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THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – FIFTH SESSION – 2026
PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

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REPORT ON-

# CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC PETITION NO. 13 OF 2026 REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL POLICE FIREARMS DIGITAL DETECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
PAPERS LAID
DATE: 30 SEP 2026 DAY. Wednesday
TABLED BY: Hon. Janet Sitienei MP (Vice-Chairperson)
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE: Female

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**NAIROBI**

**SEPTEMBER, 2026**

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## ACRONYMS

| | |
|---|---|
| NPS | National Police Service |
| CCTV | Closed-Circuit Television |
| GPS | Global Positioning System |
| IBIS | Integrated Ballistics Identification System |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technology |
| IoT | Internet of Things |
| RFID | Radio-Frequency Identification |

## CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

On behalf of the Public Petitions Committee and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227, it is my pleasant privilege and honour to present to this House the Report of the Committee on the Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a national police firearms digital detection and tracking system. The petition was presented to the House pursuant to Standing Order No. 225 (2) (b) by the Speaker on behalf Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow.

The Committee observed that the NPS had undertaken preliminary steps towards digitization, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. This process stalled due to budgetary constraints. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates the Firecycle platform, a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), which can be expanded to support Service- wide tracking.

The Committee recommends that the Inspector General of Police avails an implementation framework for full digitization of firearms records, including amendments to relevant laws, and the resultant budgetary requirement to the National Assembly during consideration of the Budget Policy Statement 2027/28.

The Committee appreciates the Offices of the Speaker and Clerk of the National Assembly for providing guidance and necessary technical support, without which its work would not have been possible. The Chairperson expresses gratitude to the Committee Members for their devotion and commitment to duty during the consideration of the Petition.

On behalf of the Committee and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 199, I now wish to lay the Report on the Table of the House.

**HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, CBS, M.P.**
**CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

## PART ONE

## 1. PREFACE

### 1.1 Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

1) The Public Petitions Committee is established under the provisions of Standing Order 208A with the following terms of reference:

i) considering all public petitions tabled in the House;
ii) making such recommendations as may be appropriate with respect to the prayers sought in the petitions;
iii) recommending whether the findings arising from consideration of a petition should be debated; and
iv) advising the House and reporting on all public petitions committed to it.

**1.2 Committee Membership**

2) The Public Petitions Committee was constituted in October 2022 and comprises the following Members:

**Chairperson**
Hon. Muchangi Karemba, CBS, M.P.
Runyenjes Constituency
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA)**

**Vice Chairperson**
Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, M.P
Turbo Constituency
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA)**

Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P.
Mavoko Constituency
**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-K)**

Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.
Kitui West Constituency
**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-K)**

Hon. Ntwiga Patrick Munene, M.P.
Chuka Igambang'ombe Constituency
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA**

Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.
Kuria East Constituency
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA)**

Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P.
Baringo Central Constituency
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA)**

Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, M.P.
Dagoretti North Constituency
**Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)**

Hon. Bernard Muriuki Nebart, M.P.
Mbeere South Constituency
**Independent**

Hon. Biego Paul Kibichy, M.P.
Chesumei
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA)**

Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.
Kangema Constituency
**Maendeleo Chap Chap Party (MCCP)**

Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P.
Taveta Constituency
**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-K)**

Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P.
Mwatate Constituency
**Jubilee Party (JP)**

Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P.
Sabatia Constituency
**United Democratic Alliance (UDA)**

Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P.
Makueni Constituency
**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-K)**

### 1.3 Committee Secretariat

3) The Public Petitions Committee is facilitated by the following members of the secretariat:

**Lead Clerk**
Mr. Victor Weke
**Principal Clerk Assistant II**

Ms. Miriam Modo
**First Clerk Assistant**

Mr. Benard Toroitich
**Third Clerk Assistant**

Ms. Kafuyai Wamae
**Third Clerk Assistant**

Mr. Clinton Sindiga
**Legal Counsel II**

Ms. Nancy Akinyi
**Research Officer III**

Ms. Viola Saiya
**Research Officer III**

Ms. Roselyne Njuki
**Principal Serjeant-at-Arms**

Mr. Paul Shana
**Serjeant-at-Arms**

Mr. Pascal Valerian
**Hansard Officer III**

Mr. Collins Mahamba
**Audio Officer III**

Ms. Felistus Muiya
**Public Communication Officer**

Ms. Fridah Ngari
**Media Relations Officer III**

## PART TWO

## 2. BACKGROUND OF THE PETITION

### 2.1 Introduction

4) Article 119 of the Constitution accords any person the right to petition Parliament to consider any matter within its authority. Further, Standing Order 225(2)(b) requires the Speaker to report to the House any Petition other than those presented by a member.

5) In this regard, the speaker received a Petition from Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow calling for the establishment of a National Police firearms digital detection and tracking system.

6) While the Petitioner acknowledges the provisions of Article 243 and 244 regarding establishment and functions of the National Police Service in the Constitution of Kenya, the Petitioner is concerned that several security incidents, including attack on a police posts and stations in some parts of the country where officers were reportedly ambushed and firearms forcefully taken has exposed vulnerabilities in current firearm storage, monitoring and rapid response systems.

7) The Petitioner contends that the theft or unauthorized removal of police firearms places police officers at heightened operational risk, endangers civilians and undermines public confidence in national security institutions.

8) The Petitioner observes that firearm issuance and armory management systems in many police stations remain largely manual and lack immediate electronic detection mechanisms capable of flagging unauthorized removal or tampering in real time.

9) Further, the Petitioner notes that there is presently no mandatory nationwide encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures upon irregular firearm movement, thereby delaying rapid response and recovery efforts.

### 2.2 Petitioners' Prayers

10) The Petitioners prayed that the National Assembly intervenes to amend the National Police Service Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service, including biometric-controlled smart armories, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures.

## PART THREE

## 3. STAKEHOLDERS' SUBMISSIONS ON THE PETITION

### 3.1 The Petitioners

The Petitioners Mr. Kelly Emmanuel and Mr. Evans Juma appeared before the Committee on Tuesday, 30th June, 2026 and submitted as follows;

11) Articles 243 and 244 of the Constitution of Kenya defines the establishment and functions of the National Police Service. However, there exists concerns that several security incidents, including attacks on police posts and stations in various parts of the country, where officers were reportedly ambushed and firearms forcefully taken, have exposed vulnerabilities in the current firearm storage, monitoring and rapid response systems.
12) Theft or unauthorized removal of police firearms, places police officers at heightened operational risk, endangers civilians and undermines public confidence in national security institutions.
13) Firearm issuance and armoury management systems in many police stations remain largely manual and lack immediate electronic detection mechanisms capable of flagging unauthorized removal or tampering in real time.
14) Currently, no mandatory nationwide encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures of irregular firearm movement, thereby delaying rapid response and recovery efforts.
15) Secure biometric system can be introduced and noted that several jurisdictions have modernized their weapon storage and handling systems. These jurisdictions include the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Canada. The existence of such systems in these countries demonstrates that it is feasible to implement sensor-based or biometric security systems for firearms

### 3.2 National Police Service

The Inspector General of Police, Mr. Douglas Kanja Kirocho, MGH, CBS, OGW, vide a letter GPC/PPC/2026/114 dated 15th July, 2026, submitted as follows —

16) The National Police Service takes note of the concerns raised by the Petitioner regarding the vulnerability of firearms in police custody, arising from incidents in which police posts and stations have been attacked and officers ambushed and robbed of their firearms. The Service appreciates that the proposal to establish a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System is a timely and welcome intervention that has the potential to significantly strengthen firearm accountability, enhance investigative and intelligence capability and improve national security.
17) Currently, control, storage and accountability of firearms and ammunition within the National Police Service is anchored on the National Police Service Act, Sixth Schedule

(Section 61(2)) B 8(c) and Chapter 14 of the Service Standing Orders and is maintained through an established manual framework of registers, ledgers and physical security measures. While this manual framework has provided a functional and auditable chain of custody that is properly maintained and supervised, the Service acknowledges that it has inherent limitations in real- time monitoring, particularly in a rapidly evolving security environment.

18) Between January 2024 and June 2026, a total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were lost across the country, mainly through attacks on police installations and ambushes on officers. Of these, 30 firearms have since been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition unaccounted for and posing a continuing risk to public safety and law enforcement. These incidents underscore the urgency of enhancing the current accountability framework.

19) The Service has already undertaken preliminary steps towards digitization, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates the Firecycle platform, a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), which can be expanded to support Service- wide tracking.

20) Having reviewed the current framework against the proposed digital system, and having weighed the attendant benefits against the implementation challenges, the National Police Service fully supports, in principle, the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System, subject to adequate funding, a sound legal and policy framework, robust cyber security safeguards and comprehensive user training, as elaborated in the sections that follow.

