

THE SENATE



COMMUNICATIONS AND RULINGS FROM THE CHAIR - 2017

Thursday, 5th January, 2017 (Morning) – Special Sitting

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

CONVENING OF SPECIAL SITTING OF THE SENATE

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Members, I have a Communication to make on the convening of this particular Special Sitting.

Hon. Senators, I wish to welcome you back to the Senate for the Special Sittings today. The Special Sittings come very early in the year and only days after the New Year festivities.

Hon. Senators, let me take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy New Year 2017.

Hon. Senators, these sittings also come against the backdrop of another Special Sitting that we had on 28th December, 2016. As you will recall, during the said sitting, I deferred further consideration of the Election Laws (Amendment) (No.3) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.63 of 2015) to allow scrutiny by the Committee and public participation by the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights together with the Standing Committee on Information and Technology. Most of the Joint Committee deliberations were streamed live by media, and most Kenyans followed the debate very keenly.

Hon. Senators, I wish to take this opportunity to commend the two Committees led by the Chairpersons, Sen. Wako and Sen. Kagwe, respectively, for working tirelessly, and in the midst of New Year festivities, to complete the assigned task on time and I hope they are now ready to table their Report today.

I also wish to extend the same appreciation to the Members of the Committee and the members of the public who undertook their civic duty and presented their views on the Bill to the Committees.

Hon. Senators, by a letter dated 28th December, 2016, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 29 (1), the Senate Majority Leader and Senate Minority Leader, supported by

the requisite number of Senators, requested me to convene Special Sittings of the Senate to conclude consideration of the Election Laws (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 63 of 2015).

Following this request and further considerations, I was satisfied that it met the requirements of Standing Order No. 29 (2). It is in this respect that I convened these Special Sittings of the Senate via Gazette Notice No.10691 dated 30th December, 2016. The Gazette Notice specified the business to be transacted at these sittings. The first Special Sitting will last until 12.30 p.m. while the Special Sitting for this afternoon will commence at 2.30 p.m. and run until conclusion of business or at midnight, whichever comes first.

Hon. Members, you may also wish to recall that by the time we ended the Special Sitting of the 28th December, 2016, we had agreed to convene on 4th January, 2017. However, when the Joint Committee looked at the work programme, they made a presentation to me and in consultation with the political leadership, we agreed and that is what necessitated that these Special Sittings take place today, 5th January, 2017.

Hon. Senators, please, note that pursuant to Standing Order No. 29 (5), the business specified in the Gazette Notice shall be the only business before the Senate during these Special Sittings, following which the Senate shall stand adjourned until Tuesday, 14th February, 2017 at 2.30 p.m. in accordance with the Senate Calendar.

I, therefore, wish to appeal to you, Hon. Senators; you have distinguished yourself before and this is another time that will call for that sobriety so that you may debate the matter before us with the seriousness it deserves and display the same level of sobriety as you have always done.

I thank you.

Thursday, 5th January, 2017 (Afternoon) – Special Sitting

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

GUIDELINES ON PROCESSING OF THE ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT)
(NO.3) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO.63 OF 2015)

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Members, you will recall that at the end of the morning sitting today, I directed, with the leave of the House, that we will continue with the debate on the Second Reading of the Election Laws (Amendment) (No.3) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.63 of 2015) this afternoon. It is just as well that the Report has been tabled and during this Second Reading, we will be able to use that opportunity to allow the Chairperson, during his contribution on the Second Reading, to shed light on what the Report contains.

The Report is now available to every Member. So, we will have plenty of time before the time for the Third Reading where the input will impact on the Bill. This is a matter that we discussed quite at length in the morning and the position still remains the same. What you need is time. The Report is now available and as Members continue to contribute, you will be able to look at the Report yourself.

Hon. Senators, you also recall that part of the reason why we referred this matter to the Committees of the House was to allow for public participation as well as inform the debate through the Report of the said Committees. I, therefore, thank the two Committees that facilitated the public participation on behalf of the Senate - the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Information and Technology - for the long sittings that they held since this matter was referred to them. In fact, I know for a fact, a number of Members, as Sen. Mutula Kilonzo Jnr. said in the morning, part of the reason one Motion was being brought could be because Members served very well and maybe they lacked sleep.

Allow me to also thank Members of the House for the sobriety on the matters before the House. I wish to encourage you to pursue that path. As Wole Soyinka says, a tiger does not proclaim its tigrity; it pounces. In other words, a tiger does not stand in the forest and say: "I am a tiger." Kenya already knows the Senators. When you pass where the tiger has walked before, you see the skeleton and then you know that some tigrity has been emanated there.

Finally, as we embark on the Report before us, I want us to bear in mind our role as representatives of the people, adhere to the rules of debate that bind all of us; that this is going to the defining moment of this debate this afternoon and we conclude this Bill.

In the words of Edmund Burke in his *Speech to the electors of Bristol*, he said: "Parliament is not a congress of ambassadors from different and hostile interests, which interest each must maintain as an agent and an advocate against other agents and other agents and other advocates. Parliament is a deliberative assembly of one nation with one interest; that of the whole where not local purposes or local prejudices ought to guide but the general good resulting from the general reason of the whole".

I thank you.

Tuesday, 14th February, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

WELCOME TO HON. SENATORS TO
THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE 11TH PARLIAMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hon. Senators, I wish to welcome you back to the Senate for the Fifth Session, which is the last session of the 11th Parliament. As I issue this communication, I recall the words of the Speaker during the First Sitting of the Senate on 28th March, 2013 during which he stated that the tasks and responsibilities ahead of us were enormous and challenging and required exceptional commitment, focus, harmony and unity of purpose in the performance of our constitutional mandate.

