

COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

The House met at 2.30 P.M.

*[The Speaker*

*Hon. (Mr. Mathew Lolome) in the Chair]*

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION(S) FROM THE CHAIR

STATEMENT ON COLLABORATION BETWEEN NGOs AND GOVERNMENT

**Hon. Buke Diba Yattani (Minority Leader):** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would wish to issue some statement pertaining to collaboration between the County Government of Marsabit and the local NGO's.

Non Governmental Organizations play a critical role in complementing Government projects and offering support to the local communities on various development projects within their areas of operation. However, there are certain instances where both the Government and the NGO's fund similar projects in the same locality resulting in duplicity of projects and other times unwarranted competition between the Government and NGO's.

The Public Finance Management Act, 2012 section 138 and 139 and County PFM regulation thereon envisages such a scenario and laid down the condition for the

County Government, its entities and third parties receiving grants and donations from Government partners including NGO's. Key among those conditions being that the projects to be funded should be aligned to National and County Government policies, in accordance with Article 224 of the Constitution and most importantly authorized in writing by the CEC member for Finance and the County Assembly being informed of such authorization.

Thus, this House would like to be furnished with a comprehensive report capturing the following:

- a) List development partners (local or otherwise) and the details of projects they are funding i.e. title of project, value of the donation, intended beneficiaries, implementing department, contribution of the County Government (monetary or non monetary).
- b) Procedures for allocation and disbursement of grants.
- c) Level of participation of the intended beneficiaries.
- d) Whether there are any regulation s in place to govern the administration, control and management of grants.
- e) Whether projects funded are aligned to County development policies so as to avoid duplicity.

**The Speaker:** Honourable Member, I don't expect you to debate unless you want to elaborate on a point that is not well captured so that members can understand you clearly.

**Hon. Buke Diba Yattani (Minority Leader):** Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Actually what I am thinking is that I know of instances whereby both the County Government and NGO's fund similar projects which could have otherwise saved that amount of money for other projects.

So, it would be good if actually the projects of the NGO's are captured in the CIDP so that if the Government for example wants to drill a borehole in Maikona and some NGO's have similar projects in the same place, this means same projects for one particular place. If there is coordination between the two, this will free some money for other projects in other place.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Any other member who wants to identify him/herself with that statement? I do not want a scenario where if the report is brought is brought, more and more questions are raised. So, if members have questions or concerns, its better they bring them out so that it can be captured in the information to be sought from the Executive.

Honourable Member for Korr!

**Hon. Daud Tamasot Arakhole:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. The statement which was raised by the Honourable Member for Maikona is prudent. I believe the NGO's and County Government at times have forums where they also share the projects they have and to avoid duplication, of late they were also given direction. For example if PACIDA has a drilling programme for some three months or so and CONCERN worldwide has also the same programme, they are regulated. CONCERN will be directed to go to Korr because PACIDA is already doing it in Maikona.

NGO's funding is yearly most of the time and it's not guaranteed like the County Government from the National level. Theirs depend on proposals. We really appreciate the work of these NGO's...

**The Speaker:** Honourable Member for Korr, if there are concerns you want to raise not really to support the work of the NGO's but concerns related to their programmes, strategies visa-vis the statement raised by the Honourable Member.

**Hon. Daud Tamasot Arakhole:** Of course that is what I mean by supporting their work but there is that...I haven't seen that big difference whereby they don't consult...

**The Speaker:** That will come Honourable Member for Korr. If the report comes, either you will support or elaborate on issues. Just a concern...!

**Hon. Daud Tamasot Arakhole:** Mr. Speaker, the concern is, if they can provide the itinerary or work plan of all their projects in Marsabit County and if possible to be included in the CIDP...that is why I was saying sometimes NGO's have short term projects which is not predictable.

**Hon. Bata Leakono Beranado:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. We also have National Government projects and CBO's that are done in Marsabit County. If possible, we also want the list of those projects and how they are proposed because they are also doing duplication of work. That is my concern and also the number of CBO's in this County. Thank you.

