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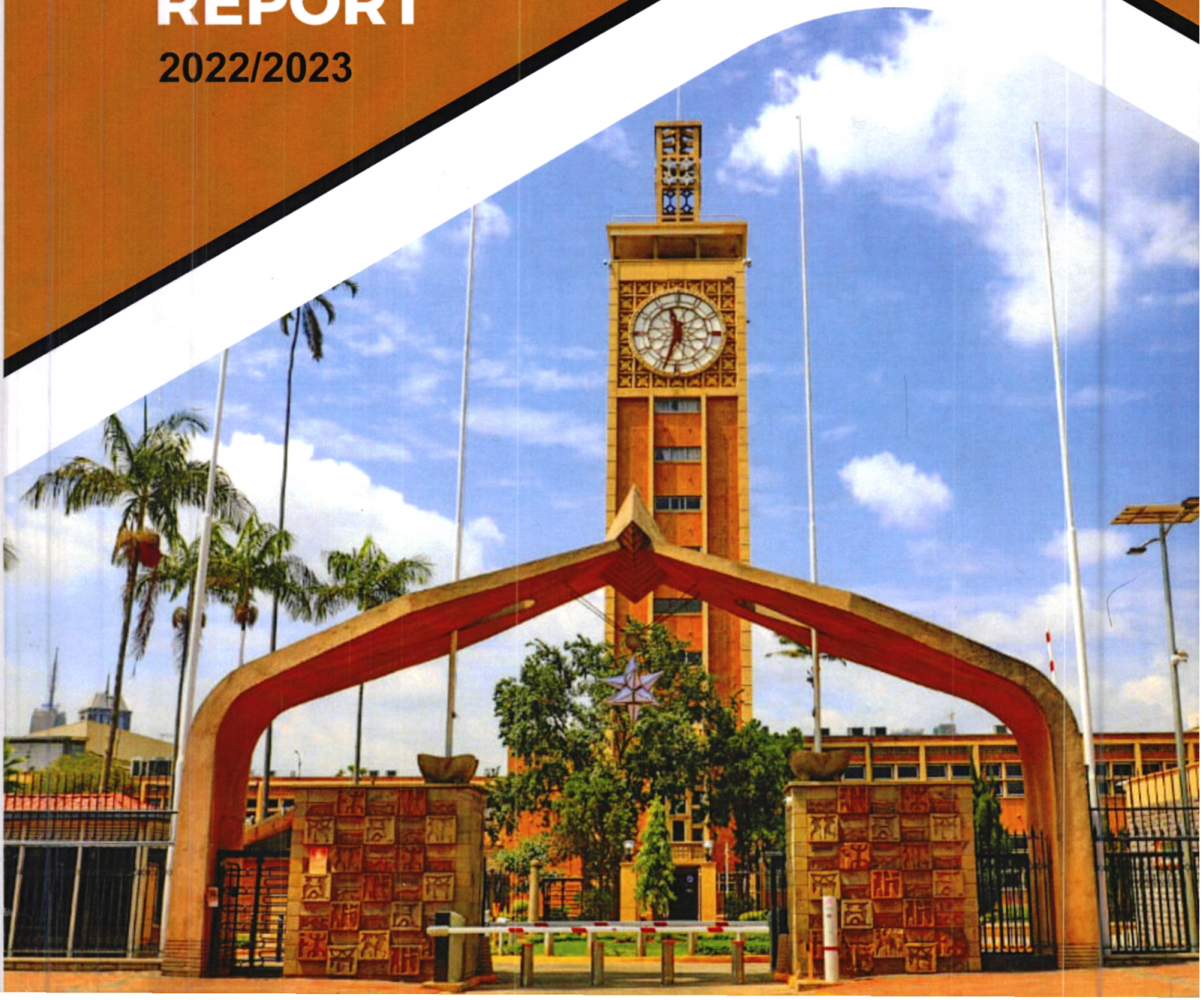
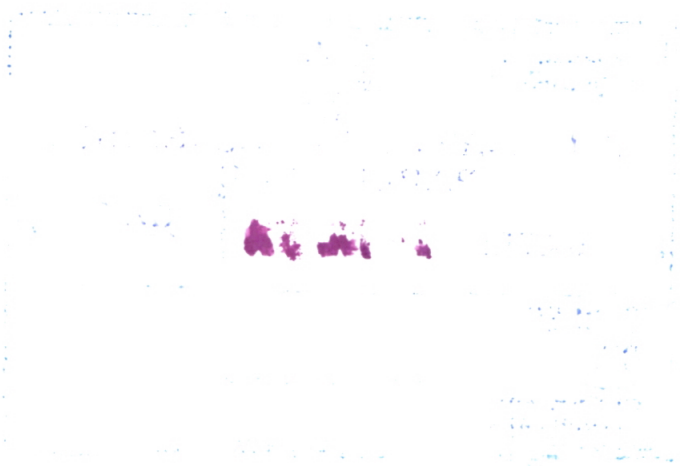
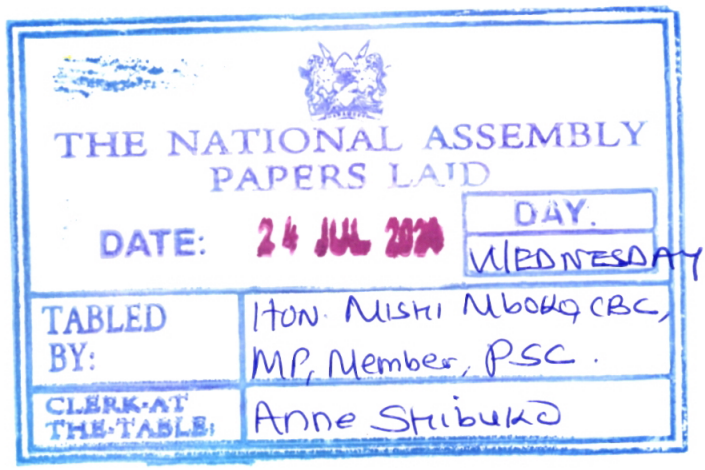
THE PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023







