

SNA 28/11/24 Ĥ

REPUBLIC OF KENYA THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

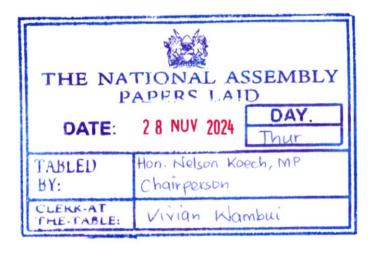
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – THIRD SESSION – 2024 DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

.....

REPORT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 9 OF 2024).

CLERK'S CHAMBERS DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS <u>NAIROBI</u>

LIBRARY



NOVEMBER, 2024



TABLE OF CONTENTS

,

2
3
4
5
6
6
6 6 7 8
9
TIONAL 9
9
13
20
21



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ANC	Amani National Congress
CAP	Chapter
EAC	East African Community
LSK	Law Society of Kenya
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MF&DA	Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs
MP	Member of Parliament
NIS	National Intelligence Service
OAG	Office of the Attorney General
ODM	Orange Democratic Movement
UDA	United Democratic Alliance
UDM	United Democratic Movement
WDM-K	Wiper Democratic Movement- Kenya

2

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Making PAGE 3
and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No 9. of 2024)

LIST OF ANNEXURES

Annexure 1: Signed list of Members who attended the sitting which considered and adopted the Report

Annexure 2: Minutes on sittings of the Committee on consideration of the Bill

Annexure 3: The Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024

Annexure 4: Advertisement inviting the public to submit memoranda on the Bill

Annexure 5: Letter from Clerk of the National Assembly inviting stakeholders to submit views on the Bill

Annexure 6: Submission from the Office of the Attorney General

Annexure 7: Submission from the Law Society of Kenya

Annexure 8: Submission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Annexure 9: Submission from the Hon. George Gitonga Murugara, CBS, MP (Sponsor of the Bill)

PAGE 4

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report contains the proceedings of the Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations on the consideration of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No. 9 of 2024) which was published on 26th February, 2024 and sponsored by Hon. George Murugara, Chairperson, Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, National Assembly.

Pursuant to Standing Order 127 (1) of the National Assembly Standing Orders, the Speaker of the National Assembly directed that the Bill be referred to the Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations to facilitate public participation.

The Bill seeks to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, Cap 4D (the principal Act) to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty-making process and to generally enhance the efficiency in the treaty-making process.

In compliance with Article 118(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 127(3), the Committee placed an advertisement in the print media on Wednesday 10th April 2024 inviting the public to submit memoranda by way of written statements on the Bill.

In addition, the Committee sought the views of stakeholders including the Office of the Attorney General, the Kenya Law Reform Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Law Society of Kenya. The Committee received responses from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Office of the Attorney General and the Law Society of Kenya.

I take this opportunity to thank and commend Committee Members for their devotion and commitment to duty, the Speaker and the Clerk of the National Assembly for providing leadership and direction and finally the Committee Secretariat for exemplary performance in providing technical and logistical support.

Hon. Speaker, on behalf of the Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations and pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 199 (6), it is my pleasant privilege and honour to present the Report of the Committee on its Consideration of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No. 9 of 2024).

Hon. Nelson Koech, M.P. Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No 9. of 2024)

.

PART I

1.0 PREFACE

1.1 Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

1. The Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations is one of twenty departmental committees of the National Assembly established under Standing Order 216 whose mandate, among others, is "to study and review all legislation referred to it".

1.1 Mandate of the Committee

2. The Committee's subject matters are stated in the Second Schedule of the National Assembly Standing Orders and are as follows: Defence, intelligence, foreign relations, diplomatic and consular services, international boundaries including territorial waters, international relations, and veteran affairs.

1.3 Oversight

3. In executing its mandate, the Committee oversees the following MDAs: The Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, the State Department for East African Community (EAC) Affairs, and the National Intelligence Service (NIS).

1.4 Committee Membership

٩

i.

4. The Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations was constituted by the House on 27th October, 2022 and comprises the following Members:

Chairperson Hon. Koech Nelson, M.P. Belgut Constituency <u>UDA Party</u>

Vice-Chairperson Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, M.P. Mandera North Constituency <u>UDM Party</u>

Members

Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, M.P, Gilgil Constituency **UDA Party**

Hon. Hassan Abdi Yusuf, MP Kamkunji Constituency **Jubilee Party**

Hon. Odhiambo Millie G. Akoth,MP Suba North Constituency **ODM Party**

Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, MP Kajiado Central Constituency **ODM Party**

Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni,MP Kitui County **WDM-K**

Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, MP Imenti Central Constituency UDA Party

Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, MP Saboti Constituency **ODM Party** Hon. Joshua Kandie, MP Baringo Central Constituency **UDA Party**

Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, MP Kinangop Constituency Jubilee Party

Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, MP Sabatia Constituency **UDA Party**

Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, MP Shinyalu Constituency **ANC Party**

Hon. Mohamed A. Hussein, MP Lagdera Constituency **ODM Party**

Hon.Teresia Wanjiru Mwangi, MP Nominated Member **UDA Party**

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No 9. of 2024)

1.5 Committee Secretariat

5. The Committee is facilitated by the following technical staff:

Mr. Dennis Mogare Ogechi First Clerk Assistant/Head of Secretariat

Ms. Clarah Kimeli Principal Legal Counsel II Mr. Benard Njeru Clerk Assistant III

Mr. Salat Ali Principal Serjeant-At-Arms

Ms. Noelle Chelangat Media Relations Officer I

Mr. John Nganga Audio Officer Mr. Edwin Machuki Fiscal Analyst III

Mr. Lenny Muchangi Legal Counsel II

Mr. Daniel Ominde Research Officer III

PAGE 8

1

PART II

2.0 OVERVIEW OF THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 9 OF 2024)

2.1 Background

6. The Bill which is sponsored by Hon. George Murugara, Chairperson, Justice and Legal Affairs Committee was published on 26th February 2024 and read a First Time in the House on 20th March, 2024. It was thereafter referred to the Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations for consideration in line with the provisions of Standing Order 127 (3).

2.2 Summary of Legal Provisions

- 7. CLAUSE 1 of the Bill provides for the short title.
- 8. CLAUSE 2 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 2 of the principal Act to-
 - (a) insert the following new definitions:
 - "Accession" means the consent by Kenya to be bound by a previously ratified agreement
 - "economic treaty" means a treaty relating to taxation, trade or investment

delete subsection (2).

- CLAUSE 3 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 3 of the principal Act in subsection

 (2) by—
 - (a) deleting paragraph (a) and substituting it with the following:

"(a) multilateral treaties including treaties which deal with trade agreements where Kenya undertakes to engage in fewer trade protections with other countries to promote more trade"

(b) by inserting new subparagraphs in paragraph (b):

"(vi) taxation, trade or investment;

(vii) unilateral trade agreements between Kenya and any other country involving a one-sided arrangement in which Kenya benefits from lower trade barriers from the other country".

 CLAUSE 4 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 5 of the principal Act by inserting the following section after section 5—

5A. (1) Within fourteen days of commencing negotiations for a treaty, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters relating to the treaty shall notify the National Assembly of—

- (a) the negotiation objectives;
- (b) the proposed heads of agreement;
- (c) the need for the treaty;
- (d) the potential benefits of the agreement to Kenya;
- (e) implications of the agreement on-

(i)the economy;

- (ii) existing agreements;
- (iii) laws; and
- (iv) taxes.

(2)The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall notify the National Assembly of any changes to information relating to the negotiation of a treaty within seven days of such change.

(3)The relevant Committee of the National Assembly may, in so far as is practically possible, confer with the responsible Cabinet Secretary on areas that may attract reservations by the National Assembly.

(4) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall table an annual report to the National Assembly on the status of on-going negotiation of treaties.

11. CLAUSE 5 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 6 of the principal Act by inserting a new subsection after subsection (1)—

(1A) In negotiating an economic treaty, the national executive or the relevant State department shall ensure that the terms of the treaty do not adversely affect—

- (a) the ability of country to mobilise domestic revenue;
- (b) the food security of the country;
- (c) the establishment and growth of local industries; and
- (d) the ability of the government to regulate an industry in the public interest.
- 12. CLAUSE 6 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 6 of the principal Act by inserting new sections immediately after section 6—

6A. (1) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall, prior to signing an economic treaty, prepare a regulatory impact statement.

(2) A regulatory impact statement shall contain information in respect to the proposed economic treaty in clear and precise language including —

(a) a statement of the objectives of the proposed treaty and the reasons for it;

(b) a statement explaining the effect of the proposed treaty on the Kenyan economy;

(c) a statement of other practicable means of achieving the objectives of the proposed treaty;

(d) an assessment of the costs and benefits of the proposed treaty and of any other practicable means of achieving the same objectives; and

(e) the reasons why the other means are not appropriate.

(3) The assessment of the costs and benefits shall specify an assessment of the economic, environmental and social impact and the likely administration and compliance costs including resource allocation costs.

(4) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall ensure that independent advice as to the adequacy of the regulatory impact statement and of the assessment included in the regulatory impact statement is obtained and considered.

(5) The responsible Cabinet Secretary shall before an economic treaty is signed, give a certificate in writing specifying that—

(a) the requirements relating to regulatory impact statements in this Act have been complied with; and

(b) in the Cabinet Secretary's opinion, the regulatory impact statement adequately assesses the likely impact of the proposed treaty.

(6) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall ensure that a copy of the regulatory impact statement and the certificate is tabled in the National Assembly with the economic treaty.

6B. (1) Preparation of a regulatory impact statement for an economic treaty shall be notified in the Gazette and in a newspaper likely to be read by people particularly affected by the proposed treaty.

(2) If the proposed treaty is likely to have a significant impact on a particular group of people, the notice shall be published in a way likely to ensure members of the group understand the purpose and content of the notice.

(3) The notice shall—

ι

(a) include a brief statement of the policy objectives sought to be achieved by the proposed treaty;

(b) state where copies of the regulatory impact statement may be obtained or inspected;

- (c) state that anyone may comment on the proposed treaty;
- (d) state how and when comments may be made; and
- (e) state how consultation about the proposed treaty will take place.

(4) The notice shall allow at least fourteen days from publication of the notice for the making of comments.

(5) A copy of the regulatory impact statement may be available free, or on payment of a reasonable price, at the place, or each of the places, stated in the notice.

6) The responsible Cabinet Secretary shall ensure that-

- (a) all comments and submissions are considered before an economic treaty is made; and
- (b) a copy of all comments and submissions is submitted to the National Assembly as soon as practicable after the economic treaty is tabled or when requested by the relevant Committee.
- 13. CLAUSE 7 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 8 of the principal Act by deleting subsection (5) and substituting with the following subsections—

"(5) The National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a provision into a treaty.