I am happy to note that you have demonstrated commitment and focus in the execution of our core mandate of spearheading the implementation of devolution which is the backbone of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. I once again urge you to remain committed and focused during this last Session of the 11th Parliament as we together continue to accomplish what Kenyans expect of us to do as their representatives. In this regard, please take note that we have urgent outstanding business relating to Bills in various stages and Committee reports which need our urgent and immediate action. I am sure that you will continue to avail yourselves for this purpose.

Please, note that the Senate Rules and Business Committee (RBC) shall convene tomorrow, Wednesday, 15th February, 2017 at noon to priorities Senate business including the appointment of Members of the Sessional Committees. I thank you and wish you a fruitful Fifth and last Session.

DEMISE OF SEN. BOY JUMA BOY, SENATOR
FOR KWALE COUNTY

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hon. Senators, it was with profound shock and sadness that I learnt of the untimely death of our friend, colleague and brother, the distinguished Senator for Kwale County, Sen. Boy Juma Boy, on Sunday, 12th February, 2017.

In line with the Islamic faith funeral rites, his remains were laid to rest yesterday, 13th February, 2017, at this home in Vanga, Kwale County. I note with appreciation that some of you, Hon. Colleagues, I note with appreciation that some of you made time and travelled to Vanga to give our colleague a befitting send off. I had the honour and privilege to represent the Senate at the funeral. I would also like to thank all Senators for standing with the Late Sen. Boy Juma Boy's family in various forms including prayers.

Hon. Senators, Sen. Boy Juma Boy was first elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) in 1983 at the age of 24 and served as the MP for Matuga Constituency for three uninterrupted terms from 1983 to 1997. Having joined politics as a successor to his late father, who was the then MP for Matuga, he became the youngest MP at the time. He

rose through the party ranks to become Chief Whip in Parliament in recognition of his distinguished service and loyalty to the ruling party, KANU.

The Late Sen. Boy Juma Boy was elected as the Senator for Kwale County during the General Elections held on 4th March, 2013 following the reintroduction of a bicameral parliament in our country. While serving as Senator for Kwale County, he actively represented and accomplished great milestones through articulating and fighting for the rights of his constituents and the entire Kenyan citizenry.

The Late Sen. Boy Juma Boy was passionate about his county. This is evident in the way he championed the spirit of devolution while ensuring that funds allocated to the county were used to deliver services to the people. He was an articulate Member of our Senate Committees, namely; the Standing Committee on Information and Technology, Committee on Lands and Natural Resources, Joint Committee on Broadcasting and Library and the County Monitoring and Evaluation Committee.

His dedication to his roles as a Committee Member and Senator enabled him to make significant contributions to the working and operations of these committees. On the Floor of the Senate, the Late Sen. Boy Juma Boy made passionate and witty contributions on debates in and out of the House that were usually filled with humor but geared towards achieving improved service and wellbeing of his electorate. This won him profound admiration and respect by all the people across the political divide, old and young, educated and uneducated as well as his fellow leaders.

Hon. Senators, you may recall the Senate deliberations on the Mining Bill 2015, just recently during which the Late Senator offered invaluable contribution and great insight to ensure that Kwale residents would also benefit from the value of huge deposits of rare earth minerals in the county. The Late Sen. Boy Juma Boy will no doubt be remembered and missed by all of us for his Kiswahili Sanifu on the Floor of the Senate. I am certain that we can all attest to the fact that he had immense oratory skills and mastery of the Kiswahili language.

Hon. Senators, the Late Sen. Boy Juma Boy was always ready and willing to work in a bipartisan manner with his colleagues on matters of public good and national interest while remaining loyal to his party and coalition. We all thank God for the gift of Sen. Boy Juma Boy's life and pray that He will grant the family and friends of the late Senator and the great people of Kwale County comfort during this very difficult time.

May the soul of our late colleague, Sen. Boy Juma Boy, rest in eternal peace. I thank you and request that we all rise for a minute of silence in honor of our departed colleague.

(Senators rose in their places for a minute of silence in memory of the Late Boy Juma Boy)

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SEN. BOY JUMA BOY

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hon. Senators, in memory of our late brother, I shall allow time for Hon. Members to eulogize our late colleague. In that regard, I will allow any Senator who wishes to raise voice on this issue to do so. I thank those of us who went to Kwale yesterday led by the Senate Minority Leader. We gave our eulogies and words of comfort to the family.

I know that this might interest virtually everybody in the House, I shall initially allow five minutes to any Senator who wants to say anything. If it will take too long, I will review it downwards. The screen is already full. Let us start with the Senate Majority Leader.

Thursday, 16th February, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

DISPOSAL OF THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA (AMENDMENT)
BILL, SENATE BILL NO.16 OF 2015

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hon. Senators, I have a short communication to give on the disposal of the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, Senate Bill No.16 of 2015. I believe that is the Bill by Sen. Sijeny. I hope she is listening because I do not want to come back to it.

Hon. Senators, you will recall that on 28th December, 2016, during the Special Sitting of the Senate, this House voted on the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, Senate Bill No.16 of 2015 by Sen. Sijeny, popularly known as the two-thirds gender Bill.

Article 256(1)(d) provides that a Bill to amend the Constitution shall be passed by Parliament when each House of Parliament has passed the Bill in both its second and third readings by not less than two-thirds of all Members of that House. This then means that for the Bill by Sen. Sijeny to pass at Second Reading, it must be supported by at least 45 Senators.

