co-operative as a viable solution to challenges bedeviling the two value chains. My administration will continue to improve governance in cooperatives through timely audits, inspections and extension services. We will also strive to strengthen producer marketing co-operatives to do value addition and processing through capacity building and infrastructural development.

4. DEVOLUTION, PUBLIC SERVICE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Mr. Speaker, the over-arching goal of this Department is to ensure full realization of devolution through development and implementation of county laws, effective public participation and capacity building, prudent resource utilization of human and financial resources for effective and efficient service delivery.

During the financial year 2019/2020, the Disaster Management Unit managed to assist over 75,000 households with relief food between the months of July to December 2019. This was due to the massive crop failure that was occasioned by the low and poorly distributed long rains of 2019. Other beneficiaries were people displaced along the River Sabaki by the flash floods witnessed in November and December 2019. The Disaster Management Unit also undertakes a cash transfer programme for the elderly, orphaned and vulnerable children and people living with severe disabilities as a resilience programme. During the financial year 2019/2020, the programme received Kshs29million for disbursement to 1,305 beneficiaries.

Mr. Speaker, at the inception of devolution, my government appointed administrators in the sub-counties then progressed to the ward level. The county is embracing full devolution by having devolved officers at the sub-county and wards levels and has already come up with Kilifi County Village Administration Bill (2015) which has been introduced to the committee in charge of administration. This Bill is awaiting deliberation and eventually passed into law. This Bill will guide delineation and establishment of village units thus enhancing effective and efficient service delivery.

Another Bill that was introduced in the County Assembly is the Public Participation Bill, 2019 which is at the Committee level. This Bill will ensure the people of Kilifi participate fully in governance and decision-making processes. During the last financial year; performance contracting was revamped and re-introduced to the County Government with

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support from stakeholders such as the Council of Governors, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the State Department of Public Service, Gender and Youth Affairs. Performance contracts for the financial year 2019/2020 were scrutinized and signed successfully. Working with the Office of the County Secretary and with support from the same stakeholders, the Department will ensure that performance contracts for the financial year 2020 / 2021 are scrutinized and signed.

5. AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

Mr. Speaker, development of agriculture, livestock and fisheries is a priority in my government's development agenda as it impacts directly on nearly 60 percent of the county's population. Our economy depends mainly on this sector for food security, income generation and employment creation. My government through the CIDP 2018-2022 has set a raft of measures to revamp the sector. The Agriculture Revitalization Plan has the following flagship projects: irrigation, agribusiness, dairy and Blue Economy development as well as tree crops revitalization.

Mr. Speaker, my government has successfully put 6,385 acres of small holder farms under irrigation. This has contributed to increase in household food production as well as improved farm incomes for 5,000 farmers. This has been made possible through investment in small holder irrigation schemes and water pans. To date, my government has constructed four water pans for livestock and crop production through development of irrigation schemes spending a total of Kshs120 million. In 2018/2019, my government procured a bull-dozer for use in construction of water harvesting structures, and so far five water pans with a capacity of 20,000 cubic meters are at different stages of completion.

Mr. Speaker, my government has also invested in revitalization of three crops sub sector especially cashew nut and coconut which are traditional cash crops. We have to date distributed 288,000 cashew nut seedlings, 420,000 coconut seedlings of the East African Tall variety and 3,000 hybrid coconut seedlings called the *sampoorna* variety. This hybrid matures in three years and has higher nut output. My government has, through the World Bank, secured Kshs100 million for establishment of a coconut toddy processing factory at Rabai. The factory will process industrial alcohol, sugar, and vinegar from coconut palm wine.

Mr. Speaker, Kilifi County is among the top three cassava producing counties in Kenya after Kakamega and Bungoma. This crop has been instrumental in averting food insecurity in the county. Last season, the county had a cassava plus of 195 metric tons but lack of an organized market structure for the product caused unprecedented losses to farmers. My government has invested in construction of a Cassava Processing Plant in Tezo Ward whose construction and completion has entered Phase II. My government has also rolled out strategies to boost livestock production in the county. Already, more than 350 dairy cows and 800 meat goats have been distributed to small holder farmers. This targeted improvement of food security and livelihood opportunities among our people as specified in the CIDP 2018-2022.