(5A) Where the National Assembly introduces a reservation under this section, the Clerk of the National Assembly shall indicate, in writing, to the relevant Cabinet Secretary the specific clause or

clauses of a treaty for which the National Assembly proposes to make reservations and shall specify the reasons for which the reservations are made.

14. CLAUSE 8 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 9 of the principal Act by inserting the following new section immediately after section 9—

9A. (1) A treaty submitted to the National Assembly for ratification shall be laid on the Table of the House and shall upon being laid, stand committed to the relevant Committee for consideration.

(2) A committee to which a treaty is committed for consideration, shall undertake public participation before submitting its report to the House.

(3) In addition to the information required to be submitted to the National Assembly under written law, the committee may require the relevant Cabinet Secretary to submit further information, including—

(a) the social and environmental impact of the treaty in the short-term, medium-term and long-term; and

(b) the nature and evidence of any public participation conducted on the treaty.

(4) The report of the committee to the House shall include-

(a) information on the views of the people on the ratification of the treaty emanating from public participation conducted by the committee;

(b) the findings of the committee on the treaty and any other information the committee may deem necessary; and

(c) a recommendation that the House----

(i) approves the ratification of the treaty;

(ii) approves the ratification of the treaty with reservations, or;

(iii) rejects the ratification of the treaty.

(5) In approving ratification of a treaty with reservations, the House shall specify the affected provisions of the treaty and the proposed text of each reservation, which may include prescription of timelines within which an obligation is to be fulfilled before implementation of the treaty.

(6) Where the House makes a resolution in respect to a particular treaty, the Clerk of the National Assembly shall, within seven days, notify the relevant Cabinet Secretary and shall enter the information in the register of treaties.

15. CLAUSE 9 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 10 of the principal Act to inserting a new subsection immediately after subsection (1)—

"(1A) The relevant Cabinet Secretary may at the point of ratifying a treaty under this Act, be accompanied by the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party of the Party forming the Government, or a representative.

PART III

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ON THE BILL

3.1 Legal Framework on Public Participation

16. Article 118 (1)(b) of the Constitution provides that:

"Parliament shall facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its Committees."

17. The National Assembly Standing Order 127 (3) and (3A) stipulates that:

"(3) The Departmental Committee to which a Bill is committed shall facilitate **public participation** on the Bill through an appropriate mechanism including-

- (a) inviting submission of memoranda;
- (b) holding public hearings;
- (c) consulting relevant stakeholders in a sector; and
- (d) consulting experts on technical subjects.

(3A) The Departmental Committee shall take into account the views and recommendations of the public under paragraph (3) in its report to the House."

- 18. Pursuant to the aforementioned provisions of law, the Committee placed an advertisement in the print media on Wednesday 10th April 2024 inviting the public to submit memoranda by way of written statements on the Bill. Further, the Committee invited key stakeholders to submit views on the Bill.
- 19. The Committee received submissions from Hon. George Murugara who was in support of the Bill. Further, the Committee received submission from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Office of the Attorney General and the Law Society of Kenya which were largely in agreement with the Bill and made further comments as follows:

3.2 Submission from Hon. George Murugara, Chairperson Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, National Assembly

- 20. Hon. George Murugara sent his written submission to the Committee on 12th November 2024 in support of the Bill.
- 21. He stated that the Bill seeks to include a special procedure for negotiating economic treaties by providing that National Executive or the relevant State department shall, in negotiating an economic treaty, verify that the treaty does not negatively affect the following principles—

(a) ability to mobilize domestic revenue

(b)food security

(c) establishment and growth of local industries; and

(d)the ability of the government to regulate an industry in the public interest.

22. The Bill defines an economic treaty as a treaty that relates to taxation, trade and investment. An example of an economic treaty is the economic partnership agreement between Kenya and the European Union signed on 18th December 2023. Once the agreement is ratified by both parties, it

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No 9. of 2024) PAGE 13 will result in Kenyan goods gaining immediate duty and quote free access to the European market, whereas European goods will gain preferential access to the Kenyan market introduced over time.

- 23. The Bill seeks to strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty-making process by making it an obligation of the relevant national executive or relevant State Department to notify the National Assembly within 14 days on the initiation of the treaty-making process. This amendment seeks to ensure that the National Assembly is seized of treaty matters at the initial stages of the treaty-making process leading to enhanced transparency and accountability.
- 24. Finally, the Bill seeks to enhance the efficiency of the treaty-making process by empowering the relevant committee to seek from the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters relating to foreign affairs further information such as the social and environmental impact of the treaty and report of public participation conducted on the making of the treaty.

3.3 Submission from the Office of the Attorney General

25. The Office of the Attorney General responded vide letter Ref: AG/LDD/237/1/93 dated 29th April, 2024. The Office submitted that the Bill did not raise any constitutional issues. However, the Office noted that the arrangement proposed in Clause 3 paragraph (b) seems to be a bilateral agreement rather than a unilateral agreement.

Committee Observation

According to the European Union, Unilateral trade agreements are one-sided, non-reciprocal trade preferences granted by developed countries to developing ones, with the goal of helping them to increase exports and spur economic development. Therefore, there is a difference between unilateral agreements and unilateral trade agreements. However, the Committee proposes a definition of unilateral trade agreement to avoid this ambiguity.

3.4 Submission from the Law Society of Kenya

- 26. The Law Society of Kenya submitted a memorandum to the National Assembly dated 29th April 2024. It supported clauses 2 and 8 of the Bill in their entirety. However, it submitted several comments on the rest of the clauses.
- 27. On Clause 3 of the Bill, LSK submitted that given the importance and centrality of these types of treaties to Kenya's economy, and given that the ultimate beneficiaries of the new markets opened by these treaties are the Kenyan traders represented by their MPs in parliament, there is need for the relevant parliamentary committees to interact with such economic treaties before they are signed or ratified by the other partners. An example can be cited of the Kenya -EU EPA Agreement in which the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Trade, Industries and Co-operatives conducted public participation for ratification way after the EU parliament had ratified the Agreement making the ratification process a mere academic process.

Committee Observation

This Committee notes that it is not possible to synchronize the ratification of a treaty with other parties to the treaty and therefore, there will always be instances where one party may ratify its treaties before other parties.

28. On Clause 4 of the Bill, LSK appreciates the noble intentions of this proposal which is aimed at eliminating the existing problems where the National Assembly only becomes seized of treaty matters at the tail-end of the treaty-making process. LSK however feels that the proposed section

PAGE 14

3

5A (3) should make it mandatory for the relevant committee to conduct public participation and stakeholder engagement at this point.

Committee Observation

`

The Committee notes that conducting public participation for a draft treaty document which is still at the negotiation stage will be premature. Therefore, this proposal should not be adopted.

29. On Clause 5 of the Bill, LSK supports the spirit of this Amendment as it seeks to ventilate the Government's responsibility to its citizenry under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. LSK however proposes that the language of the Amendment be changed to have the effect of annulling any treaty that adversely affects paragraph (a) to (d).

Committee Observation

The Committee notes that the executive does not have the power to annul a treaty at the negotiation stage. It is only the National Assembly that can do so at the point of approval of ratification of a Treaty. Therefore, this proposal should not be adopted.

30. On Clause 6 of the Bill, LSK submitted that whereas it supports the requirement for regulatory impact assessment, it proposes that in addition to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.

Committee Observation

The Committee notes that the Bill, under clause 6, already requires the Cabinet Secretary to submit the regulatory impact statement to the National Assembly together with the economic treaty. Therefore, this is already covered in the Bill.

Further, the Bill already provides that the regulatory impact statement may be available for free.

31. On Clause 7 of the Bill, LSK recommends that the language of the amendment be changed to expressly preclude the Executive from concluding any treaty without affecting any reservation made by the National Assembly.

Committee Observation

The Committee agrees with the submission by the Law Society of Kenya, however, it notes that the proposed provision is already drafted in mandatory terms. Further, the Executive is legally bound to ratify the treaty as approved by the National Assembly.

32. On Clause 9 of the Bill, LSK opines that the language of this proposed amendment is ambiguous. This is because the ratification process is done in the National Assembly and not by the Cabinet Secretary. If the intention of the amendment is to accompany the Cabinet Secretary during depositing of instruments of ratification (which is the subject matter of section 10 of the principal Act), then the provision needs to be amended to say so. LSK, however, feels that it is superfluous to have the Leader of Majority Party or Leader of Minority accompany the Cabinet Secretary as proposed since this does not add material value to the ratification process but is only a waste of taxpayers' money.

Committee Observation

The Committee agrees with this opinion by the Law Society of Kenya and opines that the proposal may be adopted as a deletion.

3.5 Submission from the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs

- The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs submitted their views on the Bill vide a letter Ref. MFA.LEG/163 VOL. IV dated 11th June 2024.
- 34. The Ministry submitted that clause 3 of the Bill proposes to amend section 3 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act by isolating economic treaties in the list of treaties to which the Act is applicable. Notably, section 3 of the Act as presently drafted, already includes such treaties in its application. It is therefore unclear, why the amendment Bill seeks to isolate economic treaties and prescribe further legislative provisions for ratification thereof.

Committee Observation

The Committee observes that under section 3 of the principal Act, the scope of application of the Act does not extend to treaties relating to trade, taxation or investment therefore the amendment Bill seeks to introduce something new.

35. The Ministry further submitted that clause 4 of the Bill seeks to introduce a new provision requiring the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters relating to a Treaty, to engage the National Assembly upon commencement of negotiations. Notably, however, section 8 (3) of the Act presently contains a provision that requires the National Assembly to conduct public participation in accordance with laid down Parliamentary procedures.

Committee Observation

The Committee notes that proposed clause 4 of the amendment Bill seeks to keep the National Assembly informed of negotiations conducted on a treaty. This precedes the approval of the treaty by the Cabinet as contemplated under section 8 of the Act.

36. The Ministry further submitted that clause 5 of the Bill seeks to amend section 6 of the Act regarding the values and principles in negotiating treaties by introducing a new provision on considerations to be taken in negotiating economic treaties. Notably, however, the section as drafted, requires the National Executive or relevant State Department to abide by the values and principles of the Constitution, notwithstanding the kind of Treaty under negotiation.

Committee Observation

Clause 5 of the Bill mandates the relevant State Department which negotiates an economic treaty to consider several key factors that affect the country. This does not usurp the principles and values provided for under the Constitution but actually implements Article 10 of the Constitution.

37. The Ministry also submits that clause 6 of the Bill seeks to introduce a regulatory impact assessment which is to be availed by the relevant Cabinet Secretary prior to execution of an economic Treaty. The Bill indicates that the regulatory impact assessment will be tabled before the National Assembly, and the general public. The Memorandum of Objects and Reasons for the Bill, indicates that this procedure will provide clarity on the specific procedure for public participation, which presently leaves room for error as it is unclear what quantum of public participation is sufficient. Notably, however, the Office of the Attorney General has tabled before the House a public participation policy, and at the same time, a public participation Bill is under consideration.