As you recall, the result of the division held on 28th December, 2016 was as follows: Ayes - 37, Noes - 6 and Abstentions - 3. From the result of the division, it was clear that the Bill did not attain the required threshold for it to pass Second Reading.

Hon. Senators, Standing Order No.63 provides as follows and I quote:-

“(1) In every instance where the Constitution lays down that a fixed number of Senators is necessary to support the moving of, or to decide any question on a Motion, any amendment Motion to such Motion shall not be passed unless supported by the fixed number of Senators required to pass the original Motion.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), whenever a Bill or a Special Motion that requires a special majority in the Senate fails to obtain the required majority when the question on the Bill or the Motion is put and the vote results in a majority of “Ayes” but the “Noes” have not numbered at least one third of all the Senators, the Speaker may direct that a further vote be taken on the particular question and the further vote shall be taken within five sitting days from the day the first vote was taken.

(3) If the Speaker does not direct a further vote under paragraph (2) or if on such further vote the fixed majority is not obtained, the Speaker shall declare that the Motion is negatived.”

Hon. Senators, you further recall that the Speaker, while communicating the results of the division on the Bill, directed that pursuant to Standing Order No.63, a second opportunity will be afforded to this House to vote again on the Bill.

As indicated in the timelines, we have sitting days to vote again on this matter. For avoidance of doubt, today is the third day. The fifth day shall be on Wednesday, 22nd February, 2017. If the Bill will not have been voted on by then, I will declare the Motion on Second Reading of the Bill negatived. I hope that this House is now guided accordingly.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM NGINDA GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): I have a short communication to make.

Hon. Senators, I would like to appreciate the presence in the Public Gallery this afternoon of visiting students from Nginda Girls' Secondary School, Murang'a County.

In our usual way of receiving our visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them and on behalf of the Senate, and on my own behalf as the Senator for Murang'a County, wish them a fruitful visit.

Hon. Senators, this is a school from Murang'a County . It is one of the oldest schools in the county and it is a school that is performing very well. I am proud to welcome them to the Public Gallery of our Senate.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM BAITIGITU PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Mositet): Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon, of visiting teachers and students from Baitigitu Primary School, South Imenti Constituency, Meru County. In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

Tuesday, 21st February, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF MEMBERS OF THE
PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK ON WB AND IMF

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon of a visiting delegation of Hon. Members of Parliament from various countries who are Members of the Parliamentary Network on World Bank (WB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). I request each member of the delegation to stand when called out so that we may acknowledge them in the usual Senate tradition.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Alain Destexhe (Belgium) | - | Senator, Board member of the Parliamentary Network |
| 2. Sado Nazaire (Benin) | - | MP |
| 3. Immaculée Ndabaneze (Burundi) | - | Senator |
| 4. Fadil Aliyoum (Cameroon) | - | MP |
| 5. Mbutoh Njingum Musa (Cameroon) | - | MP |
| 6. Pana Merchant (Canada) | - | Senator |
| 7. Jean-Luc Reitzer (France) | - | MP |
| 8. Maminaiaina Rebenirina (Madagascar) | - | MP |
| 9. Gerry Randriambolaina (Madagascar) | - | MP |
| 10. Abdul Rashid Godil (Pakistan) | - | MP |
| 11. El Hadji Mansor Sy | - | MP |
| 12. Åsa Erikson | - | MP |
| 13. Zitto Zuberi Kabwe (Tanzania) | - | MP |
| 14. Joseph George Kakunda (Tanzania) | - | MP |
| 15. Olfa Soukri Cherif (Tunisia) | - | MP |
| 16. Arda Zengin (Turkey) | - | MP |
| 17. Cemalettin Torun (Turkey) | - | MP |
| 18. Taha Ozhan (Turkey) | - | MP |
| 19. Nathan Nandala-Mafabi (Uganda) | - | MP |

They are accompanied by the following staff:-

1. Nayé Bathily, Head of Parliamentary Engagement, World Bank Group.
2. Glenn Gottselig, Senior Communication Officer, IMF.
3. Vera Rosauer, Communication Officer, AFREC, World Bank Group.
4. Hana Rakem, Consultant, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the

IMF.

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I welcome you all to the Senate and wish you well for the remainder of your stay in the Parliament of Kenya.

I thank you.

Wednesday, 22nd February, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**SENSITIZATION RETREAT ON THE KENYA
DEVOLUTION SUPPORT PROGRAMME (KDSP)**

Hon. Senators, I wish to inform you that the National Treasury has organized and invites all Senators to a sensitization retreat on proposals to have conditional allocations in the County Allocation of Revenue Bill. The proposed conditional allocations will be financed by a loan from the World Bank to support a devolution related capacity building and performance grand programme targeting all the county governments. The financing is under the Kenya Devolution Support Programme.

Prior to this programme, the National Treasury has had engagements on the same with the Ministry of Devolution and Planning, the World Bank and Senate committees on Finance Budget and Commerce, the County Public Accounts and Investments (CPAIC), and other committees.

The purpose of the retreat shall be:

(1) To sensitize the Senate on the Kenya Devolution Support Programme for results.

(2) Consider the proposed amendments to the County Allocation of Revenue Act 2016 and agree on a way forward so as to facilitate the flow of funds and implementation of the proposed programme as contemplated.

(3) The retreat will discuss and agree on the way forward on the proposed allocations for the Kenya Devolution Support Programme for results for the financial year 2017/2018.

The retreat is scheduled to take place from 24th to 25th February 2017 this weekend at Simba Lodge Naivasha. Senators are expected to depart for Naivasha tomorrow evening Thursday 23rd, 2017.