Mr. Speaker, the Blue Economy plays an important role in food security, income generation and employment opportunities for our people. To enhance productivity in the marine sector, my government has continued to empower fishermen through supply of fishing boats and equipment. Towards improving fishing infrastructure and generate employment opportunities, my government injected Kshs21 million for construction of boat yard facility in Shella Ward, Malindi Sub-County. The sea wave erosion of Ngomeni fish landing site in Gongoni Ward has

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compelled my government to set aside Kshs25 million this financial year to construct a sea wall to tame this destruction. We are also developing modern fish landing infrastructure in Ngomeni, Kichwa Cha Kati and Malindi fish landing sites.

Mr. Speaker, the participation of my government in various Blue Economy conferences showcased our potential in this sector and has attracted various interested investors. My government in June 2020, among other coastal counties, entered an agreement to participate in KEMFSED (Kenya Marine Fisheries and Socio-Economic Development) project worth Kshs10 billion earmarked for five years to support fisheries infrastructure and livelihood for coastal fishing communities.

6. GENDER, SOCIAL SERVICES, YOUTH AND SPORTS

Mr. Speaker, my government believes in youth empowerment and has supported and even initiated several projects towards this end. There have been sub-county sensitization forums on available government employment opportunities. Importantly, some 500 youth were sensitized on Sexual and Reproductive Health; while a further 1,000 youth were sensitized on Youth Civic Engagement, Participation and Leadership. During the International Youth Week held mid this month, Kilifi County Youth Advisory Council was formed with the purpose of holding sensitization forums on countering violent extremism and drugs and substance abuse. Similarly, the youth are also being equipped with the necessary tools and equipment to enable them set up and run their own entrepreneurial ventures such as posho mills, car washing sheds, among others. Future development plans lined up in this Department include the furnishing and operationalization of Chonyi Amphitheatre; upgrading of Pangaya Said Historical Cave (Jaribuni ward); construction of cultural resource information Centers at (Mnarani and Shimo la Tewa Wards), construction of two mausoleums for Kilifi County heroes (Ronald Ngala and Karisa Maitha); beaconing and fencing of Kaya forests; construction of two cultural centers (Bale shrines in Sokoake Ward, Chain barrier in Jaribuni ward).

7. EDUCATION AND ICT

Mr. Speaker, my administration is committed to the achievement of quality pre-primary education, vocational training and ensuring efficient ICT services across the County. The Department has made significant milestones in incorporating digital literacy in pre-primary schools and vocational institutions and imparting skills for self-reliance among the youth in vocational training centers. Currently, the County has 813 Public ECDE (Early Childhood Development and Education) Centers and 706 privately owned ECD Centers with a total population of 46,753 children, 22,044 boys and 24,709 girls.

In the FY 2019/2020 the Department completed 93 classrooms across the county and equipped 74 ECDE centers with furniture. Over 500 ECD Centers have been supplied with furniture across the County. The Department plans to finish all incomplete ECD structures to ensure children do not have to travel long distances to each school hence boost enrolment and to ensure attainment of social distancing since ECD centers will be spread across the region.

The Department is planning to employ more teachers and instructors to bridge the gap in the teacher-student ratio and ensure registration of stand-alone ECD centers. So far, a total of 666 ECDE teachers have been employed in the Public ECD Centers. The Department plans to

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recruit 300 more teachers this financial year to offset the shortage and reduce parental obligation of paying school levies for ECDE teachers' salaries. The Ward Scholarship Fund Administration Act has continued to cushion households from the impact of poverty by increasing access, retention and completion rates in primary, secondary and tertiary learning institutions and universities.

Mr. Speaker, a County Connectivity Network is now in place and all seven sub-counties are connected to the Kilifi County Wide Area Network. There is an Electronic Data Management System in the County to manage work flows and reduce paper usage and all County Headquarter Offices and have a unified communication system. As a government, we have also equipped 14 public Youth Polytechnics with ICT equipment and internet connectivity to enable ICT capacity building in the County among the youth. The Department is also making efforts to ensure better communication with our stakeholders by modernizing our website to make it interactive and bolster connectivity across the county.