Annual Report of the Parliamentary Service Commission

2022/2023

VISION

A democratic and People-Centered Parliament

MISSION

To facilitate Members of Parliament to effectively and efficiently discharge their constitutional mandate of representation, legislation and oversight

Core Values

- Professionalism
- Impartiality
- Responsiveness
- Integrity& Accountability
- Cooperation & Consultation
- Inclusiveness

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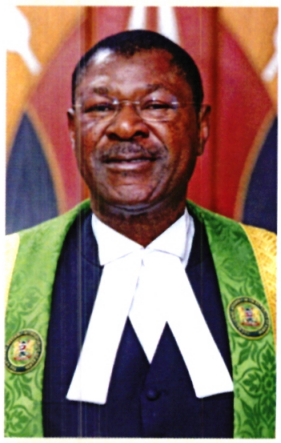
Abbreviations

AFROPAC	African Organization of Public Accounts Committees
BPS	Budget Policy Statement
CAF	County Assemblies Forum
CoG	Council of County Governors
CPA	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
CPST	Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training
CRA	Commission on Revenue Allocation
EAC	East African Community
EAC-IPG	East African Community – Inter-Parliamentary Games
EALA	East African Legislative Assembly
EU	European Union
FP-ICGLR	Forum of Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
FY	Financial Year
HAK	Hansard Association of Kenya
ICPAK	Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IBEC	Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council
IEBC	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management Information System
IHRM	Institute of Human Resource Management
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union;
ISMS	Integrated Security Management System
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
LSK	Law Society of Kenya
MP	Member of Parliament
OACPS	Organization of African Caribbean Pacific
PAP	Pan- African Parliament
PSC	Parliamentary Service Commission
SRC	Salaries and Remuneration Commission



Foreword by the Speaker of the National Assembly and Chairman of the Parliamentary Service Commission

I am delighted to present to you the Annual Report of the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) for the Financial Year 2022-2023. This report covers the period between 1st July, 2022 and 30th June, 2023.

The period under review witnessed a transition from the 5th Commission to the 6th Commission and from the 12th Parliament to the 13th Parliament following the 9th August, 2022 General Election. I therefore take this opportunity to thank and commend the Members of the 5th Commission, which held office up to 10th November, 2022. The Commission leaves a legacy of excellence, and I am pleased to have taken over from this committed team.

I also take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to all the Members of the 13th Parliament on their successful election to the august House. I am incredibly humbled by the confidence the Honourable Members demonstrated in me, by electing me to be the Speaker of the National Assembly and Chairman of the Parliamentary Service Commission. I am excited about the possibilities that this term presents and confident that together, we will fulfil our respective mandates.

I congratulate my fellow Commissioners for their appointment to the 6th Commission. The Commission is deeply honoured by the trust that Kenyan citizens, as expressed through their elected representatives, have placed in us. We acknowledge the weight of responsibility that comes with these positions and wish to reaffirm our unwavering dedication to providing exceptional service.

The work of the Commission over the past year has been extensive and has made important contributions towards the achievement of its vision of a people-centered and democratic Parliament.