The concerns being raised by the presently proposed Bill should be adequately catered for under either of these two instruments, without the need for amendment of the Act.

Committee Observation

1

The committee notes that Public participation is a constitutional requirement under Article 118 when Parliament is conducting its business. Therefore, the National Assembly cannot wait for the passing of the Bill on public participation for it to be guided on conducting public participation on treaties. The National Assembly is guided by the Supreme Court guidelines on public participation and its own standing orders.

38. The Ministry submits that clause 7 of the Bill seeks to amend section 8 of the Act by inter alia precluding the National Executive from concluding a Treaty without effecting a reservation made by the National Assembly. This proposal may present a limitation to Treaty negotiations, bearing in mind negotiation of bilateral agreements, is conducted in a win-win/give-take manner. In addition, the National Assembly has an opportunity to raise reservations during the public participation process conducted by the Executive.

Committee Observation

Clause 7 of the amendment Bill indicates that the National Assembly **may** introduce reservations. This is purely discretionary and therefore the National Assembly is not bound to conclude treaties with reservations.

39. On Clause 8, the Ministry submits that the Bill seeks to provide for a procedure of ratification at the National Assembly including a requirement for public participation conducted by a relevant House Committee. As indicated herein above, two instruments on public participation are presently under consideration and the procedures for public participation will be clearly set out thereunder. It would be prudent to await the outcome of these instruments rather than over-legislating on a common issue. In addition, it may not be procedurally feasible to allow the National Assembly leeway to conduct public participation, once negotiations between parties have been concluded, as this would mean re-opening negotiations on matters which have already been settled. Moreover, as Treaty partners submit the negotiated instruments to their internal ratification processes immediately negotiations have concluded, if the National Assembly's public participation process as proposed results in a need to re-open negotiations, the same would occasion diplomatic complications for this office.

Committee Observation

Article 94 of the Constitution provides that Parliament is the only law-making body and in doing so it is required under Article 118 to facilitate public participation. Therefore, the Ministry may renegotiate the terms of the Treaties if need be since it must adopt the national values and principles of good governance and participation of the people provided under Article 10 of the Constitution. Public participation cannot be an inconvenience to diplomatic relations.

40. The ministry further submits that on the definition of economic treaty to mean a treaty relating to taxation, trade, and investment, there is a need to consult the National Treasury. This is informed by the fact that the National Treasury had by a letter Ref. AG/LDD/237/1/93 dated 27th February 2024 proposed an amendment of section 3 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act to exclude the application of the Act on 'Special arrangements for relief from double taxation entered by the Government under section 41 of the Income Tax Act.'

Committee Observation

The committee opines that the alleged proposed amendments by the National Treasury were not received by the committee during the invitation of submissions and memoranda. Further, the Ministry did not submit a copy of the proposed amendments. In any case, the proposal can be introduced as a separate amendment following the normal channels.

41. The Ministry has also proposed further amendments to the Treaty Making and Ratification Act that do not fall within the subject matter of the Bill.

Committee Observation

Pursuant to Standing Order 133 (4), no amendment shall be permitted to be moved if the amendment deals with a different subject or proposes to unreasonably or unduly expand the subject of the Bill, or is not appropriate or is not in a logical sequence to the subject matter of the Bill. Therefore, these amendments should be pursued as separate amendments.

PART IV

4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

- 42. Upon reviewing the Bill and the submissions received, the Committee made the following observations:
 - a) The Bill seeks to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, to strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty-making process and to generally enhance the efficiency of the treaty-making process.
 - b) Article 95 of the Constitution mandates the National Assembly to make laws. Article 2 (6) of the Constitution incorporates ratified treaties or conventions under the laws of Kenya, therefore the National Assembly should be involved in the law-making process. This Bill enables the National Assembly to effectively and efficiently discharge this constitutional mandate.
 - c) The term "accession" is already included within the definition of ratification under section 2 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act.
 - d) Clause 9 of the Bill proposes that the Leader of the Majority Party and the Leader of the Minority Party may accompany the Cabinet Secretary at the point of ratifying the treaty. This may violate the constitutional doctrine of separation of powers.
 - e) The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs submitted proposed amendments to the Treaty Making and Ratification Act relating to providing a reporting mechanism on the implementation of MOUs signed by the Government of Kenya and other foreign governments. However, pursuant to National Assembly Standing Order 133 (4), an amendment shall not be permitted to be moved if the amendment deals with a different subject or proposes to unreasonably or unduly expand the subject of the Bill, or is not appropriate or is not in a logical sequence to the subject matter of the Bill.

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No 9. of 2024) PAGE 19

PART V

5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

43. The Committee having considered the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill 2024 (National Assembly Bill No. 9 of 2024) recommends that the House approves the Bill with the amendments contained in the Schedule of Amendments forming Part Six of this report:

SIGNED:

THE HON. NELSON KOECH, M.P. CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAJD DATE: 28 NUV 2024 DAY. Thur			
TABLEDHon. Kelson Koech, MPBY:Chairperson		Kopch, MP	
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	HE-TABLE: Virian Mambui		

PART VI

6.0 SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS

44. In view of the observations made, the Committee proposes the following amendments to the Bill-

CLAUSE 2

3

THAT, Clause 2 of the Bill be amended by-

(a) deleting the proposed new definition of "accession"; and

Rationale: The term "accession" is already captured under the definition of "ratification".

(b) inserting the following new definition in its proper alphabetical sequence-

"unilateral trade agreement" means one-sided, non-reciprocal trade preferences granted by developed countries to developing ones, to help them to increase exports and spur economic development.

Rationale: The definition of "unilateral trade agreement" provides clarify on the proposed amendments in the Bill and removes ambiguity.

CLAUSE 9

THAT, the Bill be amended by deleting Clause 9.

Rationale: The proposed amendment may infringe on the constitutional principle of separation of powers.

Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on its consideration of the Treaty Making PAGE 21 and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No 9. of 2024)

NO. RESERVED AND

<u>ANNEXURE 1</u>

Ŋ

ADOPTION LIST

ł



REPUBLIC OF KENYA THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 13TH PARLIAMENT – THIRD SESSION-2024

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE, AND FOREIGN RELATIONS.

REPORT ADOPTION LIST

REPORT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024 (*NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 9 OF 2024*).

We, Members of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations, have pursuant to Standing Order 199, adopted this Report and affix our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity today, **Thursday 14th NOVEMBER, 2024**.

	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	The Hon. Koech Nelson, MP (Chairperson)	funne
2.	The Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, MP (Vice Chairperson)	
3.	The Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, MP	
4.	The Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, MP	Dangve
5.	The Hon. Odhiambo Millie Grace Akoth, MP	e R.
6.	The Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, MP	
7.	The Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, MP	
8.	The Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, MP	
9.	The Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, MP	The
10.	The Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, MP	
11.	The Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, MP	ant.
12.	The Hon. Teresia Wanjiru Mwangi, MP	
13.	The Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, MP	
14.	The Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, MP	f===
15.	The Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, MP	AMO

ANNEXURE 2

1

MINUTES



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 13TH PARLIAMENT - THIRD SESSION - 2024 DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES DC- DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

MINUTES OF THE 63RD SITTING OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE, AND FOREIGN RELATIONS HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER, 2024 AT 10:00 AM IN BUNGE TOWER, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM 11, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS.

PRESENT

 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. <u>AF</u> 	The Hon. Koech Nelson, M.P. The Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, C.B. The Hon. Odhiambo Millie Grace Akotl The Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, M. The Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, M.P. The Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, M.P. The Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P. The Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, POLOGIES	h, M.P. I.P.	
1.	The Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdulla	hi Bas	hir, M.P Vice Chairperson
2.	The Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, C.B.S, M		
3.	The Hon.(Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, M	I.P.	
4.	The Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P.		
5.	The Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, M.I.		
6. 7.	The Hon. Teresia Wanjiru Mwangi, M.H. The Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, M.P.		
1.	The Holl. Logova Sloya Clement, M.I.		
TF	IE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY		
1.	Mr. Dennis M. Ogechi	_	Clerk Assistant I
2.	Mr. Bernard Njeru	-	Clerk Assistant II
3.	Mr. Abdi Salat	-	Principal Serjeant at Arms II
4.	Ms. Noelle Chellagat	-	Media Relations Officer II
5.	Mr. Daniel Ominde	-	Research Officer III
6.	Mr. Lenny Muchangi	-	Legal Officer II
7.	Mr. Nephat Githinji	-	Intern
		1	

8. Ms. Lovin Wambwire - Intern

AGENDA

- 1. Preliminaries Prayers, Adoption of the Agenda
- 2. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting
- 3. Consideration and adoption of reports on: The Consideration of the Treaty-Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (*National Assembly Bill No. 9 of 2024*) and the participation in the Mobile Consular Services Exercise in Texas, USA from 4th to 7th April, 2024.
- 4. Any Other Business
- 5. Adjournment/Date of the next Sitting

MIN.NO. DDC/DIFR/351/2024: PRELIMINARIES.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m., prayer was said and the agenda above was unanimously adopted having been proposed by the Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, C.B.S, M.P. and seconded by the Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, M.P.

MIN.NO. DDC/DIFR/352/2024:

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SITTINGS.

t

1

Confirmation of minutes of previous sittings was deferred to a later date.

MIN.NO. DDC/DIFR/353/2024:

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE TREATY-MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024 (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 9 OF 2024).

The report on the consideration of the Treaty-Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (National Assembly Bill No. 9 Of 2024) Sponsored by Hon. George Murugara, M.P. was unanimously having been proposed by Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, M.P.

The report was adopted with the following observations and recommendations.

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

The Committee observed that:

- a) The Bill seeks to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, to strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty-making process and to generally enhance the efficiency of the treaty-making process.
- b) Article 95 of the Constitution mandates the National Assembly to make laws. Article 2 (6) of the Constitution incorporates ratified treaties or conventions under the laws of Kenya, therefore the National Assembly should be involved in the law-making process. This Bill enables the National Assembly to effectively and efficiently discharge this constitutional mandate.

- c) The term "accession" is already included within the definition of ratification therefore the proposed amendment to introduce it as a new definition is obsolete.
- d) The amendment enabling the Leader of the Majority Party and the Leader of the Minority Party to accompany the Cabinet Secretary at the point of ratifying the treaty may violate the constitutional doctrine of separation of powers since the mandate of ratification of a treaty is purely and executive function not upon the National Assembly.
- e) Pursuant to Standing Order 133 (4), an amendment shall not be permitted to be moved if the amendment deals with a different subject or proposes to unreasonably or unduly expand the subject of the Bill, or is not appropriate or is not in a logical sequence to the subject matter of the Bill.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee having considered the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill 2024 (*National Assembly Bill No. 9 of 2024*) recommends that the House approves the Bill with the following amendments:

CLAUSE 2

٠

THAT, Clause 2 of the Bill be amended by—

(a) deleting the proposed new definition of "accession"; and

Rationale: The term "accession" is already captured under the definition of "ratification".