This is, therefore, to remind you that the invitation is still there and to urge you to plan to attend and participate. You are requested to confirm your participation with the office of the Clerk of the Senate for purposes of planning.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**VISITING STUDENTS FROM IKALUENI PRIMARY SCHOOL,
NUNGUNI, MAKUENI COUNTY**

Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Public Gallery this afternoon of visiting students from Ikalueni Primary School, Nunguni, Makueni County.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I wish to extend a warm welcome to the students. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

Thursday, 23rd February, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

DATE FOR CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS FOR SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Order, Senators. Before we proceed to the next Order, I have a small Communication to make.

Following the constitution of Sessional Committees; the Committee on Devolved Governments, the County Public Accounts and Investments Committee, the Committee on Implementation and the Committee on Delegated Legislation, pursuant to Standing Order No.183 on conduct of elections, this is to inform you that the Clerk of the Senate has appointed Tuesday, 28th February, 2017 as the date for the conduct of elections for all the Sessional Committees.

Further information as to the venue and time shall be communicated directly to the Members of the said Committees in the usual manner. I, therefore, wish to take this opportunity to urge all hon. Senators, who are Members of the Sessional Committees, to ensure that they attend these critical meetings, so as to ensure that the Committees can commence the discharge of their responsibilities immediately.

Other Committees with pending reports for approval, especially affecting petitions, which have been a great concern, are also directed to liaise with the Office of the Clerk to ensure that they also meet on the same Tuesday, probably an hour after the Sessional Committees have held their meetings. They need to meet to approve the reports that have already considered. That will enhance the amount of work before the House.

I thank you.

VISITING DELEGATION OF PUPILS FROM NZUUNI
PRIMARY SCHOOL, MAKUENI COUNTY

Hon. Senators, I have one more Communication. I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery, this afternoon of visiting pupils from Nzuuni Primary School, Kisau, Makueni County.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate, and my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

Tuesday, 28th February, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSONS AND VICE-CHAIRPERSONS
OF SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Members, I have two Communications to make. First is on the election of chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of the sessional committees following the reconstitution of the sessional committees on Tuesday, 21st February and Thursday, 23rd February, 2017.

The elections of the chairpersons and vice-chairpersons were held today, Tuesday, 28th February 2017 and I wish to apprise the House on the outcome of those elections.

The Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments (CPAIC); the Chairperson is Sen. (Prof.) Anyang'-Nyong'o and the Vice-Chairperson is Sen. (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo. The Sessional Committee on Devolved Government; the Chairperson is Sen. (Prof.) Lesan and the Vice-Chairperson is Sen. Naisula Lesuuda. The Sessional Committee on Implementation; the Chairperson is Sen. James Orengo and the Vice-Chairperson is Sen. Daisy Kanainza. The Sessional Committee on Delegated Legislation; the Chairperson is Sen. Stephen Sang and the Vice-Chairperson is Sen. Judith Sijeny.

Hon. Senators, allow me to congratulate the chairpersons and their vice-chairpersons on their re-election and urge them and the entire membership of these important committees to prioritize the most important business as we approach the end of the term of the 11th Parliament.

I thank you.

THE SECOND ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT 2017

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Senators, the second communication is on the Second Annual Legislative Summit 2017.

I am pleased to invite you to the Second Annual Legislative Summit 2017 which is scheduled to take place from 20th to 24th March, 2017, at Pride Inn Paradise Beach Resort Convention Centre and Spa in Shanzu, Mombasa County. The 19th and 24th March will be the travel dates. The theme of this year's Summit is 'Effective Legislatures for Sustainable Grassroots Development'. The event is jointly organised by the Senate and the County Assemblies Forum (CAF), in line with our shared constitutional mandate and obligation to conduct mutual relations on the basis of consultation and co-operation as required by Article 6(2) of the Constitution of Kenya (2010)

Hon. Senators, you will recall that the Inaugural Legislative Summit whose theme was 'Celebrating and Entrenching Devolution through Representation' was held at Flamingo Beach Resort, Mombasa County, in May 2016. This year's summit is primarily informed by the fact that the inaugural legislative bodies established by the Constitution of Kenya (2010) as part of the devolved system of government are now at the penultimate stages of their five year term. As such, the Senate, in collaboration with the CAF, need to meet in order to take stock of the gains made and to plan ahead of the next legislatures.

Hon. Senators, the objectives of this year's Legislative Summit are:-

(a) Take stock of the complementary law making, oversight and budgetary functions of the Senate and the county assemblies;

(b) To reflect on the period since the inception of the devolved system and to determine how stronger the institutions can be established, going forward;

(c) Interrogate the effectiveness of oversight tools in enhancing prudent use of national resources;

(d) Interrogate the measures that need to be taken during the transition period to receive the next legislatures;

(e) Enhance citizen participation and mainstream the needs of marginalized groups such as persons with disabilities, youth and women in devolved system of governance;

(f) Discuss on how to strengthen trust as a basis for effective collaboration and cooperation between institutions relevant to devolution; and,

(g) Deliberate on ways of enhancing cohesion during elections period.

Hon. Senators, this being the last legislative summit during the 11th Parliament and considering that the above objectives are aimed at ensuring better legislative institutions and improving interactions between the Senate and the county assemblies, I urge and invite all the Senators to attend the Legislative Summit. Kindly confirm your participation with the Office of the Clerk of the Senate for logistical purposes.

I thank you.

Thursday, 2nd March, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITORS FROM THE NORWEGIAN COUNCIL FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Sang): Before he does so, I have a communication to make.

Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon of visitors from the Norwegian Council for Children and Youth Organizations.

They are:--

- (1) Ms. Embla Mathisen; and
- (2) Ms. Solveig – Marie Haland

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I wish to extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate, and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

SPECIAL SITTING OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE STATE
OF THE NATION ADDRESS BY H.E. THE PRESIDENT

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Sang): Hon. Senators, I have a communication to make on the Special Sitting of Parliament for the State of the Nation Address by His Excellency the President.

Hon. Senators, as you may be aware, Article 132(1)(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order No.22(1) of the Senate Standing Orders requires the President to address a Special Sitting of Parliament once every year and at any other time.

By a letter referenced SH/9/VOL VI 37 of 15th February, 2017 and addressed to the Clerks of Parliament, the Office of the President requested to have the Presidential Address to Parliament scheduled for Wednesday, 15th March, 2017. A Gazette Notice will shortly be issued convening the Special Joint Sitting of Parliament.

Hon. Senators, this is, therefore, to inform you that a Special Sitting of Parliament will be held on Wednesday, 15th March, 2017 at 2.30 p.m. in the National Assembly Chamber. This is an important occasion in the calendar of Parliament that provides an opportunity for His Excellency the President to deliver the State of the Nation Address and to address the Legislature and the people of Kenya on critical matters concerning the country. I therefore urge you to attend the Special Sitting.

Hon. Senators, more significantly for the Senate, His Excellency the President will also on the same day officially open the refurbished Senate Chamber, as well as the New Wing of Parliament. As you may recall, the Senate occupied this official Senate Chamber in the Main Building of Parliament on 1st July, 2014, having previously sat at the KICC and later at the County Hall Chamber. This day was noted as a major milestone in claiming and entrenching the bicameral system of governance in Kenya after a hiatus

of about 50 years. I therefore request Hon. Senators to avail themselves during this occasion.

Hon. Senators, due to limited sitting space, Senators and Members of the National Assembly will be at liberty to invite one guest each to the occasion. In this regard, you are hereby requested to provide the names of such guests to facilitate the preparation of formal invitation cards. The names should be submitted to the Office of the Clerk by Thursday, 9th March, 2017.

Hon. Senators, the Special Sitting has also necessitated a re-arrangement of parking. Consequently, the current Senators' parking area here at the Main Parliament Building will not be available for parking by Senators on Wednesday, 15th March, 2017. Alternative parking arrangements within the precincts of Parliament are being made, and will be communicated to Senators before the Special Sitting.

I thank you.

Tuesday, 28th March, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF STAFF FROM
MERU COUNTY ASSEMBLY

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon of visiting staff from Meru county assembly.

The staffers are here on a five-day attachment programme at the Senate. I request each member of the delegation to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition.

1. Mr. Batista Muriuki,
2. Mr. Erick Mwenda,
3. Ms. Emily Kendi
4. Ms. Mary Gatwiri
5. Mr. Seth Mubichi

All the staff members are clerk assistants. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I welcome them to the Senate and wish them well for the remainder of their stay.

I thank you.

Wednesday, 29th March, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF STAFF FROM
NYAMIRA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon of visiting staff from Nyamira County Assembly.

The staff members are here on a five-day attachment programme at the Senate. I request each member of the delegation to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition.

1. Mr. Evans Omwenga – Public Relations Officer
2. Ms. Janet Onchwanga – Public Relations Officer

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I welcome them to the Senate and wish them well for the remainder of their stay.

I thank you.

VISITING DELEGATION FROM ST. JOSEPH GIRLS
SECONDARY SCHOOL, TAITA TAVETA COUNTY

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): I wish to recognise the presence of students and teachers from St. Joseph Girls Secondary School from Taita Taveta County. They are seated in the Public Gallery. In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

Tuesday, 4th April, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF STUDENTS AND
TEACHERS FROM VARIOUS SCHOOLS

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hon. Senators, I wish to recognise the presence of visiting students and teachers from the following schools:-

- (1) Ontulili Boys, Meru County
- (2) Chepkumia Secondary School, Nandi County
- (3) Bogiti Primary School, Murang'a County

They are seated in the Public Gallery. In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM ST. THERESA TARTAR
GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, WEST POKOT COUNTY

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Machage): Hon. Senators, I wish to recognise the presence of visiting students and teachers from St. Theresa Tartar Girls High School, West Pokot County. They are seated in the Public Gallery. In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them and on behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

Thank you.

Wednesday, 5th April, 2017

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF YOUTH LEADERS
FROM KAKAMEGA COUNTY

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Machage): Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon of visiting youth leaders from Kakamega County. I request each member of the delegation to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition.

- (1) Mr. Reuben Makokha
- (2) Mr. Geoffrey Sheti
- (3) Mr. Rodgers Wakhisi
- (4) Mr. Alex Olale
- (5) Mr. Defra Ambako
- (6) Mr. Shaaban Akida
- (7) Mr. Musa Alajoni
- (8) Mr. Allan Ngeresa
- (9) Ms. Caroline Njunge.

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I welcome all of you to the Senate and wish you well for the remainder of your stay.

I thank you.

VISITING DELEGATION OF STUDENTS AND LECTURERS
FROM UNIVERSITY OF KABIANGA

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Machage): I wish to recognise the presence of visiting students and lecturers from University of Kabianga from Kericho County. They are seated in the Public Gallery.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

Thursday, 6th April, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS
FROM GITHONGO BOYS HIGH SCHOOL, MERU COUNTY

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hon. Senators, I wish to recognize the presence, in the Public Gallery, of visiting students and teachers from Githongo Boys High School in Meru County. In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them.