**Hon. Mark Napurdi Ekale:** Ahsante Bwana Spika. Yangu pia ni kuchangia juu ya Shirika lisilo la Kiserikali. Sehemu za nje kama Loiyangalani sisi tuna mashirika ya jamii. Sisi tunaomba Shirika lisilo la Kiserikali wapewe kandarasi kwa shirika la kijamii kwa sababu wao huwa mashinani.

**The Speaker:** it seems there is no any other member who wants to identify himself with that statement. So thank you Honourable for Maikona for that Statement.

Next order,

#### STATEMENT ON HEALTH FACILITIES

**Hon. Buke Diba Yattani (Minority Leader):** Thank you Mr. Speaker. My second statement is on Health issue. Our Health facilities, whether dispensary, County referral

Hospital, it seems we have some problems in as far as dispensing of some drugs are concerned.

In the year 2017/18 budget, this Honourable House allocated the Health sector, the budget allocation which among other programmes, was also meant to purchase drugs. I have information that the Government recently received a consignment of medical drugs. Drug shortage has become chronic in all the health facilities in this County.

The public has lost trust in management of drugs supply in this County. The supply and use of drugs in this County needs serious oversight by this House in order to curb mismanagement and drug cartels that have made our people vulnerable from uncaring health personnel.

I would want the relevant committee to serve this House with drug needs, cost, purchase, distribution and management strategies in line with budget allocation....

If I may deliberate on this, whenever we receive drugs in this County, health facilities tend to dispense these drugs for a very short time- may be two to three months then the stock runs out. Is it that the planners are not planning well? Is it that the planners are under costing the cost of drugs resulting to shortages? Is it that there is a problem in terms of purchase? Is it that there is a problem in terms of the disbursement of drugs to Health facilities? This is what actually we would like the Health committee to address and furnish us with.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you the Honourable Member for Maikona again. There is an oversight on my part. The first statement should be committed to a Committee and I think it is the Administration Committee.

The Chair Honourable Safia?

*(Hon. Safia absent)*

Deputy Chair?

*(Deputy Chair absent)*

Any other Member of the Committee?

*(Silence)*

Members of Administration, Trade, Roads and Security Committee are all in one cluster. So, if you don't know that you are a Member of Administration Committee, do you know that you are a member of Trade Committee?

*(Laughter)*

Who is in Trade committee?

*(Hon. Kiya stood in his place)*

Thank you Hon. Kiya. Members may not know that they are in Administration but they know that they are in Trade. Others may not know that they are in trade but know that they are in Trade. So, if you know that you are in either of those Committees, you are also a member of Administration committee. If you are in Trade, Roads or Security then you are a member of Administration Committee also.

So now we have a representative who can deliver our message. That statement is committed to you the Administration Committee. You need to work on it very quickly. You have to consult with the department. I am sure there is also a forum because I have heard members mentioning it which will bring together the County government and the NGO leadership. This is an umbrella of all the NGO's and the relevant sector.

of course the Clerk's office will write to them and you will get information about the national, CBO projects and also their names.

You are not the chair but I will end up tasking you. How many weeks or months or years will you need to reply to this and bring it to the House.

**Hon. Kiya Chana Jillo:** Two weeks.

**The Speaker:** Two weeks? Two weeks is good. Clerk at the table two weeks means next week but one.

It is quite a bit of work. Can I give you three weeks?

*(Loud consultations)*

No! let us just do two. I think that will make everybody happy.

The second statement! Any Member who would like to identify with it? The Honourable Member for Karare Ward?

**Hon. Stephen Leado:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would also like to congratulate the Honourable Member for Maikona. My suggestion is that I can see it is good that we add some activities to the Administration Committee. Issues such as staffing in our health facilities... Rather than bringing information on drugs, it is also good that we know the status of our dispensaries and health centres in terms of staff.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Honourable Leado, you will bring that statement later. That is a whole independent issue. Can you make sure that we have a statement on that that will be owned by you.