(b) inserting the following new definition in its proper alphabetical sequence-

"unilateral trade agreement" means one-sided, non-reciprocal trade preferences granted by developed countries to developing ones, to help them to increase exports and spur economic development.

Rationale: The definition of "unilateral trade agreement" provides clarify on the proposed amendments in the Bill and removes ambiguity.

CLAUSE 9

THAT, the Bill be amended by deleting Clause 9.

Rationale: The proposed amendment may infringe on the constitutional principle of separation of powers.

MIN.NO. DDC/DIFR/354/2024:

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION IN THE MOBILE CONSULAR SERVICES EXERCISE IN TEXAS, USA FROM 4TH TO 7TH APRIL, 2024.

1

The report on the participation in the Mobile Consular Services Exercise in Texas, USA from 4th to 7th April, 2024 was unanimously adopted having been proposed by Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P. and seconded by the Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.

The report was adopted with the following observations and recommendations

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

The Committee observed that:

- 1) During the exercise the E-Citizen portal encountered challenges causing inconveniences;
 - a) The E-citizen portal requires individuals to have a Kenyan phone number to enable them to log in. Many Kenyan Diaspora members do not have a Kenyan phone number, making it impossible for them to log in.
 - b) The E-Citizen portal experienced software bugs. The issue affected users who had registered on the platform using their email addresses, as they were unable to receive the One Time Password (OTP) necessary to access, pay, and download the documentation required for passport applications.
 - c) Difficulties in uploading documents on the requisite portals.
- 2) Passports and National identification cards were the most sought-after documents.
- 3) Volunteers' inconsistent availability led to planning gaps and required the MCS team and embassy staff to work late due to the Kenyan Diaspora's significant turnout.
- 4) A large majority of the Kenyan diaspora did not receive enough information about the requirements for registering for consular services. Additionally, many were unaware of the availability of the Mobile Consular Services programme.
- 5) The National Registration Bureau was still using manual ink-rolled fingerprint capture for ID card applications which is old-fashioned.
- 6) There was inadequate facilitation of volunteers.
- 7) Many Kenyans arrived at the MCS exercise unprepared, failing to complete the necessary forms and bring copies of their documents. This causes delays and prevents some individuals from accessing the services they require.
- 8) The Kenyan Diaspora expressed concerns regarding data privacy, particularly the use of mail addresses and phone numbers required for e-citizen accounts. Some individuals requested the deletion of their photographs, which impeded data collection efforts and reflected a lack of trust in government-led initiatives.
- 9) Limited digital literacy among a specific group of Kenyans resulted in their inability to apply for passports online, necessitating assistance from the on-the-ground team.

MIN.NO. DDC/DIFR/355/2024: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. The Chairperson notified the Committee of the following:
 - i. An invitation to a High-Level Consultative Forum on the Review of Kenya Foreign Policy to be held on 20th November, 2024 in KICC by the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, State Department for Foreign Affairs.
 - ii. Questions by the True North Society regarding the operationalization of the Military Veteran's Act, 2022.
 - iii. Invitation by the State Department for Diaspora Affairs in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration for a stakeholder engagement on the Draft Diaspora Policy 2024, and International Jobs Placement in Mombasa County from 17th to 23rd November, 2024.
 - iv. Chairperson's invitation to a cocktail reception by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on November, 22nd at 18:30 at the Italian residence.
 - v. Courtesy call by the Ambassador/permanent representative of the Swiss Confederation to Kenya

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. The delegation recommends the following:
 - 1) The Mission should be properly involved from the inception stage to the execution of the program.
 - 2) Deployment of more officers from the National Registration Bureau (NRB) to cater for the large number of Kenyans who turn up for the services in future.
 - The State Department should conduct thorough sensitization for Kenyans on how to fill out E-Citizen forms online, the MCS dates, and venues to avoid unnecessary inconveniences and delays.
 - 4) Enhancement of the E-Citizen platform to make it more user-friendly for the diaspora community in terms of payments and uploading required documents.
 - 5) The Diaspora should create a requisition register before the MCS exercise. This will help the implementation team to plan and allocate resources based on reliable information.
 - 6) Financing of the MCS exercise is a key determinant for progress. The State Department should ensure availability of funds before commencement of the outreach programme.
 - 7) Prior preparation of the MCS exercise Stations with clearly labeled workstations.
 - 8) Adequate facilitation of the MCS team and volunteers with relevant requirements including live fingerprint capture for Identity Card applications for accuracy and speedy service delivery, branded t-shirts and caps for easier identification.

MIN. NO. DDC/DIFR/356/2024:

ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next meeting will be held on notice.

124 THE HON. NELSON KOECH, M.P.

CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS.

ANNEXURE 3

TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL,2024

SPECIAL ISSUE

()

Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 37 (National Assembly Bills No. 9)



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA GAZETTE SUPPLEMENT

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS, 2024

NAIROBI, 26th February, 2024

CONTENT

Bill for Introduction into the National Assembly-

The Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2024 . 289

PAGE

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, NAIROBI

THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) BILL, 2024.

A Bill for

AN ACT of Parliament to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act and for connected purposes

ENACTED by the Parliament of Kenya, as follows -

1. This Act may be cited as the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No. 2) Act, 2024.

2. Section 2 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, 2012, (in this Act referred to as the "principal Act"), is amended by—

(a) inserting the following new definitions in their proper alphabetical sequence —

"accession" means the consent by Kenya to be bound by a previously ratified agreement;

"economic treaty" means a treaty relating to taxation, trade or investment;

(b) deleting subsection (2).

3. Section 3 of the principal Act is amended in sub section (2) –

- (a) by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph—
 - "(a) multilateral treaties including treaties which deal with trade agreements where Kenya undertakes to engage in fewer trade protections with other countries to promote more trade.
- (b) in paragraph (b) by inserting the following new subparagraphs immediately after subparagraph (v)—

"(vi) taxation, trade or investment;

(vii) unilateral trade agreements between Kenya and any other country involving a one-sided arrangement in which Kenya benefits from lower trade barriers from the other country". Amendment of section 3 of No. 45 of 2012.

Short title.

Amendment of

section 2 of No. 45 of 2012 4. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new section immediately after section 5-

Notification to the National Assembly. 5A. (1) Within fourteen days of commencing negotiations for a treaty, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters relating to the treaty shall notify the National Assembly of—

- (a) the negotiation objectives;
- (b) the proposed heads of agreement;
- (c) the need for the treaty;
- (d) the potential benefits of the agreement to Kenya;

(e) implications of the agreement on—

- (i) the economy;
- (ii) existing agreements;
- (iii) laws; and
- (iv) taxes.

(2) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall notify the National Assembly of any changes to information relating to the negotiation of a treaty within seven days of such change.

(3) The relevant Committee of the National Assembly may, in so far as is practically possible, confer with the responsible Cabinet Secretary on areas that may attract reservations by the National Assembly.

(4) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall table an annual report to the National Assembly on the status of on-going negotiation of treaties.

5. Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by inserting the following new subsection immediately after subsection (1)—

Amendment of section 6 of No. 45 of 2012.

Insertion of new

section 5A in No.

45 of 2012.

290

(1A) In negotiating an economic treaty, the national executive or the relevant State department shall ensure that the terms of the treaty do not adversely affect—

- (a) the ability of country to mobilise domestic revenue;
- (b) the food security of the country;
- (c) the establishment and growth of local industries; and
- (d) the ability of the government to regulate an industry in the public interest.

6. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new sections immediately after section 6-

Insertion of new sections 6A and 6B in No. 45 of 2012.

Regulatory impact statement.

6A. (1) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall, prior to signing an economic treaty, prepare a regulatory impact statement.

(2) A regulatory impact statement shall contain information in respect to the proposed economic treaty in clear and precise language including -

- (a) a statement of the objectives of the proposed treaty and the reasons for it;
- (b) a statement explaining the effect of the proposed treaty on the Kenyan economy;
- (c) a statement of other practicable means of achieving the objectives of the proposed treaty;
- (d) an assessment of the costs and benefits of the proposed treaty and of any other practicable means of achieving the same objectives; and
- (e) the reasons why the other means are not appropriate.

(3) The assessment of the costs and benefits shall specify an assessment of the economic, environmental and social impact and the likely administration and compliance costs including resource allocation costs.

(4) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall ensure that independent advice as to the adequacy of the regulatory impact statement and of the assessment included in the regulatory impact statement is obtained and considered.

(5) The responsible Cabinet Secretary shall before an economic treaty is signed, give a certificate in writing specifying that—

- (a) the requirements relating to regulatory impact statements in this Act have been complied with; and
- (b) in the Cabinet Secretary's opinion, the regulatory impact statement adequately assesses the likely impact of the proposed treaty.

(6) The relevant Cabinet Secretary shall ensure that a copy of the regulatory impact statement and the certificate is tabled in the National Assembly with the economic treaty.

6B. (1) Preparation of a regulatory impact statement for an economic treaty shall be notified in the *Gazette* and in a newspaper likely to be read by people particularly affected by the proposed treaty.

(2) If the proposed treaty is likely to have a significant impact on a particular group of people, the notice shall be published in a way likely to ensure members of the group understand the purpose and content of the notice.

(3) The notice shall—

 (a) include a brief statement of the policy objectives sought to be achieved by the proposed treaty; ·))

Notification of regulatory impact statements.

196

292

- (b) state where copies of the regulatory impact statement may be obtained or inspected;
- (c) state that anyone may comment on the proposed treaty;
- (d) state how and when comments may be made; and
- (e) state how consultation about the proposed treaty will take place.

(4) The notice shall allow at least fourteen days from publication of the notice for the making of comments.

(5) A copy of the regulatory impact statement may be available free, or on payment of a reasonable price, at the place, or each of the places, stated in the notice.

(6) The responsible Cabinet Secretary shall ensure that -

- (a) all comments and submissions are considered before an economic treaty is made; and
- (b) a copy of all comments and submissions is submitted to the National Assembly as soon as practicable after the economic treaty is tabled or when requested by the relevant Committee.

7. Section 8 of the principal Act is amended by Amendment of deleting subsection (5) and substituting therefor the following new subsections-

٩,

section 8 of No. 45 of 2012

294 The Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2024

"(5) The National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a provision into a treaty.

(5A) Where the National Assembly introduces a reservation under this section, the Clerk of the National Assembly shall indicate, in writing, to the relevant Cabinet Secretary the specific clause or clauses of a treaty for which the National Assembly proposes to make reservations and shall specify the reasons for which the reservations are made.

8. The principal Act is amended by inserting the following new section immediately after section 9 -

Insertion of a new section 9A in No. 45 of 2012.

(ژ)

> (2) A committee to which a treaty is committed for consideration, shall undertake public participation before submitting its report to the House.