21) The National Police Service maintains accountability for firearms and ammunition through the following measures:

**Storage of Firearms**

i) All firearms not in the physical possession of an officer are kept in a police armoury or safe box. Armouries are built to specific standards and are equipped with rifle racks and strong boxes secured with locks or padlocks.

ii) At stations, posts and patrol bases without permanent armouries, firearms are chained in rifle racks and firmly secured by padlock to a concrete base, in a room under twenty- four-hour guard.

iii) Pistols are secured in an immovable locked steel armoury box while in the armoury.

iv) Each armoury lock or padlock has two keys, one retained by the Officer Commanding Station and the other by the Officer in Charge of the Armoury.

**Monitoring**

i) Movement of firearms within the Service is currently monitored manually through the following authorized documents, registers and ledgers:

ii) Issue and Receipt Vouchers (S.12) - used to issue and receive firearms to and from Units and Sub- Counties at the Service Central Arms Stores, Nairobi.

iii) Ledgers maintained at Police Headquarters, recording all arms issued to each Unit or Sub-County, with date place, and voucher number.

iv) Firearm Registers (GP 87) - maintained at all Unit and Sub- County Police Headquarters for accountability of firearms holdings. Arms Movement Book - kept in the armoury for issuing firearms to officers proceeding on duty, recording the firearm description, the officer's particulars and signature.

v) Daily Arms Check Form (P139) - completed daily by Station Commanders following inspection of firearms in the armoury and affixed in the occurrence book.

vi) Disposition Board - placed in every armoury and updated daily by the Officer in Charge of the Armoury, showing all firearms held by that command.

vii) Stores Ledger and Stock Control Cards (S3 Cards) - used alongside the above to provide an auditable custody trail.

**Rapid Response System**

22) In the event of a stolen or lost firearm, the Service currently relies on a manual process involving incident reporting, mobilization of search teams and circulation of firearm particulars within the Service and to other law enforcement agencies.

23) The table below summarizes firearms lost and recovered nationally over the period under review, arising largely from attacks on police posts and stations, ambushes on officers and related incidents;

| S/no. | Region | Firearms lost | Firearms recovered | Suspects Arrested | PBC | PUI | PAKA | Finalized |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Eastern | 17 | 8 | 23 | 9 | 4 | - | 1 |
| 6 | Coast | 3 (9 rounds) | 3 | 5 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 7 | North eastern | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | - | - |
| 8 | Western | 3 | 1 | 5 | 2 | - | - | 1 |
| 9 | ATPU | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| | **TOTAL** | **42** | **30** | **56** | **24** | **17** | **-** | **4** |

24) A total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were compromised during the period, triggering arrest of 56 suspects. Of the 42 firearms lost, 30 have been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition still unaccounted for. The 56 arrests made have progressed into legal and administrative action across the affected regions. Rift Valley, Central and Eastern regions account for the highest incidence of loss, largely attributable to attacks on police posts and ambushes on officers in those areas.

25) As part of an ongoing modernization programme, the National Police Service has already begun transferring manual firearm records held in ledgers into digital (electronic

spreadsheet) form. This exercise has captured firearms held at the Service Central Arms Stores and those issued to Units and Sub- Counties, as maintained in the Arms Registry.

26) The Service further engaged ICT officers from the National Intelligence Service to develop a digital firearms system intended to replicate electronically, the movement of a firearm from the Service Central Arms Stores to an individual officer in the field. This process stalled in 2021 due to budgetary constraints, at a stage when a pilot was to be undertaken in several police divisions within Nairobi Region. The National Police Service welcomes the opportunity presented by this Petition to revive and scale up this initiative.

**Fire cycle Platform**

27) Fire cycle is a digital lifecycle firearm and ammunition management platform and a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), recently upgraded and currently operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit, where it is presently limited to tracking exhibit firearms and ammunition submitted for forensic examination. The platform is programmed for twenty- five (25) users, with provision for additional users, and can be expanded to accommodate the tracking of all state firearms as well as firearms owned by private licensed firearm holders.

**Other Proposed Technologies**

28) In addition to Firecycle, the following complementary technologies have been identified to strengthen immediate detection and tracking of irregular movement of firearms and ammunition from armouries:

i) Biometric authentication and digital registries, replacing manual ledgers with computerized armoury management integrated with fingerprint or facial recognition at issuance points.

ii) Electronic gun racks that automatically record every withdrawal and return, including the officer, date and time.

iii) Intrusion detection and alarm systems, including motion, door- contact and tamper sensors.

iv) GPS/Bluetooth tracking devices fitted to firearms where operationally practical.

v) An integrated digital armoury management system that records issuance, return, maintenance and stock levels, and automatically flags discrepancies.

vi) IoT firearm- tagging sensors on armoury doors, racks and storage containers, with tamper-evident digital seals.

vii) An SMS/email alert system notifying commanders and armourers whenever firearms or ammunition are removed outside approved procedure.

viii) Audit trail and data analytics capability to detect unusual access patterns or inventory anomalies.

ix) 24- hour CCTV surveillance with remote monitoring and motion detection within all armouries where practicable.

x) Automated perimeter and breach alarm systems linked to county command centres.

29) An indicative costing for expanding the Firecycle platform to National Police Service- wide coverage (approximately 10,000 users across 405 sub- counties) is set out below. This costing targets the National Police Service only; extension to other law enforcement agencies would attract additional costs;

| Item | Amount (Ksh) | Justification |
|---|---|---|
| Firecycle system expansion (adding approx. 10,000 new users to cover NPS-wide rollout) | 165,100,000/- | Extends the existing Fire cycle platform (already operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit under IB service-wide, covering armors and OCS in all 4 sub-counties. |
| Test firing / forensic ballistic data capture of all NPS firearms | 86,467,500 | Enables forensic capture of all Service firearms f ease of identification in the event of loss, theft or misuse. |
| Off-road motor vehicles (2 units) | 16,000,000 | Supports two mobile teams to conduct the exercise across rough terrain over a five-year |
| Fuelling of the two motor vehicles | 8,100,000/- | Based on Kshs 20,000 per sub-county across counties. |
| Recovery box | 800,000/- | Specialised fitting for the off-road vehicles to facilitate field test-firing. |
| Sub-Total | 276,467,500 | |
| Miscellaneous (3% of total) | 8,294,025/- | To cater for unforeseen costs. |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | **Kshs. 284,761,525/-** | |

30) Additional undefined costs that would need to be established with the system vendor include training costs for new users and costs of supplementary features such as ammunition chemical tagging and firearm GPS tracking (iDetect).

31) For the wider suite of complementary technologies at (E)(ii) above, a phased and scalable budget is recommended, covering: initial hardware procurement and site retrofitting; infrastructure development (secure servers, cloud storage, software licensing, network connectivity, backup and disaster recovery); training and capacity building; ongoing maintenance and operational costs; a pilot phase in high- risk counties and stations ahead of nationwide rollout; and long- term integration with national security systems.

32) It is further recommended that an annual maintenance budget of 10- 15% of total system cost be allocated for servicing, upgrades and replacement, alongside a contingency fund for damaged or stolen equipment and that supplementary funding be sought through the national security modernization budget and development partners.

33) It would enhance the ability of investigators to trace firearms used in crime through a centralized database of firearm issuance, assignment, transfers, maintenance and return, allowing rapid establishment of the history and movement of any government firearm recovered at a crime scene. It would strengthen accountability within the Service through a permanent electronic audit trail for every firearm across its operational life, deterring unauthorized use, illegal lending, diversion, loss or misuse. Integrated with existing ballistic identification technology, it would allow investigators to associate recovered bullets and cartridges with firearms used in earlier incidents.

34) It would support intelligence- led policing by enabling identification of trends in firearm deployment, loss, unauthorized movement and recurring operational patterns. It would provide real- time tracking, giving commanders instant visibility of a firearm's current location, the officer responsible, and the date and time of its last movement, and would automatically flag firearms not returned within the required period or transferred without authorization, eliminating reliance on periodic manual audits.

35) The National Police Service notes that the proposed system, while beneficial, presents the following challenges that require deliberate mitigation:

i) High implementation and recurring costs, including servers, computers, scanners, RFID/barcode equipment, software, secure communication infrastructure, maintenance and technical support.

ii) Dependence on reliable network connectivity; in remote operational areas with poor or no coverage, transactions may not upload in real time, reducing the effectiveness of real- time monitoring.

iii) Dependence on a stable power supply, with outages capable of interrupting access to firearm records.

iv) Cybersecurity risks, given that a centralized database of government firearms, deployments, armoury records and officer identities would constitute critical national security infrastructure vulnerable to hacking, malware, unauthorized access or data breaches if inadequately protected.

v) Gaps in the existing legal and policy framework, which may not comprehensively address digital firearm tracking, electronic chain of custody, data protection, access control or the evidential status of electronically generated records.

vi) The need for extensive capacity building for armourers, investigators, station commanders and ICT personnel; inadequate training risks inaccurate data entry, poor system utilization and inconsistent accountability records.

vii) System downtime and potential data loss arising from technical failure, software bugs, or server outages, in the absence of proper backup and disaster recovery mechanisms.