**Hon. Stephen Leado:** Thank you.

**Hon. Tura Ruru Elema:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. On the second statement by the Minority Leader, I want to bring a concern on whether the internal audit of these drugs are done and if there is any, the latest audit be tabled.

**The Speaker:** Clerk, that is very important! Any other Member?

*(Silence)*

OK, next order?

#### STATEMENT ON AMBULANCE SERVICES

**Hon. Elema Diba:** Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. At the eve of devolution, the first County Government of Marsabit thought about the possibility of patients dying in our remote areas and in our dispensaries due to lack of referral services. In an attempt to fill this gap, a number of ambulances were bought and others donated. However, the problem persisted in handling these ambulances. Patients had to struggle with payment for fuel and ambulance maintenance services. These services were later on found to be real burden on patients.

For example, having a patient from Illeret to Marsabit could demand around thirty to forty thousand Kenyan shillings. If I make reference to my own ward it is around thirty to thirty five thousand shillings. To ease this gap, in the ending financial year, the County Assembly in its wisdom and with the proposal by the Executive thought about easing this burden on patients. It is in this regard that I would like to ask;

*In the fiscal year 2017/2018, this Honourable House raised the Health Sector Ambulance Budget from 10 million shillings to 60 million. The purpose for this increment was to ensure that ambulance services shall be efficient and free to all Marsabit residents. Regrettable is the fact that some parts of this County are still paying for ambulance service taking us back to the days of 10 million shillings. I*



*expected a 6 times improvement / ambulance services. I would want to ask the Chairperson of Health to give this Assembly the reasons why my ward constituents pay for ambulance services contrary to the intent of this House when its budget was increased.*

As I have earlier said, the budget was to ease burden on patients but it is still regrettable to find out that the patients are still struggling with this burden. This statement was drafted last week and the day before yesterday I was in my Ward and I had a public *baraza* in one of my locations where I received complaints about ambulance services being paid for.

Another blow is that there has been communication that the ambulance services are free but they have never been provided with fuel and so it cannot even move a patient to Kalacha which is 70 kilometres away. The Committee can neither commit itself nor the patients to pay. Because they have no fuel and no communication from the office, some of the patients are going back to public or private mean and paying more than they pay for the ambulance, that is what necessitated this question and for the convenience of Marsabit County residents, our patients especially from those my Ward, I want this statement to be treated with the urgency it deserves, that the department explains itself on this matter, thank you.

**Hon. Roba Chachole Godana:** Thank Mr. Speaker, this a concern am raising, because I have the Hon. Member talking of an ambulance in his Ward..... *(inaudible)* I would like to ask some questions, that is how many ambulances does Marsabit County has?...

*(Hon. Speaker interjects)*

.....how many have...*(inaudible)*, and how many....*(inaudible)* mechanical problems and finally how are they distributed in the County?.....*(inaudible)* the responses thank you.

**Hon. John Killo Dawe:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I also stand to say something on this ambulance issue. These ambulances are a requirement that we demand to know.....

*(inaudible)* a number of ambulances we have in the County. Maybe those who are demanding payments, especially if the fuel is not there the ambulances cannot move!

The patients are demanded to pay for the ambulances, is it the drivers demanding for these payments or the health workers in collaboration with them are doing the same! If for example the money has been raised from Kshs. 10 to 60 million, how will it be allocated to each Ward? Because all the ambulances are working in Wards and we need to know the distances, for example ambulances can be there, but also the distances also matter, the vastness of the land, so there are some Wards maybe at the health centres where people.....*(inaudible)* too far. So that we may know fund allocated for each Ward or Sub County. So, that is the clarification when the report comes.

**Hon. Buke Diba Yattani:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to give contributions to Hon. Elema's Statement, ambulances are suppose to be free, but anything that is free is subject to abuse also, I don't know whether the Health Department has any policy that governs the running of the ambulances.

