

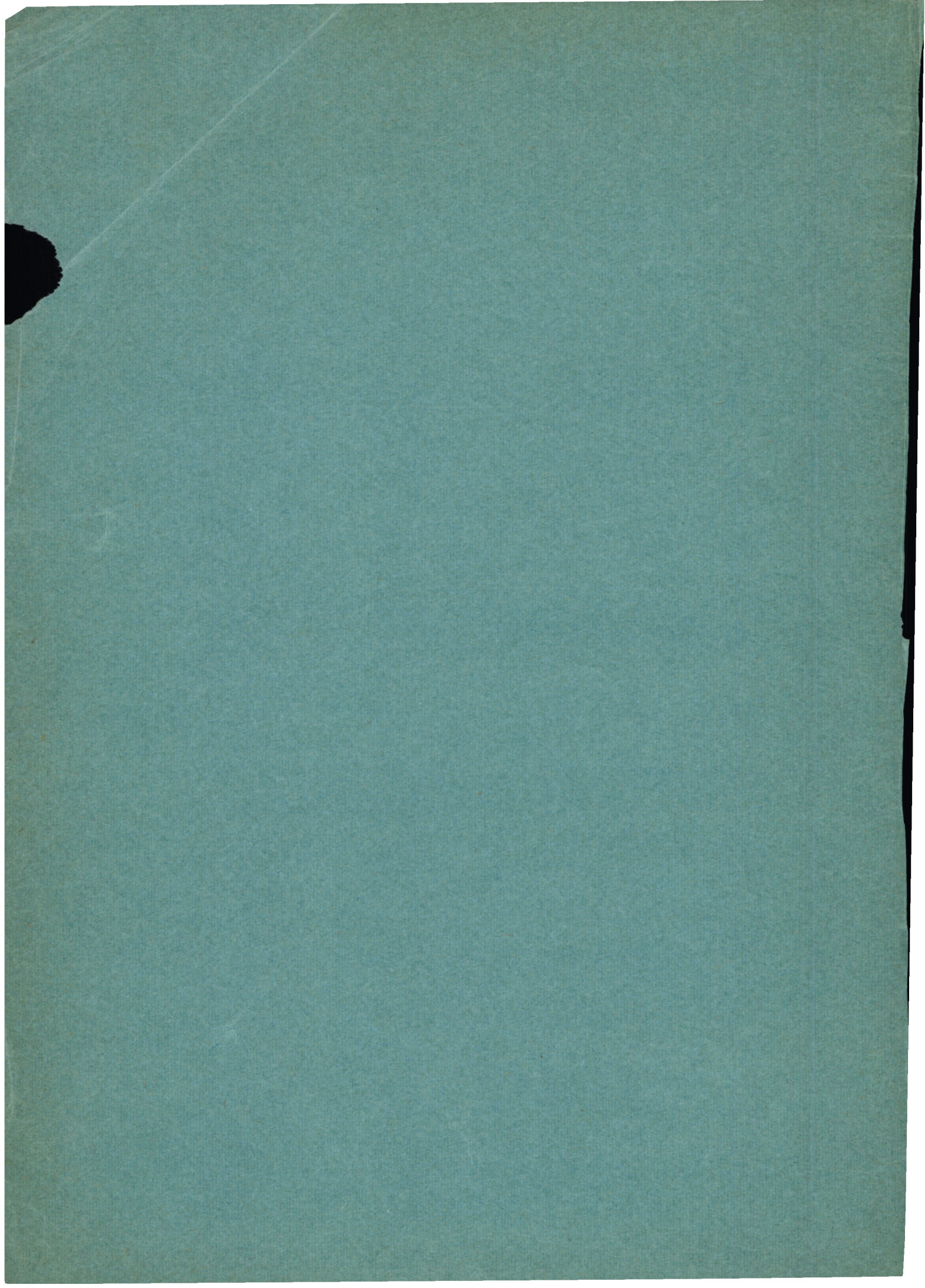
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**REPORT OF THE  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
MAIZE INDUSTRY**







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**REPORT OF THE  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
MAIZE INDUSTRY**

## PREFACE

MR. SPEAKER,

On 11th July, 1972, the following were appointed by the National Assembly of the Republic of Kenya to be Members of the Select Committee on the Maize Industry:

THE HON. W. WABUGE, M.P. (*Chairman*)

THE HON. H. R. ARAP CHEBOIWO, M.P.