(3) In addition to the information required to be submitted to the National Assembly under written law, the committee may require the relevant Cabinet Secretary to submit further information, including—

- (a) the social and environmental impact of the treaty in the short-term, medium-term and long-term; and
- (b) the nature and evidence of any public participation conducted on the treaty.

(4) The report of the committee to the House shall include—

 (a) information on the views of the people on the ratification of the treaty emanating from public participation conducted by the committee; (b) the findings of the committee on the treaty and any other information the committee may deem necessary; and

(c) a recommendation that the House-

- (i) approves the ratification of the treaty;
- (ii) approves the ratification of the treaty with reservations, or;
- (iii) rejects the ratification of the treaty.

(5) In approving ratification of a treaty with reservations, the House shall specify the affected provisions of the treaty and the proposed text of each reservation, which may include prescription of timelines within which an obligation is to be fulfilled before implementation of the treaty.

(6) Where the House makes a resolution in respect to a particular treaty, the Clerk of the National Assembly shall, within seven days, notify the relevant Cabinet Secretary and shall enter the information in the register of treaties.

9. Section 10 of the principal Act is amended by inserting the following new subsection immediately after subsection (1) –

Amendment of section 10 of No. 45 of 2012.

"(1A) The relevant Cabinet Secretary may at the point of ratifying a treaty under this Act, be accompanied by the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party of the Party forming the Government, or a representative.

irij -

I

MEMORANDUM OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Statement of objects and reasons for the Bill

The principal object of this Bill is to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, 2012 to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty making process and to generally enhance efficiency in the treaty making process.

Clause 2 of the Bill seeks to amend section 2 of the Act to define the terms "accession" and "economic treaty". It also seeks to delete section 2(2) which makes reference to the first elections under the Constitution as the same has been spent.

Clause 3 of the Bill proposes to amend section 3 of the Act to include economic treaties in the list out of treaties that the Act applies to under the section. This will extend the application of the Act to treaties relating to taxation, trade and investment matters. A special enactment procedure for this type of treaties is required due to their significant economic and social impacts on various sectors of the economy. The additional procedures and mechanisms for scrutinizing economic treaties is aimed at complying with the principles and values of the Constitution on public consultation, sustainable development, robust representation and promotion of social and economic rights.

Clause 4 of the Bill seeks to amend the Act to introduce a new section 5A requiring the Executive to engage the National Assembly upon commencing negotiations of a treaty. This is aimed at eliminating the existing problem where the National Assembly only becomes seized of treaty matters at the tail end of the treaty making process. The active participation of the National Assembly in the Treaty Making process will not only enhance transparency and accountability in the process but it will also mitigate against risks attendant to the structure of treaties that regulate the flow of investment.

Clause 5 of the Bill seeks to amend section 6 of the Act to ensure that the Kenya does not enter into treaties that jeopardize the ability of the country to mobilize tax resources domestically. It is further intended that no agreement which has the effect of undermining national food security should be concluded by the Executive. The amendment is also intended to ensure that treaties concluded by government do not undermine the establishment and growth of local industries or the ability of the government to regulate any particular industry in public interest by limiting the ability to pass laws or regulations for matters such as protection of the environment.

1))

()))

The Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2024 297

Clause 6 of the Bill seeks to amend the Act to insert a new section 6A and 6B. The new sections require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process. This will ensure that a proper cost-benefit analysis is carried out before the government enters into negotiations for a treaty. It will also foster stakeholder participation in the treaty-making process as a copy of the regulatory impact statement, is supposed to be made available to the general population, who may then make relevant comments on the documents. A proposal has also been made in the amendment that the public comments are supposed to be submitted to the National Assembly by the Cabinet Secretary for consideration The amendment further seeks to solve the existing problem in section 6(1) of the Act which does not provide the specific procedure for public participation. The section leaves room for error as it is unclear what quantum of public participation is sufficient. The amendment therefore seeks to create a greater sense of accountability in the treaty making process.

Clause 7 of the Bill seeks to amend section 8 of the Act to outline the procedure for making reservations to a treaty. The amendment requires the National Assembly to indicate to the national executive the specific clause or clauses of a treaty for which it proposes to make a reservation and the reason for which the reservation is made. The amendment further precludes the national executive from concluding any treaty without effecting a reservation made by the National Assembly.

Clause 8 of the Bill seeks to insert a new section 9A to provide for the procedure during the ratification process at the National Assembly. It provides for committal to the relevant Committee, submission of further information by the Cabinet Secretary and the contents of the report of the Committee.

- Hickory

Clause 9 of the Bill provides for the amendment of section 10 of the Act to allow the Leader of Majority Party or Minority Party or their representatives to accompany the Cabinet Secretary at the point of treaty ratification.

Statement on the delegation of legislative powers and limitation of fundamental rights and freedoms

This Bill does not delegate any legislative powers or limit any fundamental rights or freedoms.

Statement on whether the Bill concerns county governments.

16:

The Bill does not concern county government as treaty- making and ratification falls under the functions of foreign affairs, foreign policy, and international trade, which are functions of the national government under paragraph 1 of Part I of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution.

Statement as to whether the Bill is a money Bill within the meaning of Article 114 of the Constitution

The enactment of this Bill shall not occasion additional expenditure of public funds.

Dated the 26th February, 2024.

GEORGE GITONGA MURUGARA, Chairman, Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, National Assembly.

500

))

Section 2 of Cap 4D which it is proposed to amend

2. Interpretation

1. ?

(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires -

"bilateral treaty" means an agreement concluded between Kenya and any other State or between Kenya and an international organisation;

"Cabinet Secretary" means the Cabinet Secretary for the time being responsible for matters relating to foreign affairs.

"full powers" means all those powers conferred, by way of a legal document, to a person or persons designated by a competent state authority, to represent the State for negotiating, adopting, or authenticating the text of a treaty, for expressing the consent of the State to be bound by a treaty, or for accomplishing any other act with respect of a treaty;

"international organization" means an intergovernmental organization;

"ratification" means the international act by which the State signifies its consent to be bound by a treaty and includes acceptance, approval and accession where the treaty so provides;

"Registrar" means the Registrar of Treaties appointed under section 14;

"Registry" means the Registry of Treaties established by section 10;

"relevant Cabinet Secretary" means the Cabinet Secretary for the time being responsible the subject matter of the treaty;

"relevant state department" means the state department responsible for the subject matter of the treaty to be approved for ratification;

"reservation" means a unilateral statement made by a State when signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to a treaty, whereby it purports to exclude or to modify the legal effect of certain provisions of the treaty in their application to the State;

"signature" means an act whereby the State expresses its willingness to consent to the text of a treaty and has the effect of obligating the said State, even though it may not be a party to the treaty, to refrain, in good faith, from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the treaty;

"treaty" means an international agreement concluded between States in written form and governed by international law, whether embodied in a

299

single instrument or in two or more related instruments and whatever its particular designation and includes a convention.

(2) Despite subsection (1), until after the first elections under the Constitution, references in this Act to the expression "Cabinet Secretary" and "State Department" shall be construed to mean "Minister" and "Ministry" respectively.

Section 3 of Cap 4D which it is proposed to amend

3. Application

(1) This Act applies to treaties which are concluded by Kenya after the commencement of this Act.

(2) This Act shall apply to-

(a) multilateral treaties;

(b) bilateral treaties which deal with-

- (i) the security of Kenya, its sovereignty, independence, unity or territorial integrity;
- (ii) the rights and duties of citizens of Kenya;
- (iii) the status of Kenya under international law and the maintenance or support of such status;
- (iv) the relationship between Kenya and any international organisation or similar body; and
- (v) the environment and natural resources.

(3) A treaty relating to the adjustment, alteration or variation of the present position of Kenya on matters of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity shall be approved in a referendum in accordance with Article 255 of the Constitution:

Provided that the process of ensuring that the boundaries are correctly marked on the ground in accordance with the instruments establishing them shall not be deemed to amount to adjustment, variation or alteration under this section.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (2)(b), the Government may enter into bilateral agreements—

(a) necessary for matters relating to government business; or

(b) relating to technical, administrative or executive matters.

Section 6 of Cap 4D which it is proposed to amend

6.Values and principles in negotiating treaties

(1) In negotiating treaties, the national executive or the relevant State department shall be bound by the values and principles of the Constitution; and shall take into account the regulatory impact of any proposed treaty.

(2) When appointing persons to negotiate a treaty, the national executive or the relevant State department shall appoint persons who are competent to undertake such negotiations in the interest of the people of Kenya.

Section 8 of Cap 4D which it is proposed to amend

8. Consideration by Parliament

(1) Where the Cabinet approves the ratification of a treaty, the Cabinet Secretary shall submit the treaty and a memorandum on the treaty to the Speaker of National Assembly.

(2) Deleted by Act No. 18 of 2014, Sch.

(3) The relevant parliamentary committee shall, during its consideration of the Treaty, ensure public participation in the ratification process in accordance with laid down parliamentary procedures.

(4) The National Assembly may approve the ratification of a treaty with or without reservations to specific provisions of the treaty.

(5) A proposed reservation shall be introduced as a provision into the treaty in accordance with the procedure set out in the Standing Orders.

(6) Deleted by Act No. 18 of 2014, Sch.

(7) Where the National Assembly refuses to approve the ratification of a treaty, the Clerk of the National Assembly shall submit the resolution of the House to the relevant Cabinet Secretary within fourteen days of the resolution.

(8) Deleted by Act No. 18 of 2014, Sch.

(:

(9) The National Assembly shall not approve the ratification of a treaty or part of it if its provisions are contrary to Constitution, nor shall the House approve a reservation to a treaty or part of it if that reservation negates any of the provisions of the Constitution even if the reservation is permitted under the relevant treaty.

Section 10 of Cap 4D which it is proposed to amend

2 april 1

10. Ratification of Treaty

(1) All instruments of ratification of a treaty shall be signed, sealed and deposited by the Cabinet Secretary at the requisite international body and a copy thereof shall be filed with the Registrar.

(2) Where a treaty ratified under this Act is subsequently amended or modified, the amendment or modification shall be ratified only after compliance with the procedure set out in this Part.

(3) The provisions of subsection (2) shall apply similarly to protocols signed under a treaty.

)

ANNEXURE 4

,

ADVERTISEMENT INVITING THE PUBLIC TO SUBMIT MEMORANDA ON THE BILL WEDN GAY APRIL 10 2024 The Standar

e Standard, Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Email Address: tanarivercg@gmail.com Telephone number 0466260000, P.O. BOX 29-70101, Hola

ADDENDUM TENDER NOTICE

THIS IS TO NOTIFY ALL INTERESTED SUPPLIERS IN THE TENDERS ADVERTISED ON THE WEDNESDAY OF 27TH MARCH 2024 OF THE DAILY NEWSPAPER FOR THE PROPOSED COVER FOR COUNTY STAFF, TENDER NUMBER TRCG/OT/ PSM/50/2023-2024, NEGOTIATION NO. 1447209-2/2023-2024 THAT THE DATES FOR TENDER OPENING HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO TUESDAY 16TH APRIL 2024, CONSEQUENTLY, INTERESTED BIDDERS ARE ADVISED TO CHECK ON OUR COUNTY WEBSITE FOR THE REVISED TENDER DOCUMENT. THE WEBSITES ARE www.tanarivercounty.go.ke or www. supplier.treasury.go.ke

SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED.