**Recommendations**

36) The National Police Service supports the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System, to be implemented as an enhancement to, and not an immediate replacement of, the existing manual accountability framework (GP 87 registers, S3 cards, Issue and Receipt Vouchers, Arms Movement Books and Daily Arms Check Forms), which should be retained and run in parallel during any transition.

37) Implementation should be phased, beginning with expansion of the existing Firecycle platform and a pilot in high- risk counties and stations, before nationwide rollout.

38) Adequate and dedicated funding should be allocated, including the indicative budget set out in Section F, together with an annual maintenance allocation and a contingency fund for equipment loss or damage, supplemented where possible through the national security modernization budget and development partners.

39) A review of the legal and policy framework should be undertaken to address electronic chain of custody, data protection, access controls and the evidential admissibility of digitally generated firearm records.

40) Robust cybersecurity safeguards should be built into the system from the design stage, given the sensitivity of the data involved.

41) Comprehensive training should be provided to armourers, station commanders, investigators and ICT personnel ahead of and during rollout.

42) Should expansion to other law enforcement agencies be considered, this should be planned for separately, with corresponding budgetary provision.

43) The National Police Service is of the considered view that the proposed National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System presents substantial benefits for firearm accountability, criminal investigations, intelligence gathering, forensic analysis and public confidence in policing.

44) It would significantly improve the tracing of government firearms, strengthen evidential integrity and support intelligence- led policing in addressing serious and organized crime, in line with practice in police services in other jurisdictions.

45) Its successful implementation will, however, depend on adequate funding, a sound legal framework, strong cybersecurity safeguards, effective integration with existing systems and comprehensive user training.

46) Subject to the adoption of these safeguards, the National Police Service fully supports the establishment of the proposed system as a strategic initiative that will strengthen firearm accountability and contribute to the enhancement of national security within the country.

### 3.3 Office of the Attorney General

The Solicitor General, office of the Attorney General, Hon. Shadrack J. Mose, CBS, vide a letter DAA&GPC/PPC/2026/098 dated 13th August, 2026 submitted as follows;

47) The National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) makes it an offence to lose fire arm by neglect. In particular, Section 88 as read together with eighth Schedule to said Act provides for disciplinary offences against the police. Paragraph (q) of the schedule provides that it is a disciplinary offence to ''sell, pawn, lose by neglect, make away with or willfully or negligently damage, or fail to report any loss or damage to, any arm, ammunition, accoutrement, uniform or other article of personal issue or any vehicle or other property committed to his charge belonging to the Government or for which the Government is responsible.''

48) Further, Section 92(2) of the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) also provides that, *''any officer who pawns, sells, loses by neglect, makes away with or willfully or negligently damages any firearms, ammunition, accoutrement or uniform commits an offence and is, on conviction, liable to imprisonment for term not exceeding five years, or a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand, or to both.''*

49) Whereas the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) provides for offences in relation to lose of firearms, it does not foresee tracking and tracing of lost firearms or ammunitions through digital means.

50) The Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides for identification of firearms through serial numbers. The said Act does not foresee identification of firearms through digital means.

51) Further, Section 18 of The Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides for Storage and safe custody of firearms and ammunition. Subsection 2 thereof provides that, *''person having in his possession any firearm or ammunition shall keep it at all times securely and in safe custody and in a safe condition, and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure that the firearm or ammunition is not lost or stolen and is not at any time available to any person not lawfully entitled to possess it.''*

*52)* Failure to store and secure fire arms is a punishable offence. In this regard, section 18(5) of the Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides that, *''Any person who fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding ten thousand shillings or to both.''*

53) While the architecture of the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) and the Firearms Act Cap. 114 mandate safe storage of firearms and ammunition, the said laws do not foresee digital identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition.

54) The Office considered the National Police Service Standing Orders. Whereas the Standing Orders have provisions for digital evidence, they do not provide for digital identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition.

55) The Attorney General recommends that;

i) The existing laws do not foresee digital management of weapons. Therefore, there must be a policy on this issue before the law is enacted or amended.

ii) Security is a sensitive issue. Therefore, relevant stakeholders including security agencies should be involved before any decision on this matter is taken.

iii) The impact of digitization in relation to identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition should be given serious consideration.

iv) The petition raises fundamental issues which should not be ignored considering that absence of modern tracking and tracing of missing weapons increases the likelihood of weapons being used in violent criminal activities against both civilians and officers leading to loss of lives and property.

v) The petitioner has alluded to establishing encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures upon irregular firearm movement. While such suggestion is noble, there is cost implication to it. Therefore, the issue of costs should be evaluated.

vi) The Office is of the view that the merits of the petition should be considered objectively.

## PART FOUR

### 4. COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Upon hearing from the Petitioners, Office of the Attorney General and the National Police Service, the Committee observed that—

56) The control, storage and accountability of firearms and ammunition within the National Police Service is anchored on the National Police Service Act, Sixth Schedule (Section 61(2)) B 8(c) and Chapter 14 of the Service Standing Orders and is maintained through an established manual framework of registers, ledgers and physical security measures. While this manual framework has provided a functional and auditable chain of custody that is properly maintained and supervised, it has inherent limitations in real- time monitoring, particularly in a rapidly evolving security environment.

57) Between January 2024 and June 2026, a total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were lost across the country, mainly through attacks on police installations and ambushes on officers. Of these, 30 firearms have since been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition unaccounted for and posing a continuing risk to public safety and law enforcement.

58) The Service has already undertaken preliminary steps towards digitization, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates a 'Firecycle platform'.

59) Firecycle is a digital lifecycle firearm and ammunition management platform and a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), recently upgraded and currently operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit, where it is presently limited to tracking exhibit firearms and ammunition submitted for forensic examination. The platform is programmed for twenty- five (25) users, with provision for additional users, and can be expanded to accommodate the tracking of all state firearms as well as firearms owned by private licensed firearm holders.

60) The Service further engaged ICT officers from the National Intelligence Service to develop a digital firearms system intended to replicate electronically, the movement of a firearm from the Service Central Arms Stores to an individual officer in the field. This process stalled in 2021 due to budgetary constraints, at a stage when a pilot was to be undertaken in several police divisions within Nairobi Region.

## PART FIVE

### 5. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

61) Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227, the Committee responds to the Petition as follows—

On the prayer that the National Assembly intervenes by amending the National Police Service Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service, including biometric-controlled smart armouries, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure that officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures; **the Committee recommends that within three (3) months upon adoption of this report, the Inspector General of Police should avail an implementation framework for full digitization of firearms records, including amendments to relevant laws, and the resultant budgetary requirement to the National Assembly within ninety (90) days of tabling of this report for consideration in the Budget Policy Statement 2027/28.**

**Signed:** _____ **Date:** 30/09/2026

**HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, M.P.**
**CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
PAPERS LAID
DATE: 30 SEP 2026 DAY. Wednesday
TABLED BY: Hon. Janet Sitinei MP (Vice-Chairperson)
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE: Lemale

## ANNEXURES

Annex 1: Report Adoption List

Annex 2: Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a national police firearms digital detection and tracking system

Annex 3: Minutes of proceedings

**PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**ADOPTION LIST**

**(i) Consideration and adoption of the P/No. 13 of 2026 regarding Establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System by Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow.**

**We, the undersigned, hereby affix our signatures to this Report to affirm our approval:**

**DATE:** 4/9/2026.

| | HON. MEMBER | SIGNATURE |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Hon. Muchangi Karemba,CBS, M.P.(Chairperson) | |
| 2. | Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, CBS, M.P.(Vice Chairperson) | |
| 3. | Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P. | |
| 4. | Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, CBS, M.P. | |
| 5. | Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P. | |
| 6. | Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P. | |
| 7. | Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P. | |
| 8. | Hon. Patrick Ntwiga Munene,CBS, M.P. | |
| 9. | Hon. Paul Biego Kibichy, M.P. | |
| 10. | Hon. (Eng.) Bernard Muriuki Nebart, M.P. | |
| 11. | Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P. | |
| 12. | Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P. | |
| 13. | Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P. | |
| 14. | Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P. | |
| 15. | Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P. | |

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12/6/26

# THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
# THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT (FIFTH SESSION)

## CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC PETITION

*(No. 13 of 2026)*

## REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL POLICE FIREARMS DIGITAL DETECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM

1. **Honorable Members,** Article 119 of the Constitution accords any person the right to petition Parliament to consider any matter within its authority. Further, Standing Order 225(2)(b) requires the Speaker to report to the House any Petition other than those presented by a member.

2. In this regard, **Honourable Members**, I wish to report that my office has received a Petition from *Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow, Identification No. 26xxxx07* calling for the establishment of a National Police firearms digital detection and tracking system.

3. **Honorable Members,** while the Petitioner acknowledges the provisions of Article 243 and 244 regarding establishment and functions of the National Police Service in the Constitution of Kenya, the Petitioner is concerned that several security incidents, including attack on police posts and stations in some parts of the country where officers were reportedly ambushed and firearms forcefully taken has exposed vulnerabilities in current firearm storage, monitoring and rapid response systems.