8. ROADS, TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Speaker, the Department has handled projects as budgeted for and has made tremendous gains to this effect. During the same period, 12.5 kilometers of paved (cabro and tarmac) roads were done and an additional 800Km of earth roads opened and maintained. Street lights were also erected along strategic roads and maintained throughout the year, ensuring security which, in turn, promotes tourism and business operations.

In the FY 2019/2020, my administration undertook the following flagship projects in the roads sector. They are Malindi Beach front road (5.5Kms); Malindi By-pass which was upgraded to cabro standards (3.8Kms); Mzambaraoni By-pass (upgraded to bitumen - 1.6Kms) and Ndongya Road (upgraded to bitumen - 1.2Kms), construction of Mtwapa Bus Park which is 95 percent complete. In addition to the above, the Department has upgraded roads to murrum standards across the county, measuring 812Kms using a total budget of Kshs1.3 billion.

In the FY 2020/2021, we are going to do the following flagship projects. They are as follows: Ndongya-Mzambaraoni (bitumen standard - 1.5Kms); Kaloleni stage-Mariakani Secondary school (cabros2Kms); Weigh bridge Jumba Ruins (bitumen-2Kms); Karibuni Villas - Golden beach (bitumen-2Kms); Gongoni-Sosoni (bitumen -1Km) and Bamba Stage to Hospital (bitumen 1km). The Department will also undertake an upgrade of 900Kms of our roads across the county to murrum standards.

9. WATER, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND FORESTRY

Mr. Speaker, the Department has been able to drill 12 boreholes and also constructed three water pans/earth dams. These have greatly transformed the lives of many locals through small scale irrigation practices. A good example is the Chitsaka cha Bahasi water pan in Rabai Sub-County where the locals have embraced small scale vegetable agriculture hence improving their living standards.

In the financial year 2019/2020, the Department constructed a total of 92.5Km of fresh water pipe lines and rehabilitated 15.5Km of old improper functional pipe lines. Our aim is to reduce to a one km radius the distance covered by the locals to acquire fresh water. The Department has also invested in water storage tanks construction and procurement of plastic

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tanks to help in water storage. This is because most areas of the county receive fresh water from the Baricho Water works and need ample storage space in case of rationing.

Mr. Speaker, some areas of the Rabai Sub-County have always experienced water shortages due to the increased water demands. The original off-take from the Mzima Springs rising main was a two inch pipeline, which means the volume of water influx into the Bengo and Jimba areas was far much less. This financial year, the Department upgraded the off-take to a four inch feeder line which has increased the water volumes supplied into the area compared to before. Furthermore, the Department was able to procure and install a Reverse Osmosis plant for the Kakongani Borehole in Mwanamwinga Ward. Tsunguni-Kolongoni pipeline in Kaloleni Ward has greatly improved the living standards of people in the lower Eastern side of Kaloleni Ward.

Mr. Speaker, in solid waste management, my government has purchased solid waste compactors, 35 medium sized plastic garbage bins and 40 waste bins for effective solid waste management. Additionally, the County enacted the Solid Waste Management Act, 2019 for the purposes of proper management and coordination of solid waste in the County. The Department has also increased its collection from 40 percent to 70 percent through engagement of private solid waste collectors in Malindi and Mtwapa areas. To increase forest cover in line with Article 69 of the Kenyan Constitution 2010, my government spearheaded the planting of 4,800,047 tree seedlings in the county which included both forest and fruit trees. The main objective of tree planting exercise is to increase food security, combat climate change and promote community economic development.

On air quality monitoring, the Department has been enforcing the environment legislations both National and County Government. So far, the Department has purchased eight noise meters to curb noise pollution in the county. A total of ten environment officers were trained on environment inspection and gazzeted by NEMA (National Environment Management Authority) to undertake environment inspection in the County.

Mr. Speaker, in the FY 2020/2021, the Department has an allocation of Kshs1.2 billion that will go towards improving access to clean water by majority of residents across the county. Around 60 percent of this allocation will go towards construction of new water pipeline extensions, construction of water pans and other water reservoirs, sinking of boreholes and purchase of Reverse Osmosis plants to de-salinate borehole water and make it useful for human and livestock consumption.