CI. OFFICER FINANCE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF TANA RIVER DIRECTOR SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT FUNCTION, COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF TANA RIVER.



WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS

IE STANDARD DIGGER CLASSIFIEDS

ROLEX BUILDING - MOI AVENUE, OPPOSITE EBRAHIM'S MALL

BUSINESS HOURS: Monday - Friday: 8am - 5pm Saturday: 9am - 1.30pm

KINDLY REACH US ON 0719-012555 OR 0719012910



REPUBLIC OF KENYA THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - THIRD SESSION (2024)

IN THE MATTER OF ARTICLES 118(1)(b) & 132(2)(e) OF THE CONSTITUTION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS (PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL) ACT (NO 33 OF 2011) AND

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF PERSONS NOMINATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADORS, HIGH COMMISSIONERS, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND CONSULS-GENERAL

RESCHEDULING OF APPROVAL HEARINGS

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution, H.E. the President is empowered to nominate and, with the approval of the National Assembly, appoint High Commissioners, Ambasadors, Diplomatic and Consular representatives; H.E. the President nominated twenty-seven [27] persons for approval by the National Assembly for appointment as Ambasadors, High Commissioners, Permanent Representatives and Consula-General of the Republic. AND WHEREAS, the Clerk of the National Assembly placed advertisements in local dailies on Saturday, 23rd March 2024 notifying the to 11rd Aprice and Hearings (Vetting) by the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations from 4rd to 11rd April 2024 and invitig submission of memoranda in line with the provisions of Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution of Kenya and Section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011);

IT IS NOTIFIED that following the declaration of Wednesday. 10" April 2024 as a Public Holiday to mark Idd-uI-Fitr, the approval hearings that were to take place on this day have been rescheduled to Thursday, 11" April 2024 from 9.00 a.m. in the Mini Chamber, County Hall, Parliament Buildings as per the Schedule below-

1 6.	NOMINEE	STATION	TIME
1.	Ms. Grace Atieno Okara	UN HABITAT, Nairobi	09.00 a.m.
2.	Dr. Fancy Too	Geneva, Switzerland	10.00 a.m.
3	Mr. Ekitela Erastus Lokaale	UN, New York, USA	11.00 a.m.
4.	Mr. Ezra Chiloba	Los Angeles, USA	12.00 noon
5.	Mr. Charles Githinji Keiru	Goma, DRC	02.00 p.m.
6.	Amb. Moi Lemoshira	Tokyo, Japan	03.00 p.m.
7.	Mr. David Iboko Lokemer	Dubai, UAE	04.00 p.m.

S. NJOROGE, CBS CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday 10th April 2024

"For the Welfare of Society and the just Government of the People"



REPUBLIC OF KENYA THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT- THIRD SESSION (2024) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

IN THE MATTER OF ARTICLE 118(1) (b) OF THE CONSTITUTION

IN THE MATTER OF CONSIDERATION BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, 2024

INVITATION TO SUBMIT MEMORANDA

WHEREAS. Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution of Kenya requires Parliament to facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its Committees and National Assembly Standing Order 127(3) requires House Committees considering Bills to facilitate public participation;

AND WHEREAS the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2024 was read a First Time on 20th March 2024 and referred to the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations for consideration and reporting to the House;

IT IS NOTIFIED that the **Treaty Malding and Ratification (Minendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2024**, is a Bill sponsored by **Hon. George Gitonga Murugara, MP**. It seeks to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, 2012, to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, strengthen the National Assembly's participation in the treaty-making process, and enhance efficiency in the treaty-making process.

NOW THEREFORE, in compliance with Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 127(3), the Clerk of the National Assembly hereby invites the public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Bill to the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations.

Copies of the Bill are available at the National Assembly Table Office, Main Parliament Buildings and on account partiament, go, ka/

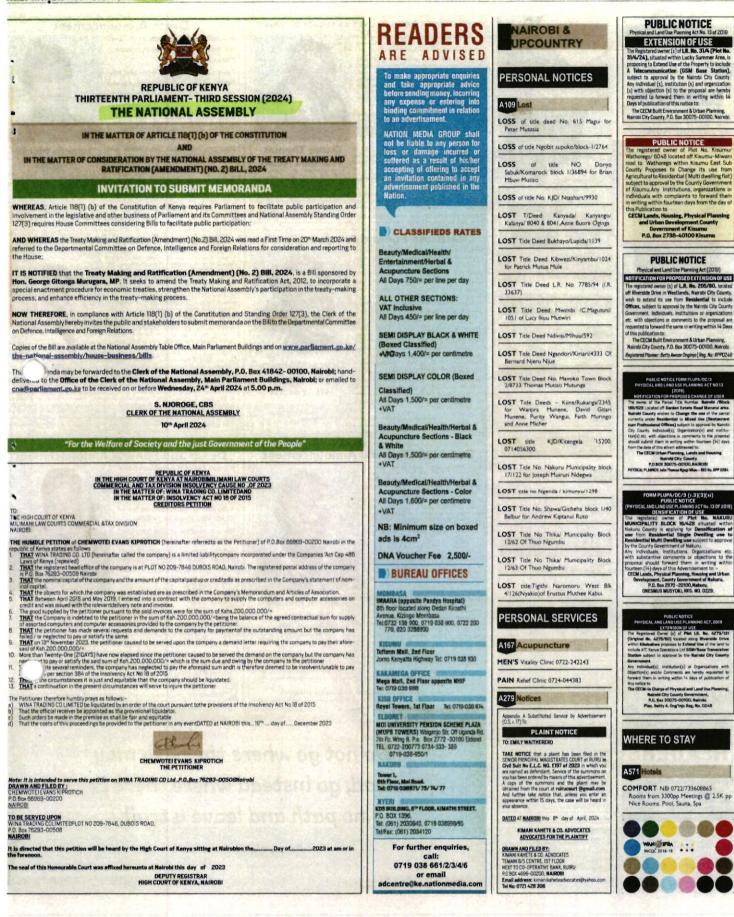
The memoranda may be forwarded to the Clerk of the National Assembly, P.O. Box 41842-00100, Nairobi; handdelivered to the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly, Main Parliament Buildings, Nairobi; or emailed to cmemoraritament_co.lss to be received on or before Wednesday, 24* April 2024 at 5.00 p.m.

> S. NJOROGE, CBS CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 10** April 2024

> > d the just Governi

19

DAILY NATION WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024



ANNEXURE 5

LETTER FROM THE CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY INVITING STAKEHOLDERS TO SUBMIT VIEWS ON THE BILL



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P. O. Box 41842-00100 Nairobi, Kenya Main Parliament Buildings Telephone: +254202848000 ext. 3300 Email: <u>cna@parliament.go.ke</u> www.parliament.go.ke/the-national-assembly

When replying, please quote

Ref: Ref: NA/DDC/DIFR/2024 (058)

23rd April, 2024

Dr. Korir Sing'oei, PhD., C.B.S. Principal Secretary State Department for Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Harambee Avenue <u>NAIROBI.</u>

Hon. Shadrack John Mose

Solicitor General Office of the Attorney-General and Department of Justice Sheria House, Harambee Avenue NAIROBI.

Mr. Joash Dache, MBS

Chief Executive Officer/Commission Secretary Kenya Law Reform Commission Reinsurance Plaza, 3rd Floor Taifa Road NAIROBI.

Ms. Florence Muturi

Chief Executive Officer Kenya Society of Kenya (LSK) Lavington, Opposite Valley Arcade, Gitanga Road Taifa Road NAIROBI.

Dear Or Siny d'e.

REF: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ON THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL, 2024 BY THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations is established pursuant to National Assembly Standing Order 216 and is mandated *inter alia* 'to study and review all legislation referred to it'.

The Committee is in the process of considering the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2024 (*copy attached*). The Bill seeks to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, 2012 to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, strengthen the National Assembly's participation in the treaty-making process and enhance efficiency in the treaty-making process.

In compliance with the provisions of Article 118(1)(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 12(3) on public participation, the Committee invites you for a meeting to discuss the said Bill. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, 30th April, 2024 at 10.00 am in the Mini Chamber, County Hall, Parliament Buildings.

We request that you submit electronic copies of your comments on the Bill to the Committee by Monday, 29th April 2024, via email address: <u>cna@parliament.go.ke</u> and avail fifteen (15) hard copies during the meeting.

The liaison officers on this subject are Mr. Dennis Mogare, who may be contacted on Tel No. 0721479162 or email <u>dennis.ogechi@parliament.go.ke</u> and Mr. Bernard Njeru, Tel No. 0729953014 or email <u>bernard.njeru@parliament.go.ke</u>.

Yours

2.2

JEREMIAH W. NDOMBI, MBS For: CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Copy to:

Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Harambee Avenue NAIROBI.

Hon. Justin B.N. Muturi, EGH The Attorney-General of the Republic of Kenya Office of the Attorney-General and Department of Justice Sheria House, Harambee Avenue NAIROBI.

ANNEXURE 6

SUBMISSIONS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A	DDC
W.	Please deal
•	SP.
ŧ	- Derlet
•	06/05/21
٤	



07 MAY 2024

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Our Ref: AG/LDD/237/1/93

Mr. Samuel Njoroge, CBS

The Clerk of the National Assembly Clerk's Chambers, Parliament Buildings P. O. Box 41842-00100 NAIROBI

29th April, 2024 2) Mr. Dennis Ogechi Pls TNA. DM 07/05/24

RE: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ON THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

Reference is made to your letter dated the 23rd April, 2024 and referenced NA/DDC/DIFR/2024 (058) requesting this Office for submissions on the proposed Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024, by the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations and inviting the Solicitor-General to attend a meeting in Parliament to discuss the Bill.

We regret to inform you that the Solicitor-General will not be able to attend the meeting as he will be attending the launch of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Supplement to the laws of Kenya which will be done by His Excellency Hon. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, PhD, C.G.H.

However, we have scrutinized the constitutionality of the proposed Bill and whether it contravenes existing legislation. We note that the Bill does not raise constitutional issues, however we note the following statutory issue on the proposed legislation—

Clause	Comments
3	Paragraph (b) of Clause 3 of the Bill proposes for unilateral trade agreements between Kenya and any other country involving a one-sided arrangement in which Kenya benefits from lower trade barriers from the other country. Section 2 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act (Cap. 4D) defines a bilateral treaty to mean an agreement concluded between Kenya and any other State or between Kenya and an international organization. The arrangement proposed in Clause 3 paragraph (b) seems to be a bilateral agreement rather that a unilateral agreement.