4. **Honorable Members,** the Petitioner contends that the theft or unauthorized removal of police firearms places police officers at heightened operational risk, endangers civilians and undermines public confidence in national security institutions.

5. The Petitioner observes that firearm issuance and armory management systems in many police stations remain largely manual and lack immediate electronic detection mechanisms capable of flagging unauthorized removal or tampering in real time.

6. Further, the Petitioner notes that there is presently no mandatory nationwide encrypted and automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures upon irregular firearm movement, thereby delaying rapid response and recovery efforts.

7. **Honourable Members,** the Petitioner therefore prays that the National Assembly intervenes to amend the National Police Service Act, the Firearms Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service. This, the Petitioner asserts, must include biometric-controlled smart armories, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures.

8. **Honorable Members,** having established that the matters raised in the Petition fall within the authority of this House and that they are not pending before any court of law or constitutional body, I hereby commit the Petition to the Public Petitions Committee for consideration pursuant to the Standing Orders.

9. The Committee is required to consider the Petition and report its findings to the House and to the Petitioner in accordance with Standing Order 227(2).

**I thank you.**

Wetangula

**THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES WETANG'ULA, SC, EGH, MP**
**SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**Date** 11/6/2026

**MINUTES OF THE 55TH SITTING OF THE PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2026 IN MASHUA CONFERENCE ROOM, SERENA HOTEL, MOMBASA COUNTY AT 10:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT**

1. Hon. Eric Muchangi Karemba, CBS M.P. - **Chairperson**
2. Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, CBS, M.P. - **Vice-Chairperson**
3. Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, CBS, M.P.
4. Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P.
5. Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.
6. Hon. (Eng.) Bernard Nebart Muriuki, M.P.
7. Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P.
8. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.
9. Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.
10. Hon. Paul Biego Kibichiy, M.P.

**APOLOGIES**

1. Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P.
2. Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P.
3. Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P.
4. Hon. Patrick Ntwiga Munene, CBS, M.P.
5. Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P.

**IN-ATTENDANCE**

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Mr. Oscar Namulanda - Deputy Director/HOD
2. Mr. Victor Weke - Principal Clerk Assistant II
3. Ms. Miriam Modo - Clerk Assistant I
4. Mr. Bernard Toroitich - Clerk Assistant III
5. Ms. Kafuyai Wamae - Clerk Assistant III
6. Mr. Clinton Sindiga - Legal Counsel II
7. Ms. Nancy Akinyi - Research Officer III
8. Mr. Valerian Pascal - Hansard Officer II
9. Mr. Collins Mahamba - Audio Officer
10. Ms. Fridah Ngari - Media Relation Officer
11. Mr. Paul Shani - Serjeant-at-Arms
12. Mr. Mahlon Kiprono - Intern

**MIN./PPC/2026/282: PRELIMINARIES**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and opening prayers were led by the Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.

**MIN./PPC/2026/283: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The proposed agenda was adopted having been proposed by Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P, and seconded by, Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.

**AGENDA**

1. Prayer and Preliminaries
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Confirmation of previous Minutes

4. Matters Arising
5. **Consideration and adoption of the following Public Petition Reports -**
6. **Public Petition No. 10 of 2026 regarding Strengthening Oversight transparency and inter-generational equity in public debt governance by Kiambu County Empowerment Network and the Bunge Mashinani Initiative; and**
7. **Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding Establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System.**
8. Any Other Business
9. Adjournment and Date of the Next Meeting

**MIN./PPC/2026/284: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

This agenda item was deferred to the next sitting.

**MIN./PPC/2026/194: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORTS ON VARIOUS PUBLIC PETITIONS**

**a) Public Petition No. 10 of 2026 regarding Strengthening Oversight transparency and inter-generational equity in Public Debt Governance by Kiambu County Empowerment Network and the Bunge Mashinani Initiative.**

The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report unanimously having been proposed by the Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P and seconded by the Hon. Paul Biego Kibichiy, M.P as follows:

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227, the Committee responds to the Petition as follows -

(i) On the prayer that the National Assembly strengthens its oversight role over public debt contracting, management and reporting, including regular scrutiny of borrowing decisions and debt sustainability assessments by legislating on a 24-month debt freeze from FY 2027/2028 and a mandatory bi-annual parliamentary address by the Cabinet Secretary Finance & National Treasury on the status of existing public debt in Kenya; **the Committee declines to grant the prayer on the 24-month debt freeze, but recommends that at the National Treasury ensures compliance with the statutory debt anchor target of 55 percent of GDP target of October 2028 and sustains fiscal consolidation efforts beyond this target.**

(ii) On the prayer that the National Assembly enhances the transparency and accessibility of public debt information by ensuring comprehensive and timely disclosure of debt information in digital formats that are accessible and understandable to the general public. In particular, the Petitioners propose amendments to the Public Finance Management (National Government) Regulations, 2015 to require publication, within thirty (30) days, of all new loan contracts, guarantees and information on pending bills. And the digitization of historical public debt records, in accordance with the Access to Information Act, to enhance public access, transparency and accountability; **the Committee recommends that the National Treasury, within three (3) months of tabling of this report, submits to the National Assembly amendments to the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and its attendant Regulations, to expressly require the National Treasury to establish, and maintain an up-**

**to-the-minute comprehensive Public Debt Registry, including matched debt service expenditure.**

(iii) On the prayer that National Assembly enhances and facilitates direct engagement between parliament, citizens and civil society organizations through public hearings, petitions and feedback mechanisms on debt transparency and accountability; **the Committee recommends that the National Treasury enhances public participation and stakeholder engagement during the preparation of the Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy and other key debt policy documents, including use of social media.**

**b) Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding Establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System**

The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Report unanimously having been proposed by the Hon. Joshua Kandie, MP and seconded by the Hon. Nerbert Muriuki, MP as follows –

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227, the Committee responds to the Petition as follows—

On the prayer that the National Assembly intervenes by amending the National Police Service Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service, including biometric-controlled smart armouries, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure that officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures; **the Committee recommends that the Inspector General of Police avails an implementation framework for full digitization of firearms records, including amendments to relevant laws, and the resultant budgetary requirement to the National Assembly during consideration of the Budget Policy Statement 2027/28.**

**MIN./PPC/2026/285: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Committee resolved to undertake site visits to assess the status of forest excisions within the Mount Kenya-Ontulili Block and gather further information regarding the allegations raised in the petition by the squatters.

The Committee further resolved to undertake a site visit to the Kiunga Marine National Reserve to engage with residents and establish the facts surrounding the alleged illegal allocation of land and encroachment within the Reserve. The site visits will enable the Committee to verify the issues raised and make informed determinations towards concluding the two petitions.

**MIN./PPC/2026/286: ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The |Next meeting will be held on Notice.

**Sign:** ..... **Date** 30/09/26

**HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, CBS, M.P.**
**CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE 47TH MEETING OF THE PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 6TH AUGUST, 2026 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 24, FLOOR, 5TH BUNGE TOWER AT 11:40 A.M.**

**PRESENT**

1. Hon. Muchangi Karemba, CBS M.P. - **Chairperson**
2. Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, CBS, M.P. - **Vice-Chairperson**
3. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.
4. Hon. Paul Biego Kibichiy, M.P.
5. Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P.
6. Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P.

**APOLOGIES**

1. Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P.
2. Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, CBS, M.P.
3. Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.
4. Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.
5. Hon. (Eng.) Bernard Nebart Muriuki, M.P.
6. Hon. Patrick Ntwiga Munene, CBS, M.P.
7. Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P.
8. Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P.
9. Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P.

**IN-ATTENDANCE**

**SECRETARIAT**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Ms. Miriam Modo | - | Senior Clerk Assistant |
| 2. Mr. Bernard Toroitich | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 3. Ms. Kafuyai Wamae | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 4. Mr. Rose Njuki | - | Serjeant at arms |
| 5. Mr. Clinton Sindiga | - | Legal Counsel II |
| 6. Mr. Pascal Valerian | - | Hansard Officer II |
| 7. Ms. Nancy Akinyi | - | Research Officer III |
| 8. Mr. Viola Saiya | - | Research Officer III |
| 9. Mr. Collins Mahamba | - | Audio Officer |
| 10. Ms. Felistus Muiya | - | Public Communication Officer |
| 11. Ms. Fridah Ngari | - | Media Relations Officer |
| 12. Mr. Marlon Kiprono | - | Intern |

**MIN./PPC/2026/241: PRELIMINARIES**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 11:40 am and said a word of prayer.

**MIN./PPC/2026/242: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The proposed agenda was adopted hereunder having been proposed by Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P, and seconded by, Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.