10. LANDS PHYSICAL PLANNING

Mr. Speaker, during the financial year 2019/2020, the Department initiated an ambitious programme to provide security of tenure to the urban dwellers through the surveying and allocation of trading Centers. Several trading Centers like Kaloleni, Marereni, Chumani, Mkwajuni Majengo/Kanamai, Kakuyuni, Msabaha/Mkenge, Ganze, and Ramada among others have already been put in this programme. Already, two of these – Mkwajuni and Chumani Trading Centers have been surveyed and beneficiaries identified for issuance of allotment letters. Kakuyuni and Msabaha/Mkenge are nearing completion at a cost of Kshs18 million. During the financial year 2020/2021 a total of Kshs41 million has been allocated to survey and allocate Marereni, Marafa, Kaloleni and Majengo/Kanamai, Ganze and Ramada Trading Centers.

We all recognize the continuing dwindling of financial resources to the counties. Counties have been encouraged to expand their local revenue base to meet their financial obligations in serving their people. The Department is in the process of concluding the new

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County Valuation Roll with over 46,000 land properties captured; an increase from the current 13,000 land properties valuation roll, translating to an increase of 253 percent. Once completed, this will enhance our revenue collection to a great extent.

Mr. Speaker, the County Government has also played a pivot role in coordinating the ongoing efforts by the National Government to purchase the expansive Mazrui land spread across the county used for the purpose of resettling squatters and the landless in our county. My government will continue to engage the National Government through the Ministry of Lands and give support when needed to ensure this matter is concluded successfully and nearly 10,000 people, who are targeted in this endeavor, are settled and have a home of their own.

Mr. Speaker, Kilifi County is one of the 14 counties in Kenya that have been classified as under-served in terms of the percentage of electrification. Cognizant of this fact, the Department initiated several Solar Energy Solutions by installing solar high masts in the off-grid market Centers and Kenya Power Company high masts in the grid areas. This has expanded the opportunities for the county residents to do businesses. A total of Kshs71 million was used toward this end, which included putting street lights in Kibarani, Sokoni, Malindi Town and Kaloleni Wards with a total of 52 solar street lights. Some 23 high masts were also installed in several wards, among them Shimo-la-Tewa, Watamu, Sabaki, Chasimba, and Rabai-Kisurutini among others. This financial year, the energy unit intends to carry out the installation of solar streetlights and 50 solar high masts in various trading Centers in Sabaki, Garasha, Marafa, Mtepeni, Mnarani, Ganze, Kambe-Ribe, Rabai-Kisurutini, Shimo La Tewa, Matsangoni, Tezo, Jaribuni, Bamba, Mariakani, Mwanamwinga and Tezo.

Mr. Speaker, housing is a social right in Kenya and features prominently in the Big Four Agenda. The Department has undertaken a housing market survey and housing feasibility study and came up with a strategy on re-developing our old county housing estates. Models of blocks of residential flats have been proposed and commercial aspects incorporated in the design so as to make the investment more economically-viable. Implementation of this programme will increase the stock of adequate and affordable housing. In addition, the Department has come up with a design for the official residence for the Deputy Governor. The Department has also developed a master plan for the county headquarters offices that will enhance coordination and communication among Departments.

This financial year, 2020/2021 the Department will undertake an extension of the lands office block at a cost of Kshs20 million in a bid to increase the working space, provide a better working environment and improve service delivery to the public. The Department has also renovated 22 housing units at Ngala Phase II in Malindi and Mwangea Estate in Kilifi. The renovations were informed by the fact that the houses are old and most of them have asbestos roofing material which is a health hazard. This financial year, the Department will renovate 12 housing units in Ngala Estate in Malindi at a cost of Kshs12 million.

In order to open up the rural areas for settlement, the Department further graded 8Kms of access road in Chakama settlement scheme so as to improve connectivity and accessibility within the scheme. This financial year, 2020/2021, the Department will further open up and grade 10 kilometres of road in Chakama Settlement. In addition, the Department will construct access roads, storm water drainage, water reticulation and street lights in KKB and Mtaani /Kisumu Ndogo in conjunction with World Bank through the (Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project) KISIP programmes.