HON. SDEAD FACK. MOSE SOLICTTOR-GENERAL Copy to: Hon. J. B.N. Muturi Attorney-General MAY 2024 D 3 MAY 2024 D 3 MAY 2024 D 3 MAY 2024 CLERK'S OFFICE D 8 Dox 41842. NAIROBI SHERIA HOOS SHERI

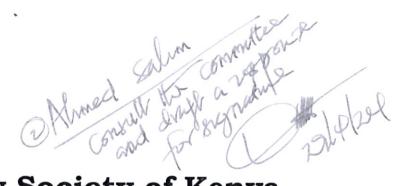
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CO-OPERATIVE BANK HOUSE, HAILLE SELLASIE AVENUEP.O. Box 56057-00200, Nairobi-Kenya TEL: Nairobi 2224029/ 2240337 E-MAIL: legal@justice.go.ke WEBSITE: www.justice.go.ke

ISO 9001:2008 Certified



ANNEXURE 7

SUBMISSION FROM THE LAW SOCIETY OF KENYA





Law Society of Kenya

The Office of the Clerk,

The National Assembly,

P.O Box 41842-00100, Main Parliament Buildings,

Nairobi, Kenya.

Lavington, opp Valley Arcade, Gitanga Road P.O Box 72219-00200 Nairobi, Kenya Tel: +254 111 045 300 Website: www.lsk.or.ke Email: lsk@lsk.or.ke

Our Ref: S/24

Your Ref: TBA

Date: 24th April, 2024

Dear Sir,

RE: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR SUBMISSION ON THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (N0.2) BILL, 2024.

We refer to the call on the subject matter, which was published in the Daily Nation newspaper dated 10th April 2024 contents of which we have noted.

We note that these presentations were to be submitted on or before Wednesday, 24th April, 2024. Being a member institution, we have informed our members of the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No.2) Bill,2024 and we are currently awaiting their input and feedback to inform our position of the same.

We therefore request for an extension of time for submission of the memorandum with our proposals as we purpose to submit the same on or before 3rd May, 2024.

The Society appreciates the continued collaboration.

Yours faithfully, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RECEIVED FLORENCEW. MUTURI SECRETARY/ CEO 26 APR 2024 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CLERK'S OFFICE Box 41842. NAIROBI RECEIVED P.O 2 5 APR 2024 DEPUTY CLER Kaith Odhiambo (President), Mwaura Kabata (Vice-President) J. W. Tom K'opere, Teresia Wavinya, Hosea Manwa, (General Membership Representatives) P. O. Box 41842 -00100, Gloria Rimani, Irene Otto, Stephen Mbugua (Nairobi Representatives) Vincent Githaiga, Lindah Kiome, Hezekiah Aseso, Zulfa Roble (Upcountry Representatives)





LAW SOCIETY OF KENYA

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS ON THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL, 2024

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF KENYA BY:

MS. CAROLINE ODUOR, DR. DANIEL ACHACH AND MR. PATRICK ANAM

то

MR. SAMWEL NJOROGE

CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF KENYA

29TH APRIL 2024

1 | Page

,



Introduction

- The Law Society is a Statutory body created under the Law Society Act, Cap 18 Laws of Kenya with the mandate, *inter alia*, to assist the government and the courts in all matters affecting legislation and the administration and practice of the law in Kenya and to protect and assist the public in Kenya in all matters touching, ancillary or incidental to the law section 4(e).
- By dint of article 2(6) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, any Treaty or Convention
 ratified by Kenya shall form part of the law of Kenya. The LSK is therefore not only
 an essential player in the process of negotiating and ratification of international
 agreements but is statutorily obligated to participate in the process.
- The Law Society of Kenya (LSK) is in receipt of a letter dated 23rd April 2024, received on 26th April 2024 by the Clerk of the National Assembly inviting the Society to a submit a memorandum on the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) Bill, 2024 to the Assembly's Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations, and attend a meeting to discuss the said Bill on Tuesday, 30th April, 2024 at 10:00am in the Mini Chamber, County Hall, Parliament Buildings.
- The stakeholder meeting is scheduled pursuant to Article 118(1) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 12(3) that obligates the Committee to undertake public participation during legislation process.
- Owing to the urgent nature of the invitation and limited time, LSK appointed Ms. Caroline Oduor, Dr. Daniel Achach and Mr. Patrick Anam, both advocates of the High Court of Kenya and with vast experience and expertise in the subject area to present LSK's Memorandum before the Committee.
- The LSK wishes to sincerely thank the Committee for the invitation to submit this Memorandum.

Background to Treaty Making and Ratification;

- The purpose of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties was to articulate the framework for treaty making, codify the comprehensive set of principles and rules governing significant aspects of Treaty Law.
- In breaking away from the older unanimity rule, Article 19 of the Vienna Convention allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless



treaty itself forbids reservations or the reservation is incompatible with the objects of the treaty.

- Although it is possible to object to a State's reservation under the Vienna Convention, an objection to a reservation does not preclude entry into force of the treaty between the two States.
- In Kenya, the treaty making and ratification process is codified under Article 2(6) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and The Treaty-Making and Ratification Act, CAP 4D
- The Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 2024 seeks to amend various provisions of The Treaty-Making and Ratification Act, CAP 4D.



* * * * *

Comments on the Proposed Amendments;

Proposed Amendment	Comments
Amendment to Section 2 of the Act by introducing	This Amendment seeks to differentiate treaties relating to taxation, trade and investments
definition of 'accession' and 'economic treaty' to the	from other treaties and also to bring within the purview of the statute treaties to which Kenya
definitions section and deleting Section 2(2) of the Act	becomes bound by way of accession. It also seeks to delete Section 2 (2) of the Principal Act
	which makes reference to the first elections under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which is
	now redundant. This Amendment is supported by LSK.
Amendment to Section 3 of the Act which seeks to	This Amendment will ensure that the Act applies to treaties relating to taxation, trade and
include economic treaties within the purview of the Act	investment matters. LSK however feels that given the importance and centrality of these types
	of treaties to Kenya's economy, and given that the ultimate beneficiaries of the new markets
	opened by these treaties are the Kenyan traders represented by their MPs in parliament, there
	is need for the relevant parliamentary committees to interact with such economic treaties
	before they are signed or ratified by the other partners. An example can be cited of the Kenya-
	EU EPA Agreement in which the national assembly departmental committee on Trade,
	Industries and Co-operatives conducted public participation for ratification way after the EU
	parliament had ratified the Agreement making the ratification process a mere academic
	process.

. . . .

.



- - -

engage the National Assembly on commencing negotiations on treaties.existing problems where the National Assembly only becomes seized of treaty matters at the tail-end of the treaty making process. LSK however feels that the proposed Section 5A (3) should make it mandatory for the relevant committee to conduct public participation and stakeholder engagement at this point.Amendment to Section 6 of the Act by introducing a new sub-section (1A) to ensure that the country does not enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest.LSK supports the spirit of this Amendment as it seeks to ventilate the Government's responsibility to its citizenry under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. LSK however proposes that the language of the Amendment be changed to have the effect of annulling any treaty that adversely affect paragraphs (a) to (d).Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a provision to the treaty.This Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty.	Introduction of Section 5A requiring the Executive to	LSK appreciates the noble intentions of this proposal which is aimed at eliminating the
Amendment to Section 6 of the Act by introducing a new sub-section (1A) to ensure that the country does not enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest.LSK supports the spirit of this Amendment as it seeks to ventilate the Government's responsibility to its citizenry under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. LSK however proposes that the language of the Amendment be changed to have the effect of annulling any treaty that adversely affect paragraphs (a) to (d).Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	engage the National Assembly on commencing	
stakeholder engagement at this point.Amendment to Section 6 of the Act by introducing a new sub-section (1A) to ensure that the country does not enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest.LSK supports the spirit of this Amendment be changed to have the effect of annulling any treaty that adversely affect paragraphs (a) to (d).Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	negotiations on treaties.	tail-end of the treaty making process. LSK however feels that the proposed Section 5A (3)
Amendment to Section 6 of the Act by introducing a new sub-section (1A) to ensure that the country does not enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest.LSK supports the spirit of this Amendment as it seeks to ventilate the Government's responsibility to its citizenry under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. LSK however proposes that the language of the Amendment be changed to have the effect of annulling any treaty that adversely affect paragraphs (a) to (d).Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations		should make it mandatory for the relevant committee to conduct public participation and
new sub-section (1A) to ensure that the country does not enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest. Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process. Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a		stakeholder engagement at this point.
enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest. Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process. Mendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a	Amendment to Section 6 of the Act by introducing a	LSK supports the spirit of this Amendment as it seeks to ventilate the Government's
mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of local industries and public interest.adversely affect paragraphs (a) to (d).Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	new sub-section (1A) to ensure that the country does not	responsibility to its citizenry under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. LSK however proposes
local industries and public interest.Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation.Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation.LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	enter into treaties that adversely affect her ability to	that the language of the Amendment be changed to have the effect of annulling any treaty that
Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	mobilize domestic revenue, food security, growth of	adversely affect paragraphs (a) to (d).
Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the relevant departmental committee for public participation. LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	local industries and public interest.	
assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making process.relevant departmental committee for public participation.LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	Insertion of a new Sections 6A and 6B which require the	Whereas LSK supports the requirements for regulatory impact assessment, LSK proposes that
process.LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact statement absolutely free to the public.Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	Executive to have undertaken a regulatory impact	additional to the gazettement requirement, this assessment report should be tabled before the
Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the This Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	assessment prior to the initiation of the treaty making	relevant departmental committee for public participation.
Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the National Assembly may introduce any reservations as aThis Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations	process.	LSK also proposes that Section 6B (5) be amended to make access to the regulatory impact
National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations		statement absolutely free to the public.
	Amendment to Section 8 of the Act by requiring that the	This Amendment is in line with the Vienna Convention which allows states to include
provision to the treaty. or the reservation is incompatible with the objects of the treaty.	National Assembly may introduce any reservations as a	reservations in the acceptance of treaty obligations unless the treaty itself forbids reservations
	provision to the treaty.	or the reservation is incompatible with the objects of the treaty.

. . . .

5 | Page

, •

• *



2

minority in the reactional rissembly at the point of	hist aments of radification (which is the subject mater of Section 10 of the principal Act), then
be accompanied by the Leader of Majority or Leader of Minority in the National Assembly at the point of	intention of the Amendment is to accompany the Cabinet Secretary during depositing of instruments of ratification (which is the subject mater of Section 10 of the principal Act), then
new Sub-section (1A) requiring the Cabinet Secretary to	ratification process is done in the National Assembly and not by the Cabinet Secretary. If the
Amendment of Section 10 of the Act by introducing a	LSK opines that the language of this proposed Amendment is ambiguous. This is because the
Assembly.	
provides for the ratification process at the National	
Amendment by introducing a new Section 9A which	LSK supports this Amendment.
	Assembly.
	LSK recommends that the language of the Amendment be changed to expressly preclude the Executive from concluding any treaty without effecting any reservation made by the National

. .