On behalf of the Senate, and my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit. For the benefit of the teachers and students, may I add that as a procedure we do not normally recognize people in the Public Gallery. However, every time that students and teachers come, we do it because that is a special category. They come here to learn and we want to encourage them. That is the reason we take time to recognize students and teachers in the Gallery.

I wish them well for the time they will be here.

Thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION OF PHD STUDENTS FROM JKUAT

Hon. Senators, before I proceed to the next order I wish to recognise the presence of visiting Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students from Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology (JKUAT), with their team leader, Dr. Susan Were, Chairperson of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Supplies at the university. They are seated in the Speaker's Gallery.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

Thursday, 25th May, 2017 - Special Sitting

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

CONVENING OF SPECIAL SITTING OF THE SENATE

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Order, hon. Senators. I take this opportunity to welcome you back for this Special Sitting during the Fifth Session of the Senate. I thank you for finding time from your busy schedules to attend the sitting. I am aware of the busy schedules that each one of you has at such a critical time as this in our election calendar.

Hon. Senators, by a letter dated 17th May, 2017 and pursuant to Standing Order No.29(1) of the Senate, the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader, supported by the requisite number of Senators, requested the Speaker to convene a Special Sitting of the Senate to conclude consideration of the following business:-

- (a) The Report of the Joint Parliamentary Select Committee on the election of Members to the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA);
- (b) Bills pending before the Senate; and,
- (c) Petitions due for presentation or reporting to the Senate.

Hon. Senators, following consideration of the request by the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader, I was satisfied that it met the requirements of Standing Order 29 (2). It is in this respect that I convened this Special Sitting of the Senate via *Gazette* Notice No. 4898 dated 22nd May, 2017.

Honourable Senators, as required by Standing Order 29 (5), the *Gazette* Notice specified the business to be transacted at this Sitting and it is the business scheduled in today's Order Paper. Indeed, as specified and in accordance with Standing Order 29(5) of the Senate, the business listed shall be the only Business before the Senate during this Special Sitting.

Hon. Senators, although this Special Sitting comes at a time when we are through with political party primaries and about to enter into the official campaign period for the August, 2017 General Elections, the Senate has to discharge its mandate up to the end of its term. I am glad that you all heeded to the call of your constitutional duty and came for this Special Sitting. I would like to reiterate that in accordance with Article 123 of the Constitution and Standing Order 71, for the Senate to approve some of the business scheduled in today's Order Paper, the support of a majority of all delegations – that is a minimum of 24 delegations – is required.

I, therefore, urge you to remain in the Chamber for the transaction of business as scheduled and until the conclusion of Business. Depending on how you perform, midnight is the limit.

Friday, 9th June, 2017 - Special Sitting

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

CONVENING OF SPECIAL SITTING OF THE SENATE

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Senators, I have a Communication on the convening of this Special Sitting.

I take this opportunity to welcome you back for this Special Sitting during the Fifth Session of the Senate. I sincerely thank you for finding time from your busy schedule to attend this sitting. I am aware of the busy schedules each one of you has at such a critical time as this in our election calendar.

Hon. Senators, by a letter dated 5th June, 2017 and pursuant to Standing Order No. 29 (1) of the Senate, the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader, supported by the requisite number of Senators, requested the Speaker to convene a Special Sitting of the Senate to conclude consideration of the following business:-

(a) The Division of Revenue Bill (No.2) National Assembly Bill No.22 of 2017) and other pending Bills before the Senate; and,

(b) Petitions due for presentation and reporting to the Senate.

Hon. Senators, following consideration of the request by the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, I was satisfied that it met the requirements of Standing Order No. 29(2). It is in this respect that I convened this Special Sitting of the Senate via Kenya Gazette Notice No.5338 of 7th June, 2017.

As required by Standing Order No. 29 (5), the Gazette Notice specifies the business to be transacted at this Sitting and it is the business scheduled in today's Order Paper. Indeed, as specified and in accordance with Standing Order No. 29(5) of the Senate, the business listed shall be the only business before the Senate during this Special Sitting.

Hon. Senators, although this Special Sitting comes at a time when we have officially entered the official campaign period for the August 2017 general elections, the Senate must discharge its mandate up to the end of its term. I am, therefore, glad that you all heeded to the call of your constitutional duty and came for this Special Sitting.

I would like to reiterate that in accordance with Article 123 of the Constitution and Standing Order No.71, for the Senate to approve some of the business scheduled in today's Order Paper, the support of a majority of all the 47 delegations is required. Therefore, I hope that some of your colleagues are on their way. I, therefore, urge you all to remain in the Chamber for the transaction of the business as scheduled and until its conclusion.

I thank you.

SENATORS' *KAMUKUNJI* TO REVIEW REPORT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

Hon. Senators, I have a second Communication from the Chair on a *Kamkunji* to be held in the Senate Chamber on Tuesday, 13th June, 2017 at 11.00 a.m.

As you may recall, the Procedure and Rules Committee has since September, 2016, been undertaking a comprehensive review of the Senate Standing Orders. This is in

line with its mandate under Standing Order No.249 requiring the Committee to carry out such a review at least once in every term of Parliament.

In undertaking this exercise, the Committee invited and received submissions from hon. Senators, the office of the Clerk and members of the public. The Committee has since concluded this exercise and prepared a report which is due to be tabled in the Senate next week when the House resumes from recess.

It is in this regard that a *Kamukunji* has been scheduled to enable the Committee take the hon. Senators through the proposed amendments before the report is tabled in the House. The *Kamukunji* is scheduled to be held in the Senate Chamber on Tuesday, 13th June, 2017 at 11.00 a.m.