**AGENDA**

1. Prayer & Preliminaries;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes;
4. Matters Arising;
5. **Consideration and adoption of the following reports -**
   (i) Public Petition No. 59 of 2023 by Mr. Patrick Muriuki and Mr. Robert Wanjau from Nanyuki, regarding settlement of Ontulili Mount Kenya Forest Squatters;
   (ii) Public Petition No. 04 of 2024 by Hon. Mohamed Ali Mohamed, CBS, M.P, regarding the proliferation of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) in the country;
   (iii) Public Petition No. 04 of 2025 by Hon. Martins Peter Owino, M.P regarding unfair labour practices by Sukari Industries Limited in Homa Bay County; and
   (iv) Public Petition No. 18 of 2025 by Hon Machua Waithaka, MP, regarding road reserve boundaries and protection of ancestral land by the residents of Gitei village, Kiambu County.
6. **Meeting with the Attorney General on the following petitions-**
   (i) Public Petition No. 15 of 2026 by Eng. John Mruttu regarding Succession Law and Administration of Estates in Kenya; and
   (ii) Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 by Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow regarding the Establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System.
7. Any Other Business; and
8. Adjournment.

**MIN./PPC/2026/243: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

(i) The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th August, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the business transacted, having been proposed by Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Paul Biego Kibichiy, M.P.

(ii) The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th July, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the business transacted, having been proposed by Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, CBS, M.P.

(iii) The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the business transacted, having been proposed by Hon. Paul Biego Kibichiy, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, CBS, M.P.

(iv) The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th June, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the business transacted, having been proposed by Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P.

**MIN./PPC/2026/244: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF VARIOUS REPORTS**

Consideration of the Agenda was deferred; the Committee having unanimously resolved to consider and adopt the Report during a retreat due to the lack of quorum.

**MIN./PPC/2026/245:** **MEETING WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON VARIOUS PETITIONS**

Consideration of the two petitions was differed to a later date following a request by the Attorney-General.

**MIN./PPC/2026/246:** **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11th August, 2026.

**Sign:** ..... **Date** 20/08/25

**HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, CBS, M.P.**
**CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE 42ND SITTING OF THE PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 30TH JUNE, 2026 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 24, FLOOR, 3RD BUNGE TOWER AT 11:50 A.M.**

**PRESENT**

1. Hon. Muchangi Karemba, CBS M.P. - **Chairperson**
2. Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, CBS, M.P. - **Vice-Chairperson**
3. Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.
4. Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P.
5. Hon. Joshua Kandie, M.P.
6. Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.

**APOLOGIES**

1. Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P.
2. Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, CBS, M.P.
3. Hon. (Eng.) Bernard Nebart Muriuki, M.P.
4. Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P.
5. Hon. Paul Biego Kibichiy, M.P.
6. Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.
7. Hon. Patrick Ntwiga Munene, CBS, M.P.
8. Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P.
9. Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P.

**IN-ATTENDANCE**

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Mr. Victor Weke - Principal Clerk Assistant II
2. Mr. Bernard Toroitich - Clerk Assistant III
3. Ms. Kafuyai Wamae - Clerk Assistant III
4. Ms. Rose Njuki - Senior Serjeant at arms
5. Mr. Clinton Sindiga - Legal Counsel II
6. Mr. Pascal Valerian - Hansard Officer II
7. Ms. Nancy Akinyi - Research Officer III
8. Mr. Arkan Mumin - Research Officer III
9. Mr. Collins Mahamba - Audio Officer
10. Ms. Fridah Ngari - Media Relations Officer
11. Mr. Mahlon Kiprono - Intern

**THE PETITIONERS**

1. Mr. Kelly Emmanuel - Chairperson
2. Mr. Evans Juma - Assistant Secretary

**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

1. Mr. Philip Cheruiyot - Chief State Counsel
2. Mr. Ibrahim Otiende - Principal State Counsel
3. Ms. Rhoda Njuguna - Principal State Counsel
4. Mr. Lee Mutuku - Senior State Counsel

**MIN./PPC/2026/215:** **PRELIMINARIES**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 11:50 am and said a word of prayer.

**MIN./PPC/2026/216:** **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The proposed agenda was adopted hereunder having been proposed by Hon. Joshua Kandie, M.P and seconded by, Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P

**AGENDA**

1. Prayer & Preliminaries;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes;
4. Matters Arising;
5. **Meeting with the petitioners on the following Public Petitions:**
   i. **Meeting with Petitioners on Public Petition No.13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a national firearms digital detection and tracking system; and**
   ii. **Meeting with the Attorney General regarding Public Petition No.15/2026 regarding succession laws and administration of estates in Kenya and Public Petition 13/2026 regarding the establishment of a national police firearms digital detection and tracking system.**
6. Any other Business; and
7. Adjournment

**MIN./PPC/2026/217:** **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

This agenda item was deferred to the next sitting.

**MIN./PPC/2026/218:** **MEETING WITH PETITIONERS AND STAKEHOLDERS**

i. **Meeting with Petitioners on Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a national firearms digital detection and tracking system.**

The petitioners appeared before the Committee and submitted as follows-

a) The Petitioner acknowledged that Articles 243 and 244 of the Constitution of Kenya regarding the establishment and functions of the National Police Service. However, the Petitioner expressed concern that several security incidents, including attacks on police posts and stations in various parts of the country, where officers were reportedly ambushed and firearms forcefully taken, have exposed vulnerabilities in the current firearm storage, monitoring and rapid response systems.

b) He contended that the theft or unauthorized removal of police firearms, places police officers at heightened operational risk, endangers civilians and undermines public confidence in national security institutions.

c) The Petitioner observed that firearm issuance and armoury management systems in many police stations remain largely manual and lack immediate electronic detection mechanisms capable of flagging unauthorized removal or tampering in real time.

d) He noted that there is currently no mandatory nationwide encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures of irregular firearm movement, thereby delaying rapid response and recovery efforts.

**Petitioners' Prayers**

The Petitioner therefore prayed that the National Assembly intervenes by amending the National Police Service Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service, including biometric-controlled smart armouries, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure that officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures.

**Clarifications by the Petitioners**

The Petitioners expressed concern about the safety of citizens and the increasing number of incidents involving firearms being stolen from police stations.

The Petitioners submitted that a secure biometric system can be introduced and noted that several jurisdictions have modernized their weapon storage and handling systems. These jurisdictions include the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Canada. The existence of such systems in these countries demonstrates that it is feasible to implement sensor-based or biometric security systems for firearms.

**Committee Observations**

The Committee observed that—

a) The Petition raises a matter of significant public interest concerning the security, accountability and management of firearms within the National Police Service, particularly in light of reported incidents of attacks on police stations, theft of firearms and unauthorized access to police armouries.

b) The Petitioner has not demonstrated that the matter was first brought to the attention of the relevant security agencies, particularly the Office of the Inspector General of Police, to enable administrative consideration before seeking legislative intervention.

c) The Committee noted that technological solutions such as biometric-controlled armouries, electronic firearm monitoring systems and real-time encrypted alert mechanisms have been adopted in several jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Canada, with the aim of enhancing firearm accountability and preventing unauthorized access.

d) The Committee observed that while technological innovations may enhance the security of police firearms, any proposal for a national digital firearm detection and tracking system must take into account operational security, cybersecurity risks, data protection requirements, implementation costs, maintenance obligations and the institutional capacity of the National Police Service.

e) The Committee further observed that the implementation of such a system may require amendments to existing legislation, development of operational regulations and

substantial budgetary allocation, which would necessitate consultation with the relevant government agencies and stakeholders.

**Committee Recommendations**

The Committee resolved to engage -

a) The Inspector General of Police; and
b) The Office of the Attorney General.

ii. **Meeting with the Attorney General on the Public Petition No. 15 of 2026 regarding succession laws and administration of estates in Kenya and Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System.**

The Committee observed that the Office of the Attorney General had not communicated to the Committee, in writing, the Attorney General's unavailability or the delegation of her representation to the State Counsel who appeared before the Committee. Consequently, the Committee resolved to defer consideration of the matter to a later date.

**MIN./PPC/2026/219: ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd July, 2026 at a venue to be confirmed.

**Sign:** ..... **Date** 20/08/26

**HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, CBS, M.P.**
**CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**

**PRESENTATION TO THE PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE**
**PUBLIC PETITION NO. 13 OF 2026**
**PETITION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL POLICE FIREARMS DIGITAL DETECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM**

**Honourable Chairson, Honourable Members of the Committee,**
Good morning.
My name is **Emmanuel Kelly Ojow**.
I sincerely appreciate this opportunity to appear before this distinguished Committee to present my petition.
I am here as a Kenyan citizen exercising constitutional right under Article 119 to petition Parliament on a matter that concerns national security, the protection of police officers, and the safety of the Kenyan public.

# Why I Submitted this Petition

Honourable Members,
Recent incidents where police officers have been attacked and their firearms stolen have demonstrated that our current firearm management systems have vulnerabilities.
When a police firearm is lost or stolen, it does not only endanger the officer involved.
It becomes a weapon that may later be used against innocent citizens or even other police officers.
This creates a serious national security concern.
My petition is therefore inspired by one simple objective:
**To ensure that whenever a police firearm is removed without authorization, the system immediately detects it, alerts commanders, and enables rapid recovery before criminals can misuse it.**

# The Problem

From my assessment, there are several existing gaps.