THE HON. E. T. MWAMUNGA, M.P.

THE HON. W. M. SAINA, M.P.

THE HON. K. B. MWAMZANDI, M.P.

THE HON. K. KINYANJUI, M.P.

THE HON. D. O. AMAYO, M.P.

THE HON. P. N. MUNYASIA, M.P.

THE HON. I. K. MUTHUA, M.P.

THE HON. G. A. EMOTO-EBU, M.P.

The Resolution containing the terms of reference of this Committee was passed on 28th April, 1972 and is as follows:—

THAT, in view of the fact that maize has become the staple food of this country, and that consumption has leapt up tremendously, and since the population is increasing every year and the country is faced with a shortage of maize from time to time, this House resolves to appoint a Select Committee to inquire into the problems facing the maize industry generally, and make recommendations to the House, in particular:—

- (a) to find ways and means of increasing maize production both for local consumption and for export;
- (b) to raise, guarantee and stabilize the price of maize in the country; and
- (c) to look into the question of proper storage, marketing and distribution of maize-meal throughout the country.

The Select Committee heard evidence in Nairobi and in the Provinces, where it received written and oral evidence from Provincial Commissioners and other members of the administration, representatives of various Ministries, representatives of farmers' associations, the Maize and Produce Board, the milling industry, the Kenya Seed Company hybrid seed growers, individual maize growers, and other individuals giving evidence in their personal capacity including several from the University. Many Members of this House also appeared before the Committee. The Committee was heartened by the widespread interest in its work and the many expressions of appreciation to the House for appointing the Committee to look into the maize problem. The Committee received generous co-operation and assistance from all quarters with the exception of two of the Provincial Commissioners who did not give the Committee the assistance it required. But the Committee is particularly appreciative of the support of the Provincial Commissioners in Western and Eastern Provinces, and the Acting Provincial Commissioner in Nyanza, who personally appeared and gave evidence before the Committee. The Provincial Commissioner North-Eastern also gave the Committee assistance although he was unable to appear to give evidence and the Provincial Commissioner Nairobi submitted a memorandum. The Committee appreciates the co-operation it received from officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance and Planning, particularly their Permanent Secretaries who appeared at length before the Committee. The Committee also received a great deal of assistance from the General Manager of the Maize and Produce Board, and his staff, and from the Kenya National Farmers' Union and the Kenya Farmers' Association. The Committee is grateful to these and to all the other people who contributed by giving evidence and by submitting memoranda.

Although the Committee was appointed to look into the price of maize and the problems of the maize industry generally, it was surprised to find that no consumers or traders came to give evidence. The Committee had considerable difficulty in coming to conclusions that were reasonable and fair to all sections of the industry, and its task was made more difficult by the lack of support of traders and consumers in this matter.

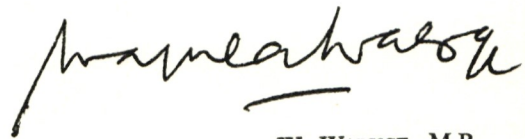


As Chairman of this Committee, it gives me special pleasure to be able to express my gratitude and appreciation to all the honourable Members who served on the Committee, who sacrificed so much of their time and devoted so much of their attention to the business of the Committee. The contributions of Members have substantially eased the task of preparing the report, and the report has benefited substantially also. The assistance that the honourable Members of the Committee have given the House in this matter is greatly appreciated.

The Committee would also like to record its appreciation of the services of Dr. J. Heyer of the University of Nairobi who acted as economic consultant to the Committee. Finally, the Committee is grateful for the substantial support it received from the staff of the National Assembly.

The Committee has attempted to cover thoroughly the specific terms of reference given to it by the House. It has also covered separately one or two other matters of particular importance to the maize industry. The Committee has been able to make a large number of specific recommendations which it feels are of great potential value to the maize industry, and it hopes that these will be given the attention they deserve.

In conclusion, I would like to thank again those whose assistance helped to make the report what it is. The Committee presents its report to the National Assembly and looks forward to the Assembly giving this report its authority and blessing so as to enable the Government to accept and implement the recommendations contained therein.



W. WABUGE, M.P.,  
Chairman.

Nairobi,  
27th June, 1973.