I invite and urge all Senators to attend this very important briefing.

I thank you.

Tuesday, 13th June, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM NYAMIRA,
NAROK AND SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLIES

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Order, Senate Minority Leader! I want to dispose of something then you may proceed.

Hon. Senators, I wish to acknowledge the presence at the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon of visiting staff from Nyamira, Narok and Siaya county assemblies. I request each member of the delegation to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the usual Senate Tradition.

1. Theodora K. Silo
2. Felix K. Osoro
3. Felistus B. Otwabe
4. Mary K. Nyambega
5. William Musekenya
6. Sanoë Stephen
7. Francis Rakewa
8. Mercy Ooga
9. Felix Okech
10. Wicky Otode

On behalf of the Senate, and on my own behalf, I welcome you to the Senate and wish you well for the remainder of your stay.

I thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE MEDIATION
COMMITTEE ON THE DIVISION OF REVENUE BILL

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Members, given the above results on the Division of Revenue Bill, I have nominated the following Senators to the Mediation Committee:-

- Sen. Billow Kerrow;
- Sen. Mutahi Kagwe;
- Sen. Mutula Kilonzo Jnr.; and
- Sen. Beatrice Elachi.

Wednesday, 14th June, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATIONS FROM BARINGO AND
GARISSA COUNTY ASSEMBLIES

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Order, hon. Senators. Before we move to the next item, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the Speaker's Gallery, of visiting Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) of Baringo and staff from Garissa County Assembly. I request each Member of the delegation to stand up when called out so that he or she may be acknowledged in the usual Senate tradition.

Hon. Risper Kimaiywa

Hon. Susan Wacuka

Mr. Lopoio L. Jonathan

Mr. Hassan Mohammed Madi

Mr. Ali Noor Hassan

Mr. Abdi Noor Duale

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I welcome you to the Senate. I wish you well for the remainder of your day.

I thank you.

Thursday, 15th June, 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

CIRCULATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Dr.) Machage): Members of the Senate, I hope you realize that we have a Supplementary Order Paper. If you have not received a copy, please get one. This will ensure you are in tandem with the programme of the House. Let us move on to the next Order.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE *SINE DIE*

The Speaker (Hon. Ethuro): Hon. Senators, before I invite the Senate Majority Leader to move the Motion of Adjournment, allow me to make this Communication.

Hon. Senators, today marks the last day of the ordinary sittings of the Senate, and indeed Parliament, during the current eleventh term. As the Waswahili say, “*Kilicho na mwanzo, hakikosi mwisho*”.

As we assemble here this afternoon, it is important to visualize where we have come from, on the role and mandate of the Senate, our experience over the last four and a half years, our achievements and challenges, as well as what we envision the next and indeed future Senate to be. Indeed, it has been encouraging; even those of you who have decided not to come back to the House should be our ambassadors out there.

Hon. Senators, you will recall that the first Senate existed in the immediate post-Independence period from 1963 until 1966, when the Provincial Assemblies were scrapped and the Senate itself got dissolved or rather merged with the House of Representatives to form one Kenya National Assembly. The Members of the Senate then were combined with those of the other House to form a unicameral legislature.

In the long journey that followed towards constitutional reforms, devolution of power and resources became a critical component as a means to address marginalization and promote equitable growth and development in all parts and regions of the Republic. This was realized with the enactment of the new Constitution of Kenya in 2010, which established the 47 counties that you represent in this august House.

The new Constitution reinstated the Senate as the primary institution charged with protecting and advancing the interests of counties and their governments, and, indeed, ensuring that the devolution experiment succeeds. Indeed, I could not be any happier than this week when the Senate stood ground for the umpteenth time on the quantum for the Division of Revenue Bill.

(Applause)

This is a mandate I can affirm with confidence that the Senate has discharged to the best of its ability, and to the extent allowed under the Constitution. In the last four and a half years, the Senate has considered many Bills on various aspects affecting counties and

devolution, in addition to Motions, Petitions, Statements, Reports and other Business transacted by the House over this period. There are also a number of key Bills listed for consideration by the Senate this afternoon that will need to be ably taken forward into the future.

Hon. Senators, it is sad that as this term comes to a close, only a few Bills originating from the Senate have been successfully passed by both Houses and assented to. This is a matter we have had extensive discussions about, going right to the architecture of the Constitution, and which I am sure will continue after this. But I can assure you the self-fulfilling prophesy of doom cannot cloud our resolve. It is my firm conviction, however, that the current situation is not what the framers of the Constitution and, indeed, Kenyans had, when re-establishing the Senate under the 2010 Constitution.

As Senators will recall, I have previously observed that the Senate was deliberately created by the people of Kenya as an organ of the national Government to perform specific functions, and especially to be a guardian angel of devolution, which goes to the heart of the constitutional order. I may add, if there is no Senate, there is no devolution and there is no need for a new Constitution.

It is, therefore, important that, as the Senate comes to the end of its first term, we re-look at the architecture of the Constitution, particularly as far as processing legislation between the two Houses is concerned, with a view to ensuring that the Senate effectively discharges its mandate under the Constitution and that a clear-cut distinction in mandate and operations be made between the lower and the upper Houses.

In addition to its representative, legislative and oversight roles, the Senate has achieved various milestones over the last four and a half years. Notable among them are relocation from the temporary Chamber to the permanent Chamber that we have now.