.

1.

.



Concluding Remarks

- The LSK has established an *ad hoc* committee on International Trade and Regional Integration that comprises of eminent experts and practitioners in the area. The LSK has members who have vast experience and expertise spanning different areas of international trade law and policy.
- LSK decries lack of an engagement framework with the government and the Committee on negotiating trade deals, signing and ratification of trade agreements. The LSK recommends a deeper engagement and invites both the government and the National Assembly to take advantage of the vast experience and expertise that lies within the LSK's membership.
- LSK supports the government's initiative to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act by bestowing more powers on the National Assembly during the treaty making process. The legal framework obtaining currently only involves the National Assembly at the tail end of the process when the other party to the agreement may have already signed and ratified it. This clips the wings of the National Assembly as any amendments can only come in as reservations and not substantive amendments to the treaty. Given the political economy of treaty making process, this may not be advisable. LSK therefore urges the departmental committee to proceed with the proposed amendments subject to the proposals made by LSK herein.

-END-

C.O

MS. CAROLINE ODUOR ADVOCATE carol@coduoradvocates.co.ke +254722553891

DR. DANIEL ACHACH ADVOCATE daniel@achachllp.co.ke +254723432150

MR. PATRICK ANAM ADVOCATE songianam@gmail.com +254720756343

ANNEXURE 8

SUBMISSION FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS

0000

BO BO BO NAIROBI, KENYA

Date: ...

Do

11th June 2024

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS STATE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MFA.LEG/163 VOL. IV Ref. No.....

Telephone: +254-20-318888

Website: www.mfa.go.ke

Fax: +254-20-2240066/341935/344333 Email: communication@mfa.go.ke

When replying please quote Ref. No. and date

Mr. Samuel Njoroge, C.B.S Clerk of the National Assembly The Clerk's Chambers Parliament Buildings P.O. Box 41842 - 00100 NAIROBI

DIRECTOR 18 JUN 202 Directorate of Departmental Committees

Dear SIr.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ON THE TREATY MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL, 2024 BY THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

We make reference to the above matter, your letter under reference NA/DDC/DIFR/2024 (058) of 23rd April 2024, and our reply thereto under even reference dated 29th April 2024.

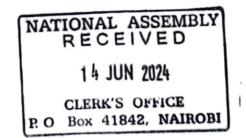
The Ministry has reviewed the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2024 and taken into consideration the Memorandum of Objects and Reasons attached thereto. The Ministry has identified and hereby wishes to submit comments on the Bill, attached herewith for your consideration.

Yours & march

DR. A. KORIR GOF

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Encls.



Comments on the Treaty Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2024

- In the Memorandum of Objects and Reasons for the Bill, the object thereof is indicated as "to amend the Treaty Making and Ratification Act to incorporate a special enactment procedure for economic treaties, strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the Treaty making process and to generally enhance efficiency in the Treaty making process".
- 2. Clause 3 of the Bill proposes to amend Section 3 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act, by isolating economic treaties in the list of treaties to which the Act is applicable. Notably, Section 3 of the Act as presently drafted, already includes such treaties in its application. It is therefore unclear, why the amendment Bill seeks to isolate economic treaties, and prescribe further legislative provisions for ratification thereof.
- 3. Clause 4 of the Bill seeks to introduce a new provision requiring the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matter relating to a Treaty, to engage the National Assembly upon commencement of negotiations. Notably however, Section 8 (3) of the Act presently contains a provision that requires the National Assembly to conduct public participation in accordance with laid down Parliamentary procedures.
- 4. Clause 5 of the Bill seeks to amend Section 6 of the Act regarding the values and principals in negotiating treaties, by introducing a new provision on considerations to be taken in negotiating economic treaties. Notably however, the Section as drafted, requires the National Executive or the relevant State Department to abide by the values and principles of the Constitution, notwithstanding the kind of Treaty under negotiation.
- 5. Clause 6 of the Bill seeks to introduce a "regulatory impact assessment" which is to be availed by the relevant Cabinet Secretary prior to execution of an economic Treaty. The Bill indicates that the regulatory impact assessment will be tabled before the National Assembly, and the general public.
- 6. The Memorandum of Objects and Reasons for the Bill, indicates that this procedure will provide clarity on the specific procedure for public participation, which presently leaves room for error as it is unclear what quantum of public participation is sufficient. Notably however, the Office of the Attorney General has tabled before the House a public participation policy, and at the same time, a public participation Bill is under consideration. The concerns being raised by the presently proposed Bill, should be adequately catered for under either of these two instruments, without need for amendment of the Act.
- 7. Clause 7 of the Bill, seeks to amend Section 8 of the Act by *inter alia* precluding the National Executive from concluding a Treaty without effecting a reservation made by the National Assembly. This proposal may present a limitation to Treaty negotiators, bearing in mind negotiation of bilateral agreements, is conducted in a win-win / give-take manner. In addition, the National Assembly has an opportunity to raise reservations during the public participation process conducted by the Executive.
- 8. Clause 8 seeks to provide for a procedure of ratification at the National Assembly, including a requirement for public participation conducted by a relevant House Committee. As indicated

herein above, two instruments on public participation are presently under consideration, and the procedures for public participation will be clearly set out thereunder. It would be prudent to await the outcome of these instruments rather than over legislating on a common issue.

- 9. In addition, it may not be procedurally feasible to allow the National Assembly leeway to conduct public participation, once negotiations between parties have concluded, as this would mean re-opening negotiations on matters which have already been settled. Moreover, as Treaty partners submit the negotiated instruments to their internal ratification processes immediately negotiations have concluded, if the National Assembly's public participation process as proposed results in a need to re-open negotiations, the same would occasion diplomatic complications for this office.
- 10. The Ministry would also require input from the National Treasury and the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, which are the Ministries mandated to negotiate /implement the economic treaties that the Bill seeks to isolate.
- 11. On the definition of 'economic treaty' to mean a treaty relating to taxation, trade, and investment, there is a need to consult the National Treasury. This is informed by the fact that the National Treasury had by a letter Ref. AG/LDD/237/1/93 dated 27th February 2024 proposed an amendment of Section 3 of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act to exclude the application of the Act on 'Special arrangements for relief from double taxation entered by the Government under section 41 of the Income Tax Act'.
- 12. Beside the above comments, the Ministry is proposing the following amendments to the Treaty Making and Ratification Act. The amendments are aimed at providing a reporting mechanism on the implementation of MOUs signed by the Government of Kenya with foreign Governments, which are implemented by the relevant line MDAs.

	Section 13 Registry of Treaties	Section 13(2)(a) add the words 'Memorandum of Understanding' after the word 'treaties'.
	·	Section 13(2)(c) add the words the word ' <i>Memorandum of Understanding</i> ' after the word 'treaties'.
2.	Section 14 Registrar	Section 14 (a)(i) add the words the word ' <i>Memorandum of Understanding</i> ' after the word 'treaties'
		Section 14 (b) add a new (b) bis to read 'Coordinate the reporting on the implementation of Memorandum of Understanding signed by Kenya'.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TMRA 2012

	Caller 16 bis	
F	Section 16 bis	Insert a new Section 16 (1) bis to read as follows: The Cabinet
	Reporting on	Secretary shall in conjunction with the relevant State Departments
	the	facilitate the preparation and submission to the Cabinet of
	implementation	periodic reports on the implementation of the Memorandum of
	of Agreements	Understanding.
	and	
	Memorandum	Section 16 (2) bis
	of	The Cabinet Secretary shall through Gazette notice appoint a
	Understanding	Committee comprising focal points from relevant State
		Departments to be responsible for the preparation of the periodic
		reports on the implementation of the treaties to which Kenya is a
		state party and the signed Memorandum of Understanding.

13. Further, since the Treaty Making and Ratification Act touches on matters falling within the purview of the State Department of Foreign Affairs, the Parliamentary Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations is requested to allow its Parliamentary Legal team to work closely with the Legal Directorate and Office of the Registrar of Treaties to ensure harmony and beneficial consensus on the proposed amendments.

MAY 2024 MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS

.



SUBMISSION BY HON. GEORGE GITONGA MURUGARA, CBS, M.P.



Hon. George Gitonga Murugara, CBS, M.P.

Tharaka Constituency Chairperson of The Justice & Legal Affairs Committee

P. O. Box 41842 - 00100 Bunge Tower Nairobi, Kenya

1 -50 3

Telephone: +254 202 848 000 Mobile: +254 721 725 345 Email: tharakaconstituency013@gmail.com

12th November, 2024

1

The Honourable Chairperson Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations Parliament Buildings NAIROBI

RE: THE TREATY-MAKING AND RATIFICATION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, 2024

Introduction

The principal object of the Treaty-Making and Ratification (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill (hereby referred to as "the Bill') is to amend the Treaty-Making and Ratification Act (Cap. 4D) (hereby referred to as "the Act") to include a special enactment procedure for economic treaties; to strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty making process; and to enhance efficiency in the treaty making process.

The Bill was read a First Time in the House on 20th March, 2024 and thereafter committed to the Departmental Committee on Defence. Intelligence and Foreign Relations to facilitate public participation on the Bill in accordance with Standing Order 127.

Analysis of the Bill

The Bill seeks to include a special procedure for negotiating economic treaties by providing that national executive or the relevant State department shall, in negotiating an economic treaty, verify that the treaty does not negatively affect the following principles—

- (a) ability to mobilise domestic revenue;
- (b) food security;
- (c) establishment and growth of local industries; and
- (d) the ability of the government to regulate an industry in the public interest.

The Bill defines an economic treaty as a treaty that relates to taxation, trade and investment. An example of an economic treaty is the economic partnership agreement between Kenya and European Union signed on 18th December, 2023. Once the agreement is ratified by both parties, it will result in Kenyan goods gaining immediate duty and quote free access to the European market, whereas European goods will gain preferential access to the Kenyan market introduced over time.

1 20

2

The Bill seeks to strengthen the participation of the National Assembly in the treaty making process by making it an obligation of the relevant national executive or relevant State Department to notify the National Assembly within 14 days on the initiation of the treaty-making process. This amendment seeks to ensure that the National Assembly is seized of treaty matters at the initial stages of the treaty making process leading to enhanced transparency and accountability.

Finally, the Bill seeks to enhance the efficiency in the treaty-making process by empowering the relevant Committee to seek from the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters relating to foreign affairs further information such as the social and environmental impact of the treaty and report of public participation conducted on the making of the treaty.

Submitted for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

ungarg

Hon. George Gitonga Murugara, CBS, MP Chairperson, Departmental Committee of Justice and Legal Affairs