Secondly, there are those facilities that are far way from Marsabit town and Marsabit is the only place where filling station exists, places like Korr, Dukana, Kargi I am sure there are no filling stations. If we are to ensure ambulances services are free as it has been said, what plans are there to ensure that these ambulances are accessed well when necessary? There are Committees that run dispensaries and health facilities, are they the ones running ambulances services or the services are controlled from the Referral Hospital? Thank you.

**Hon. Sadia Araru:** Ahsante Mheshimiwa Spika, ningependa kuchangia mambo haya ya ambulensi, pia ningependa kujua kutoka Kamati, kuna ambulensi imesimama tangu iletwe Log Logo, siuji kwa miaka mingapi? Ningependa kujua kama hiyo ni moja ya ambulensi iliyonunuliwa na serikali ya Kaunti.

Pia ningependa kusema ya kwamba kwa kurahisishia kazi wananchi Mheshimiwa Gavana amefikiria kufanya ambulensi iwe bure bilashi katika Kaunti hii na ningependa kujua sana, kutoka Mheshimiwa Elema Diba kama angeqweza kutufanyia uchunguzi yeye mwenyewe kwa mwenye ambaye amelipa pesa tangu ambulensi imefanywa bure na atuletee majina ya wale ambao waliolipa pesa, kwa sababu kuna uwezekano pia wa ukora kufanyika....(*inuadible*).

Kwa hivyo tungependa kujua kweli kama mambo haya yanafanyika, na kama yanafanyika basi watachukuliwa hatua na Kamati wanaeza enda huko na waweze kupeleleza zaidi, sio tu kutoka idara ya hospitali pekee kwa sababu kuna uwezekano hata idara ya hospitali hawana habari, kwa hivyo tungetaka kujua zaidi kama Mheshimiwa asaidie kwa kuleta majina ya wale amabo wamelipa ili waweze kujua; kwa nini walilipa, ilipwa namna gani, ilitumika kwa njia gani? Kama hiyo pesa haingetumika huku, mwenye ameshughulika na hii kazi, aulizwe ni kwa nini hii pesa iko hapo? Kwa sababu hii pesa imewekwa kwa sababu ya kusaidia wananchi wetu katika Kaunti hii, Ahsante!

**Hon. Hussein Abdi Wako:** Ahsante sana Bwana Spika, nikichangia hoja hili, kwanza nataka kupongeza Mheshimiwa aliyeleza hoja hili, tunajua kwamba afya ni kitu muhimu sana katika jamii na yeyote hasaidiki na huduma kutoka serikali.... (*inaudible*) na hatujui ni kwa nini serikali inapeana pesa na hiyo pesa inatumika vibaya.

Kwa hivyo nataka kujua vile Mheshimiwa alisema watu wanaendelea kulipa tangu hii huduma ifanywe bure, tunataka kujua wale wanalipa wanatumia mbinu gani? Kwa sababu ukilipa pesa lazima kuna risiti unapewa na hiyo risiti inaonyesha hiyo pesa imeenda wapi? Tunataka kujua leo.

Cha pili, vile Mheshimiwa Buke alisema.....(*inaudible*) hili vifaaa ama haya magari katika kila Wodi, lakini cha muhimu sana ni kujiuliza kama Waheshimiwa, tunawakilisha wananchi haya magari.....(*inaudible*) yanatakikana? Kwa sababu tunaona ambulensi iko hapo lakini vifaa vya kusaidia mtu katika hali ya dharura, kama hewa, zingine hayana

haya vifaa. Kwa hivyo tunataka kujua, tulisema ni bure, na kama ni bure, tunatumia, tunanyamaza.....(*inaudible*) kifaa ile inatakikana.