The same Senate also has in the last two years, successfully organized the Annual Legislative Summits bringing together the Senate, County Assemblies and key players in the devolution sector. During these summits, we have identified and soberly deliberated on the critical aspects of devolution, the gains and successes accomplished, difficulties encountered, and come up with resolutions and plans of specific action on the way forward, including ensuring devolution of all the functions that are supposed to be devolved under the Constitution. We have also taken our responsibility seriously to ensure that there is more cohesion amongst the players of devolution; a role that may not be appreciated by many, but extremely critical in laying the foundation of the new architecture.

The Senate has also participated in the capacity building of county assemblies, through bench-marking visits by Committees and Members of County Assemblies at the Senate, as well as through legislative attachments at the Senate for county assembly staff. In fact, our Committee on Information Technology developed what we call the model ECD classroom which a number of counties have been able to adopt and actually build to specification.

Hon. Senators, in addition, the Senate has hosted dignitaries who have addressed the House, among them, the Speaker of the Senate of Rwanda, Hon. (Dr.) Jean Damascene Ntawukuliryayo, and the then Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Hon. Dr. Willy Mutunga.

The Senate has also been called upon to intervene in a number of critical events, at times to mediate conflicts and ensure the very survival of some county governments.

Examples include the Isiolo County Government and Makueni County Government, where the Senate adjourned business to attend to and help resolve the conflicts in these counties. Indeed, in the matter of Kericho Governor Impeachment, the Senate realised that this was more of a political issue and we invited our Senator to intervene and that matter was resolved amicably.

Senators will also recall that during debate on the Security Amendment Laws as well as the Electoral Amendment Laws, when the country appeared to be in crisis, it is the sobriety and bipartisan manner in which this Senate considered these matters that helped to lower tensions in the country and win the confidence and admiration of our people. Needless to say, you did not see any water being poured, any Order Paper being scattered and no stones thrown around.

(Applause)

Hon. Senators, I must admit you made me your proud Speaker. This year this country has not witnessed any demonstration along those lines.

The Senate has also faced its fair share of challenges, primarily with regard to fighting for the space to exercise its legislative and oversight mandates under Article 96 of the Constitution. As Senators will recall, this necessitated the Senate going all the way to the Supreme Court for an advisory opinion on the Senate's role in consideration of the annual Division of Revenue Bill and other Bills affecting counties. I must also confirm that we have always had our way in most of these judicial actions, for various good reasons, the least of which being that we have men and women of substance.

There have also been differences, at times, between the Senate and Governors, on the one hand, and between the Senate and County Assemblies, on the other. This is true for any human enterprise, especially of such complicated nature.

It is my hope that as we progress with entrenchment of the devolved system of governance in Kenya; as system that through hard labour, loss of limbs and lives some times, and the bicameral legislature established under the Constitution, we will find better ways of addressing and resolving these conflicts.

As the House proceeds to adjourn *Sine die* later this afternoon – I heard the Professor say that you pronounce it as it written, and you write it as pronounced. I was just assessing whether you have been good students.

Let me give some guidance with respect to a number of matters.

Firstly, regarding the question of what emoluments and benefits Senators will be entitled to on completion of this term, and when and how these are to be paid, the Clerk of the Senate is preparing a detailed circular that will be shared shortly with Senators on these issues as we agreed in the *Kamukunji* this week. The circular will also address matters of office space, handover of assets, as well as the expected transitions of staff serving at the Parliament and county offices of Senators.

Secondly, is the question of what business may be transacted by the Senate and its Committees once the Senate adjourns *Sine die*. The position, hon. Senators, is that both the House and its Committees will cease transacting Business, save for consideration of very urgent and important national issues, during which a Special Sitting of the Senate may be called. Accordingly, the sittings of all Committees stand suspended effective today.

One of the aspirations I expressed when addressing the first sitting of this Senate in March 2013, was that the Senate would become “a model legislative House for the country” and “offer the requisite inspiration, guidance and confidence” to the country and the region. I, therefore, urged Members of this House to conduct ourselves with decorum, consistently observe the due process and to uphold the rule of law, legality and the culture of constitutionalism.

I am proud to observe today that this aspiration has been realized, despite the many obstacles and challenges where the Senate mandate was challenged at every turn and twist. This House has continued to win the respect, admiration and confidence of Kenyans by the manner in which we have conducted ourselves and transacted business at a time when public confidence in Parliament and many other institutions is at their lowest.

On my part I undertook to be a faithful servant and diligently discharged my duties to this Senate and to the Republic. I further pledged to respect and uphold the rule of law and nurture the culture of constitutionalism, protect and defend our Constitution and always safeguard the role of the Senate. It is my sincere hope that as this term comes to an end, I will be judged to have firmly stood by these values and kept my promise to the Senate and Kenyans.

Let me, therefore, take this opportunity to convey my best wishes to all of you, Senators, many of you who have become friends and are contesting also for elections to various offices during the upcoming general elections. For those taking a break from Parliament, it is my hope that you will continue serving Kenyans faithfully and diligently in your many other capacities, for I know you are not limited in what you can do, either in private or public service elsewhere. I want to particularly appeal to those who will be joining the ‘lower House’ to remain our ambassadors.

Hon. Senators, as I conclude, let me express what a great honour and privilege it has been to serve this House and Kenyans as the first Speaker of the first modern Senate. I remain humbled by the immense confidence and trust you bestowed upon me, in entrusting me to serve as your Speaker of the inaugural Senate under the new Constitution and the support you have extended to my office throughout this term. For those of you who will be coming back, we will be counting on you and your votes. For those who will be helping our country elsewhere, know that you will remain Senator So-and-So, and that reputation will precede you in your future undertakings.

God bless you all; God bless Kenya. I thank you.