1. Many firearm management systems still rely heavily on manual processes.
2. There is no nationwide automated system capable of immediately detecting unauthorized firearm removal.
3. Command structures are not automatically notified the moment an irregular movement occurs.
4. There is no integrated real-time tracking capability that can assist recovery where legally and operationally appropriate.

These challenges delay response time and increase risks to both officers and the public.

# My Proposal

Honourable Members,
My petition proposes modernization, not replacement of existing security procedures.
I respectfully request Parliament to establish a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System.
The proposed system would include:

1. Smart armouries with biometric access.
2. Digital firearm registration and audit trails.
3. Immediate electronic detection of unauthorized firearm removal.
4. Encrypted automatic alerts to Station Commanders, County Commanders and the National Police Service Command Centre.

5. Secure tracking technologies suitable for law enforcement.
6. Strong cybersecurity safeguards to protect sensitive police information.

Importantly, the system should never expose officers' locations or operational deployments to unauthorized persons.

## Benefits

If implemented, I believe the system would provide several important benefits.

1. It would improve the safety of police officers.
2. It would increase accountability over government firearms.
3. It would shorten response time whenever firearms are stolen.
4. It would improve investigations involving missing firearms.
5. It would reduce opportunities for diversion of police weapons into criminal hands.
6. It would strengthen public confidence in national security institutions.

## Legislative Recommendations

I respectfully request this Committee to recommend amendments to the National Police Service Act and any related legislation to provide for:

1. Smart digital firearm management.
2. Secure biometric armouries.
3. Automated alert systems.
4. Dedicated funding.
5. Cybersecurity safeguards.
6. Officer training.
7. Legal protection so officers are not unfairly blamed where failures arise from system deficiencies.

## Conclusion

Honourable Chairperson, and Members,

This petition is not intended to criticize the National Police Service or any government institution. Rather, it is a good-faith proposal to strengthen national security by leveraging modern technology to better protect police officers, safeguard government firearms, and enhance public safety.

Technology has transformed many sectors in Kenya, including banking, immigration, and public service delivery. I believe that, with appropriate safeguards and careful implementation, it can also strengthen firearm accountability within the National Police Service.

I therefore respectfully request this Committee to give favourable consideration to this petition and recommend the necessary legislative and administrative reforms.

Further, should this Committee, Parliament, or the relevant government agencies establish a technical working group, stakeholder forum, pilot programme, or any consultative process arising from this petition, I would be deeply honoured to contribute my ideas, more research, and commitment in any capacity deemed appropriate. My only interest is to support initiatives that strengthen national security and better protect both our police officers and the Kenyan public.

I remain committed to serving our nation and to working collaboratively with all relevant institutions in pursuit of practical, sustainable, and innovative solutions. Thank you, Honourable Chair and Honourable Members.

Below is a concise **Committee Presentation Brief** designed to present confidently within **10–15 minutes** before the Public Petitions Committee. It focuses on the strategic, legal and national security issues rather than excessive technical details.

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# PRESENTATION TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

## Petition No. 13 of 2026

**Proposal for the National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System**

**Presenter:** Kelly Ojow

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# Opening Statement (1 minute)

Hon. Chairperson and Honourable Members,

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to present this petition.

This proposal is not about purchasing another ICT system.

It is about protecting Kenyan lives, strengthening accountability within our security agencies, preventing diversion of government firearms into criminal hands, and modernizing firearm management through secure digital technologies.

The proposal seeks Parliament's support in establishing a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System as a national security infrastructure.

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# The Problem (2 minutes)

Today, Kenya still relies largely on traditional firearm management systems.

This creates several challenges:

**Missing Firearms**

Government firearms occasionally become unaccounted for.

Recovering them is difficult.

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### Manual Records

Most armouries still depend on paper registers.

Paper records can be:

- altered
- misplaced
- destroyed
- manipulated

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### Weak Accountability

Current systems make it difficult to determine:

- who handled a firearm
- when it was issued
- where it travelled
- whether it was returned

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### Criminal Diversion

When firearms enter criminal networks, tracing their movement becomes extremely difficult.

This poses a significant national security threat.

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# Why This Matters (1 minute)

Every government firearm represents public trust.

When one firearm disappears, it can contribute to:

- armed robbery
- terrorism
- banditry
- organized crime

- loss of innocent lives

This proposal is therefore about prevention rather than reaction.

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# The Proposed Solution (3 minutes)

The proposal introduces one integrated national digital platform.

Instead of relying on handwritten records, every firearm becomes digitally accountable throughout its lifecycle.

The system would include:

### 1. Digital Firearm Identity

Every firearm receives a secure encrypted digital identity.

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### 2. Biometric Armouries

Only authorized officers can issue or receive firearms using:

- fingerprints
- facial recognition
- secure authentication

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### 3. Real-Time Tracking

High-risk operational firearms can be monitored using secure technologies such as:

- GPS - Global Positioning System
- LTE - Long Term Evaluation.
- NB-IoT - Narrowband Internet of Things
- satellite backup where necessary

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### 4. Automatic Alerts

The system immediately detects:

- unauthorized movement
- tampering

- removal from armouries
- movement outside approved operational areas

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### 5. Complete Audit Trail

Every action is permanently recorded:

- issued by whom
- received by whom
- location
- time
- return status

No record can be silently altered.

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### 6. National Command Dashboard

Senior police leadership receives real-time situational awareness of firearm accountability across the country.

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# Benefits to Kenya (2 minutes)

This system would produce significant national benefits.

## Improved Public Safety

Missing firearms can be detected much earlier.

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## Reduced Corruption

Digital accountability significantly reduces opportunities for unauthorized firearm diversion.

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## Officer Protection

Police officers are also protected because the system objectively records firearm handling.

False accusations become easier to investigate.

## Better Investigations

When incidents occur, investigators immediately access complete digital histories.

## Better Resource Management

Government spends less replacing lost firearms.

Inventory becomes more accurate.

## Increased Public Confidence

Citizens gain greater confidence that government firearms are properly managed.

# Legal Foundation (1 minute)

The proposal aligns with the Constitution of Kenya by promoting:

- accountability
- transparency
- national security
- responsible use of public resources

It can also be implemented consistently with:

- National Police Service Act
- Firearms Act
- Data Protection Act
- Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act
- Public Finance Management Act

Where necessary, Parliament may consider limited amendments to strengthen digital firearm accountability.

# International Best Practice (1 minute)

Many countries have modernized firearm accountability.

These include:

- United States
- United Kingdom
- Singapore
- Australia
- Canada

Kenya has an opportunity to become Africa's leader in secure digital firearm management.

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# Addressing Likely Concerns (2 minutes)

**"Will this be expensive?"**

Initial investment exists.

However, the cost of:

- lost firearms
- investigations
- litigation
- criminal misuse
- replacement weapons

is significantly higher over time.

This system is an investment in national security.

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**"What about privacy?"**

The proposal only monitors government-issued firearms—not private citizens.

Strict safeguards, encryption and oversight would protect sensitive information.

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**"Can criminals hack the system?"**

The proposal includes:

- encryption
- cybersecurity monitoring

- audit logging
- disaster recovery
- access controls

The objective is to make the system substantially more secure than current manual processes.

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**"Will this replace police officers?"**

No.

It is a decision-support and accountability tool.

Police officers remain fully responsible for operational decisions.

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# Recommendations to Parliament (1 minute)

I respectfully request the Committee to recommend:

1. Recognition of the petition as a matter of national importance.
2. A feasibility study led by the National Police Service.
3. Development of a National Digital Firearm Accountability Framework.
4. Pilot implementation within selected police armouries.
5. Legislative review where necessary.
6. Allocation of funding through a phased implementation approach.

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# Closing Statement (1 minute)

Honourable Members,

Technology cannot eliminate crime.

But it can significantly reduce opportunities for misuse, improve accountability, and protect both our officers and our citizens.

This proposal is about building a modern police service that is trusted, accountable, and equipped for the future.

With your support, Kenya can become the first country in Africa to implement a comprehensive National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System.

I respectfully request the Committee to consider this proposal favourably.

Thank you.

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# Possible Questions from MPs (Quick Reference)

| Possible Question | Suggested Response |
|---|---|
| Why is this necessary? | Manual firearm accountability has limitations. Digital systems strengthen security, transparency, and operational efficiency. |
| Is this practical? | Yes. Similar technologies are already used globally in military, aviation, logistics, and critical infrastructure. |
| Will officers be tracked? | No. The system focuses on authorized management and accountability of government firearms, not continuous personal surveillance of officers. |
| Is it constitutional? | Yes. It supports constitutional principles of accountability, security, prudent use of public resources, and can be implemented with appropriate legal safeguards. |
| Can Kenya afford it? | A phased rollout beginning with high-risk armouries minimizes costs while delivering measurable benefits. |
| What happens if the system fails? | The proposal includes backup systems, disaster recovery, redundancy, and manual contingency procedures to ensure continuity. |

## Key Message for Kelly

If the Committee remembers only one thing, it should be this:

**"This proposal is not simply an ICT project—it is a national security reform. It aims to ensure that every government firearm is securely accounted for from issuance to return, thereby protecting officers, safeguarding public resources, preventing diversion to criminals, and ultimately saving lives."**

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OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE
NAIROBI – KENYA

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When replying please quote Ref.
No. and Date

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**NPS/IG/SEC/2/6/13/8 VOL.XXXVI/62**

**29th July, 2026**

**The Clerk National Assembly**
Parliament Buildings
P.O. Box 41842-00100
**NAIROBI.**

**RESPONSE TO PUBLIC PETITION NO. 13 OF 2026 ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL POLICE FIREARMS DIGITAL DETECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM.**

Reference is made to your letter Ref. DAA&GPC/PPC/2026/114 dated 15th July, 2026, on the above subject.