La mwisho kabisa, juzi tuliona kwa runinga, mitandao ya jamii, Isiolo Kaunti ambulensi inatumika vibaya, inatumiwa haswa na wale ambao wako katika idara husika, magari zingine inatumika kubeba kokoto ili mtu ajisaidie nao, huenda ikawa hapa pia, magari haya yanatumika kwa njia mbaya, ilhali wananchi wako na shida. Kwa hivyo tunataka kujua, ile gari watu walipewa inatumika aje? Na wakati tulikuwa kwa serikali, tulikuwa tunajua gari ikifika saa fulani, haifai kutoka bila idhini....(*inaudible*) fulani. Tunaona lakini ambulensi.....(*inaudible*) kutoka mahali imefika hapa hatujasikia ikipiga king'ora,.....(*inaudible*) kusema ukweli gari hili linatumika vibaya, na hatutaki kutaja watu wengine....

*(The Speaker interjects)*

.....hata haina..... pahali pengine inatumika kupeleka bangi, kuna mahali inatumika kusafirisha bunduki! Kwa hivyo hii gari inaweza leta shida nyingi, hata tukisema ni bure, mwingine anaweza ona ile kusema bure,..... (*inaudible*) anaweza fanya na biashara yake. Haya magari ni vizuri ichunguzwe inafanya kazi gani, Ahsante.

**Hon. Abdirahman Sheikh Bashir:** Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to air some view on this very important point. I really like that my brother honourable Buke brought up this issue of ambulances. My brother Honourable Tura and the rest of us who were in that meeting of the child right came to learn from the participants and the facilitators that people in this county are not up to now aware that ambulances in this county are free. We were shocked and i had to intervene that ambulances are free because money has been allocated.

*(Applause)*

It is a fact that the ground is not aware that ambulances are. They should stop payment for this service. Even the drivers night out allowances is catered for and it

should not be paid for. But I don't why the drivers are not paid these allowances. Two days ago a driver from y locality who has children approached me to complain that two months down the line he has not been paid salaries; this is from Nana and another from Godoma had similar problem.

When I discussed this matter with the CEC Administration, he told me that there around twelve such cases in the county who are not paid. He told me their contracts were put on hold. Since my sister, madam chair, is well versed I expect her to tell us why these drivers were not paid.

On the fuel, as Honourable Tura said unless this fuel are taken to where the ambulances are we will continue to face this situation of *wananchi* being asked to pay for the fuel. My suggestion is that the fuel should be taken to where they can be easily accessed in case of emergencies. Thank you.

**Hon. Tura Ruru Elema:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to raise that the policy is really lacking in this report. As the committee goes asking for this report, they should actually accompany a policy with it. Then there are also the mobile clinics beyond zero. There is one which was given by the first lady when she visited North Horr Ward for maternal health care. This vehicle is nowhere to be captured and I think it is good to be captured in this report. Today when I was going to their office, I saw Qorqa mobile clinic and Qorqa is probably 300 kilometres from here. It has gathered dust and it is not reaching the people.

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon Tura can you raise that as a statement because you are raising a whole new subject.

**Hon. Tura Ruru Elema:** Okay thank you. The other is what publicity has been done on these things that are free. The other interesting thing is where the ambulances are used by officers instead of using their private cars. Thank you.

**Hon. Speaker:** Yes, this one goes to the Health Department. The Chair is with us and she understands these issues more than all of us. If it is possible we need to get the names of the public members who paid for the ambulance services. Public members can also be interrogated. The assembly can facilitate them to come and testify.

**Hon. Daud Tamasot Arakhole:** I seek clarification Honourable Speaker. If we say that services are free, is it the referral or anyone who is bitten by scorpion.... let us get to know what is this free.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Speaker:** That is what the policy will direct Hon. Tamasot. Honourable member for Butiye do you want to say something.

**Hon. Mohamud Wako Dase:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to say that some areas like Bori, Kuraa, Dadach Lakhole and the rest are suppose to have an ambulance. If possible I request for that. Thank you.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Sadia Araru:** Point of clarification. As Butiye Ward does he have any ambulance?

*(Loud Consultations)*

**Hon. Speaker:** By the way members, on the basis of the report we can ask the government to buy more ambulances as per need.

*The Assembly rose at 3.25pm*