Mr. Speaker, all these achievements could not have been attained without a legal framework in place. I applaud the County Assembly for passing the following enabling

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legislation: Kilifi County Appropriations Act, 2019 and Appropriations Act (No.4), 2020; Finance Act, 2019; Supplementary Appropriations Act (No. 1), 2019 and (No. 2 & 3), 2020; Emergency Fund Bill, 2020, Ward Scholarship Amendment Act, 2020; Valuation & Supplementary Roll Regulations, 2019; Solid Waste Management Act, 2019; Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2019; Investment Corporation Act, 2019 and Micro-finance (Mbegu) Fund Regulations, 2019. The legislation currently pending before the County Assembly are the Kilifi County Citizen Participation and Civic Education Bill 2019, Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2019 and Mbegu Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2020. I urge Members to deliberate and pass the proposed legislations without delay to enable the Executive implement the same accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, my government intends to bring to the County Assembly the following Bills and Policies in this FY 2020/2021:- Kilifi County Child Care Facilities and Early Childhood Education Bill; Abattoirs Bill; Livestock Sale Yards Bill; Trade and Markets Bill; Environmental Health and Sanitation Bill; Health Services Improvement Fund Regulations Bill; Health Services Improvement Fund (Amendment) Bill; Fisheries Management & Development Bill; Climate Change Bill; Cooperative Societies Bill; Maternal, New Born and Child Health (Amendment) Bill; Kilifi County Policy Guidelines for Appointment and Operations of Board of Management in Vocational Training Centers, 2019; Blood Transfusion Services Policy, 2019; Universal Health Coverage Policy Framework, 2019; Health Services Improvement Fund (HSIF) Policy; Donation (Revision) Policy and Trade Policy.

Mr. Speaker, it is instructive to point out that the achievements and success stories highlighted above have come about against many odds, key of which is delay in disbursement of funds to counties by the National Treasury, a situation that always comes with numerous repercussions and impacts negatively on service delivery, development programmes and general operations of the County Government. We will continue to seek redress over these challenges, through legitimate avenues such as the Council of Governors (CoG) and constant dialogue with the National Government in order to get a lasting solution.

Finally, Mr. Speaker allow me to conclude my address today by reiterating the need for continued close and harmonious working relations between the Executive and Members of the County assembly (MCAs). As I stated earlier in my address, our common objective is to seize every opportunity to champion the cause of the people of Kilifi County. We must at all times prioritize the need to work together to find solutions to the problems facing our people to enable them access and appropriate the gains and fruits of devolution, through effective service provision and development projects. This is the only way to ensure the people of Kilifi County remain at par with their counterparts in the other 46 counties. I reiterate my government's unbending commitment to fairness, honesty, integrity and openness in its operations and the provision of services to our people and overall discharge of its mandate as dictated in the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and other relevant laws of our land.

My government does not and shall not tolerate acts of corruption of whatever form and anyone involved in any act of corruption shall face the full force of the law. We have been called upon to be leaders at this very difficult time in the history of our country and indeed the whole world and it will take unity of purpose and an un-relenting sense of responsibility for us to achieve our goal.

Mr. Speaker, this is what it will take for us to rally our people to a common cause and nudge them forward even as they grapple with numerous challenges that lie ahead and as the

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County and National Government jointly seek a way out of the current socio-economic quagmire.

Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that though the odds arrayed against us may seem intimidating, they are surmountable. But first, we must acknowledge that we have a common objective that unites us all and this is service to the people who elected us into office. In my humble view, now is the time to circle the wagons. Indeed, now is the time to direct every ounce of our strength towards the attainment of this noble objective. Love live Kenya! Long live Kilifi County! Thank you and God Bless.

ADJOURNMENT

LONG RECESS

The Speaker (Hon. Hon. Kahindi): Hon. Members, in the absence of any other Business in the Order Paper, the House stands adjourned pursuant to Standing Order No. 25(3) for the Fourth Session Second Part, Long Recess starting Thursday, 27th August to Friday, 25th September 2020. Thank you.

The House rose at 11:30 a.m.