The Public Petitions Committee informed the National Police Service of a Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 seeking the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System and requested the Service to submit a response addressing the issues raised and present specific recommendations on the prayers sought by the Petitioner.

The Service hereby responds as follows;

**OVERVIEW**

The National Police Service takes note of the concerns raised by the Petitioner regarding the vulnerability of firearms in police custody, arising from incidents in which police posts and stations have been attacked and officers ambushed and robbed of their firearms. The Service appreciates that the proposal to establish a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System is a timely and welcome intervention that has the potential to significantly strengthen firearm accountability, enhance investigative and intelligence capability and improve national security.

Currently, control, storage and accountability of firearms and ammunition within the National Police Service is anchored on the National Police Service Act, Sixth

Schedule (Section 61(2)) B 8(c) and Chapter 14 of the Service Standing Orders and is maintained through an established manual framework of registers, ledgers and physical security measures. While this manual framework has provided a functional and auditable chain of custody that is properly maintained and supervised, the Service acknowledges that it has inherent limitations in real-time monitoring, particularly in a rapidly evolving security environment.

Between January 2024 and June 2026, a total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were lost across the country, mainly through attacks on police installations and ambushes on officers. Of these, 30 firearms have since been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition unaccounted for and posing a continuing risk to public safety and law enforcement. These incidents underscore the urgency of enhancing the current accountability framework.

The Service has already undertaken preliminary steps towards digitisation, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates the Firecycle platform, a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), which can be expanded to support Service-wide tracking.

Having reviewed the current framework against the proposed digital system, and having weighed the attendant benefits against the implementation challenges, the National Police Service fully supports, in principle, the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System, subject to adequate funding, a sound legal and policy framework, robust cyber security safeguards and comprehensive user training, as elaborated in the sections that follow.

## CURRENT FIREARMS ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

The National Police Service maintains accountability for firearms and ammunition through the following measures:

**(i) Storage of Firearms**

- All firearms not in the physical possession of an officer are kept in a police armoury or safe box.
- Armouries are built to specific standards and are equipped with rifle racks and strong boxes secured with locks or padlocks.
- At stations, posts and patrol bases without permanent armouries, firearms are chained in rifle racks and firmly secured by padlock to a concrete base, in a room under twenty-four-hour guard.
- Pistols are secured in an immovable locked steel armoury box while in the armoury.

- Each armoury lock or padlock has two keys, one retained by the Officer Commanding Station and the other by the Officer in Charge of the Armoury.

**(ii) Monitoring**

Movement of firearms within the Service is currently monitored manually through the following authorised documents, registers and ledgers:

- Issue and Receipt Vouchers (S.12) – used to issue and receive firearms to and from Units and Sub-Counties at the Service Central Arms Stores, Nairobi.
- Ledgers maintained at Police Headquarters, recording all arms issued to each Unit or Sub-County, with date place, and voucher number.
- Firearm Registers (GP 87) – maintained at all Unit and Sub-County Police Headquarters for accountability of firearms holdings.
- Arms Movement Book – kept in the armoury for issuing firearms to officers proceeding on duty, recording the firearm description, the officer's particulars and signature.
- Daily Arms Check Form (P139) – completed daily by Station Commanders following inspection of firearms in the armoury and affixed in the occurrence book.
- Disposition Board – placed in every armoury and updated daily by the Officer in Charge of the Armoury, showing all firearms held by that command.
- Stores Ledger and Stock Control Cards (S3 Cards) – used alongside the above to provide an auditable custody trail.

**(iii) Rapid Response System**

In the event of a stolen or lost firearm, the Service currently relies on a manual process involving incident reporting, mobilisation of search teams and circulation of firearm particulars within the Service and to other law enforcement agencies.

**DATA ON LOSS AND RECOVERY OF POLICE FIREARMS (JANUARY 2024 – JUNE 2026)**

The table below summarises firearms lost and recovered nationally over the period under review, arising largely from attacks on police posts and stations, ambushes on officers and related incidents:

| S/No. | Region | Firearms Lost | Firearms Recovered | Suspects Arrested | PBC | PUI | PAKA | Finalized |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Nyanza | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| 2 | Rift Valley | 10 (75 rounds) | 6 | 9 | 3 | 7 | - | - |
| 3 | Central | 12 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 2 | - | 2 |
| 4 | Nairobi | 2 (23 rounds) | 2 | - | - | 2 | - | - |

| S/No. | Region | Firearms Lost | Firearms Recovered | Suspects Arrested | PBC | PUI | PAKA | Finalized |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Eastern | 17 | 8 | 23 | 9 | 4 | - | 1 |
| 6 | Coast | 3 (9 rounds) | 3 | 5 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 7 | North Eastern | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | - | - |
| 8 | Western | 3 | 1 | 5 | 2 | - | - | 1 |
| 9 | ATPU | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| | **TOTAL** | **42** | **30** | **56** | **24** | **17** | - | **4** |

A total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were compromised during the period, triggering arrest of 56 suspects. Of the 42 firearms lost, 30 have been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition still unaccounted for. The 56 arrests made have progressed into legal and administrative action across the affected regions. Rift Valley, Central and Eastern regions account for the highest incidence of loss, largely attributable to attacks on police posts and ambushes on officers in those areas.

## STATUS OF DIGITISATION OF FIREARM RECORDS

As part of an ongoing modernisation programme, the National Police Service has already begun transferring manual firearm records held in ledgers into digital (electronic spreadsheet) form. This exercise has captured firearms held at the Service Central Arms Stores and those issued to Units and Sub-Counties, as maintained in the Arms Registry.

The Service further engaged ICT officers from the National Intelligence Service to develop a digital firearms system intended to replicate electronically, the movement of a firearm from the Service Central Arms Stores to an individual officer in the field. This process stalled in 2021 due to budgetary constraints, at a stage when a pilot was to be undertaken in several police divisions within Nairobi Region. The National Police Service welcomes the opportunity presented by this Petition to revive and scale up this initiative.

## THE PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICE FIREARMS DIGITAL DETECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM

### (i) Firecycle Platform

Firecycle is a digital lifecycle firearm and ammunition management platform and a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), recently upgraded and currently operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit, where it is presently limited to tracking exhibit firearms and ammunition submitted for forensic examination. The platform is programmed for twenty-five (25) users, with provision for additional users, and can be expanded to accommodate the tracking of all state firearms as well as firearms owned by private licensed firearm holders.

**(ii) Other Proposed Technologies**

In addition to Firecycle, the following complementary technologies have been identified to strengthen immediate detection and tracking of irregular movement of firearms and ammunition from armouries:

- Biometric authentication and digital registries, replacing manual ledgers with computerised armoury management integrated with fingerprint or facial recognition at issuance points.
- Electronic gun racks that automatically record every withdrawal and return, including the officer, date and time.
- Intrusion detection and alarm systems, including motion, door-contact and tamper sensors.
- GPS/Bluetooth tracking devices fitted to firearms where operationally practical.
- An integrated digital armoury management system that records issuance, return, maintenance and stock levels, and automatically flags discrepancies.
- IoT firearm-tagging sensors on armoury doors, racks and storage containers, with tamper-evident digital seals.
- An SMS/email alert system notifying commanders and armourers whenever firearms or ammunition are removed outside approved procedure.
- Audit trail and data analytics capability to detect unusual access patterns or inventory anomalies.
- 24-hour CCTV surveillance with remote monitoring and motion detection within all armouries where practicable.
- Automated perimeter and breach alarm systems linked to county command centres.

**INDICATIVE BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS**

An indicative costing for expanding the Firecycle platform to National Police Service-wide coverage (approximately 10,000 users across 405 sub-counties) is set out below. This costing targets the National Police Service only; extension to other law enforcement agencies would attract additional costs.

| S/No. | Item | Amount (Kshs) | Justification |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Firecycle system expansion (adding approx. 10,000 new users to cover NPS-wide rollout) | 165,100,000/- | Extends the existing Firecycle platform (already operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit under IB service-wide, covering armorers and OCS in all 4 sub-counties. |
| 2. | Test firing / forensic ballistic data capture of all NPS firearms | 86,467,500/- | Enables forensic capture of all Service firearms fc ease of identification in the event of loss, theft or misuse. |

| S/No. | Item | Amount (Kshs) | Justification |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3. | Off-road motor vehicles (2 units) | 16,000,000/- | Supports two mobile teams to conduct the te exercise across rough terrain over a five-yea |
| 4. | Fuelling of the two motor vehicles | 8,100,000/- | Based on Kshs 20,000 per sub-county across counties. |
| 5. | Recovery box | 800,000/- | Specialised fitting for the off-road vehicles t facilitate field test-firing. |
| | **Sub-Total** | **276,467,500/-** | |
| 6. | Miscellaneous (3% of total) | 8,294,025/- | To cater for unforeseen costs. |
| | **GRAND TOTAL** | **Kshs 284,761,525/-** | |

Additional undefined costs that would need to be established with the system vendor include training costs for new users and costs of supplementary features such as ammunition chemical tagging and firearm GPS tracking (iDetect).

For the wider suite of complementary technologies at (E)(ii) above, a phased and scalable budget is recommended, covering: initial hardware procurement and site retrofitting; infrastructure development (secure servers, cloud storage, software licensing, network connectivity, backup and disaster recovery); training and capacity building; ongoing maintenance and operational costs; a pilot phase in high-risk counties and stations ahead of nationwide rollout; and long-term integration with national security systems.

It is further recommended that an annual maintenance budget of 10–15% of total system cost be allocated for servicing, upgrades and replacement, alongside a contingency fund for damaged or stolen equipment and that supplementary funding be sought through the national security modernisation budget and development partners.

**MERITS OF THE PROPOSED SYSTEM**

- It would enhance the ability of investigators to trace firearms used in crime through a centralised database of firearm issuance, assignment, transfers, maintenance and return, allowing rapid establishment of the history and movement of any government firearm recovered at a crime scene.
- It would strengthen accountability within the Service through a permanent electronic audit trail for every firearm across its operational life, deterring unauthorised use, illegal lending, diversion, loss or misuse.
- Integrated with existing ballistic identification technology, it would allow investigators to associate recovered bullets and cartridges with firearms used in earlier incidents.

- It would support intelligence-led policing by enabling identification of trends in firearm deployment, loss, unauthorised movement and recurring operational patterns.
- It would provide real-time tracking, giving commanders instant visibility of a firearm's current location, the officer responsible, and the date and time of its last movement, and would automatically flag firearms not returned within the required period or transferred without authorisation, eliminating reliance on periodic manual audits.

**CHALLENGES AND RISKS TO BE MANAGED**

The National Police Service notes that the proposed system, while beneficial, presents the following challenges that require deliberate mitigation:

- High implementation and recurring costs, including servers, computers, scanners, RFID/barcode equipment, software, secure communication infrastructure, maintenance and technical support.
- Dependence on reliable network connectivity; in remote operational areas with poor or no coverage, transactions may not upload in real time, reducing the effectiveness of real-time monitoring.
- Dependence on a stable power supply, with outages capable of interrupting access to firearm records.
- Cybersecurity risks, given that a centralised database of government firearms, deployments, armoury records and officer identities would constitute critical national security infrastructure vulnerable to hacking, malware, unauthorised access or data breaches if inadequately protected.
- Gaps in the existing legal and policy framework, which may not comprehensively address digital firearm tracking, electronic chain of custody, data protection, access control or the evidential status of electronically generated records.
- The need for extensive capacity building for armourers, investigators, station commanders and ICT personnel; inadequate training risks inaccurate data entry, poor system utilisation and inconsistent accountability records.
- System downtime and potential data loss arising from technical failure, software bugs, or server outages, in the absence of proper backup and disaster recovery mechanisms.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The National Police Service supports the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System, to be implemented as an enhancement to, and not an immediate replacement of, the existing manual

accountability framework (GP 87 registers, S3 cards, Issue and Receipt Vouchers, Arms Movement Books and Daily Arms Check Forms), which should be retained and run in parallel during any transition.

- Implementation should be phased, beginning with expansion of the existing Firecycle platform and a pilot in high-risk counties and stations, before nationwide rollout.
- Adequate and dedicated funding should be allocated, including the indicative budget set out in Section F, together with an annual maintenance allocation and a contingency fund for equipment loss or damage, supplemented where possible through the national security modernisation budget and development partners.
- A review of the legal and policy framework should be undertaken to address electronic chain of custody, data protection, access controls and the evidential admissibility of digitally generated firearm records.
- Robust cybersecurity safeguards should be built into the system from the design stage, given the sensitivity of the data involved.
- Comprehensive training should be provided to armourers, station commanders, investigators and ICT personnel ahead of and during rollout.
- Should expansion to other law enforcement agencies be considered, this should be planned for separately, with corresponding budgetary provision.

**CONCLUSION**

The National Police Service is of the considered view that the proposed National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System presents substantial benefits for firearm accountability, criminal investigations, intelligence gathering, forensic analysis and public confidence in policing.

It would significantly improve the tracing of government firearms, strengthen evidential integrity and support intelligence-led policing in addressing serious and organised crime, in line with practice in police services in other jurisdictions.

Its successful implementation will, however, depend on adequate funding, a sound legal framework, strong cybersecurity safeguards, effective integration with existing systems and comprehensive user training.

Subject to the adoption of these safeguards, the National Police Service fully supports the establishment of the proposed system as a strategic initiative that will strengthen firearm accountability and contribute to the enhancement of national security within the country.

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Forwarded for your information and further administrative action.

**MATHEW KUTOH**
*for*: **INSPECTOR GENERAL**
**NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE.**

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**Our Ref: AG/CONF/6/B/62** **13th August 2026**

**Your Ref: DAA&GPC/PPC/2026/098**

**Mr. Samuel Njoroge, CBS**
Clerk of the National Assembly
Office of the Clerk
P.O. Box 41842-00100
**NAIROBI**

**RE: INVITATION TO A MEETING WITH PUBLIC PETITION COMMITTEE**

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 22nd June 2026 Ref. DAA&GPC/PPC/2026/098 inviting this Office to a meeting to make submissions addressing issues raised in the petition and make specific recommendations to address the prayers sought by the petitioners in the following petition:

**P/No. 13 of 2026 by Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow regarding the Establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System.**

The Office has considered the petition and notes as follows:

1. The National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) makes it an offence to lose fire arm by neglect. In particular, Section 88 as read together with eighth Schedule to said Act provides for disciplinary offences against the police. Paragraph (q) of the schedule provides that it is a disciplinary offence to *"sell, pawn, lose by neglect, make away with or willfully or negligently damage, or fail to report any loss or damage to, any arm, ammunition, accoutrement, uniform or other article of personal issue or any vehicle or other property committed to his charge belonging to the Government or for which the Government is responsible."*

2. Further, Section 92(2) of the **National Police Service Act (Cap. 84)** also

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*ISO 9001:2008 Certified*

provides that, *"any officer who pawns, sells, loses by neglect, makes away with or willfully or negligently damages any firearms, ammunition, accoutennent or uniform commits an offence and is, on conviction, liable to imprisonment for term not exceeding five years, or a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand, or to both."*

3. Whereas the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) provides for offences in relation to lose of firearms, it does not foresee tracking and tracing of lost firearms or ammunitions through digital means.

4. The Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides for identification of firearms through serial numbers. **The said Act does not foresee identification of firearms through digital means**.

5. Further, Section 18 of The Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides for Storage and safe custody of firearms and ammunition. **Subsection 2** thereof provides that, *"person having in his possession any firearm or ammunition shall keep it at all times securely and in safe custody and in a safe condition, and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure that the firearm or ammunition is not lost or stolen and is not at any time available to any person not lawfully entitled to possess it."*

6. Failure to store and secure fire arms is a punishable offence. In this regard, section 18(5) of the Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides that, *"Any person who fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding ten thousand shillings or to both."*

7. While the architecture of the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) and the Firearms Act Cap. 114 mandate safe storage of firearms and ammunition, the said laws do not foresee digital identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition.

8. The Office considered the National Police Service Standing Orders. Whereas the Standing Orders have provisions for digital evidence, they do not provide for digital identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition.

**Recommendations**

9. In light of the foregoing, the Committee should take note that:
   (a) The existing laws do not foresee digital management of weapons. Therefore, **there must be a policy** on this issue before the law is enacted or amended.

(b) Security is a sensitive issue. Therefore, relevant **stakeholders** including security agencies should be involved before any decision on this matter is taken.

(c) The **impact of digitization** in relation to identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition should be given serious consideration.

(d) The petition raises fundamental issues which should not be ignored considering that absence of modern tracking and tracing of missing weapons increases the likelihood of weapons being used in violent criminal activities against both civilians and officers leading to loss of lives and property.

(e) The petitioner has alluded to establishing encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures upon irregular firearm movement. While such suggestion is noble, there is cost implication to it. Therefore, the issue of costs should be evaluated.

(f) The Office is of the view that the merits of the petition should be considered objectively.

We trust that what we have stated above will be of assistance and that you will be pleased to be guided accordingly.

**Hon. Shadrack J. Mose, CBS**
**SOLICITOR GENERAL**

HARAMBEE