The work of the Commission over the past year has been extensive and has made important contributions towards the achievement of its vision of a people-centered and democratic Parliament. This includes facilitating the transition from the 12th to the 13th Parliament, the successful implementation of programmes to promote the ideals of parliamentary democracy, conclusion of pending business, efficient budgeting, control of expenditure and preparation of estimates. To foster an efficient and effective Parliament, the Commission invested considerably in training and skills development for both the new Parliament and the new Members of the Commission. I am confident that this investment will yield positive results in the coming years.

The Commission continued to optimise the capacity of the two Houses by improving facilities and services for both Members and staff. In this regard, the Commission undertook infrastructural developments in its continued quest to provide adequate amenities for Members and staff. The almost complete Bunge Tower and the refurbishment of various facilities within the Parliament Square stand testament to this commitment.

The Commission also recognises the central role that Kenyans play in governance. This commitment continues to be seen in its provision of critical support to both the Senate and the National Assembly in enhancing public trust through proactive outreach, public participation, openness through the

broadcasting of House proceedings and facilitating the public's access to Parliament. Further, in the promotion of democracy and good governance, the Commission facilitated the process of recruitment of Commissioners for the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and recruited one Commissioner of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) in accordance with Article 230 of the Constitution.

The 6th Commission also took significant measures to ensure compliance with Article 249(3) of the Constitution, which requires that the budget for each Commission and independent office must have a separate vote. Consequently, the Commission facilitated the creation of Vote 2044 for the Senate, effectively separating Senate operations and finances from those of the Commission. This move reinforces the Commission's independence and distinct role in supporting Parliament, while remaining separate from the Houses of Parliament.

The success of this Commission is directly linked to the hard work of all teams. The institution witnessed extraordinary teamwork in the year under review. I thank every team member, including our staff, the Management, fellow Commissioners and Members of Parliament, for their energy, commitment and consistency in driving the vision and mission of the Commission forward. This synergy will continue to place Parliament in a strong position to capture the opportunities ahead.

As we proceed to the next financial year, the focus of the Commission will be on upscaling its provision of services and facilities for an effective and efficient Parliament. We also aim to build on our expertise to ensure that we achieve our constitutional mandate of being a major participant in the process of good governance, upholding the sovereignty of the people and promoting constitutionalism.

I look forward to the years ahead with confidence.

Thank you.

RT. HON. SEN. (DR.) MOSES F. M. WETANG'ULA, EGH, MP.,
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY / CHAIRMAN,
PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION.

The Parliamentary Service continued to be a beacon of exemplary administrative and technical proficiency. This was evidenced by its remarkably low employee turnover rate. The requests for the secondment of its officers to prestigious roles in the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the offices of Clerks of County Assemblies, and various ministries, further underscore the esteemed reputation and exceptional calibre of its staff.

The major challenges experienced during this period were the delays in considering Commission Papers especially during the electioneering period, and budget constraints in the funding of the Commission's priority projects.

The horizon looks bright and with continued determination and collective effort, the Commission is poised to achieve even more significant milestones.

J. M. NYEGENYE, CBS,
CLERK OF THE SENATE & SECRETARY, PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION



Preface by the Clerk of the Senate/ Secretary, Parliamentary Service Commission

This Annual Report for the Financial Year 2022/2023 is presented pursuant to Article 254 of the Constitution, which mandates each Commission and holder of an independent office to submit an annual report to the President and Parliament.

The report relates to the work of the Commission during the period under review and is presented in the context of the mandate of the Commission under Article 127(6) of the Constitution and the 2019-2030 Strategic Plan, from which the Commission derives its strategic objectives.

The Financial Year 2022/2023 was a period of significant transition and achievement following the 2022 general election. During the period under review, the Commission ensured Members settled into Parliament following the electioneering period and subsequent swearing-in of Members of the 13th Parliament. Members underwent a comprehensive orientation and induction process as well as various training courses, all geared towards building their capacity to be able to discharge their legislative, representative and oversight roles.

During the period, the Commission was able to secure resources for the unique expenditures associated with the inaugural year of a new Parliament, including induction meetings, medical cover, transport and gratuities. The Commission engaged with various stakeholders, including the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC), the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) and Members of Parliament to address the unique challenges of the 13th Parliament.

The horizon looks bright, and with continued determination and collective effort, the Commission is poised to achieve even more significant milestones.

Following the expiry of the terms of the Chairperson and Commissioners of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) provided secretariat services and resources to the Selection Panel for the appointment of Chairperson and Commissioners for the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission. The Commission also conducted the recruitment of the PSC nominee to the Salaries and Remuneration Commission.

Further, the Commission focused on the completion of the Bunge Tower to create a safe and secure working environment for Members and staff and allocated resources for the construction of an ultra-modern training facility for the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST).

In promoting Parliamentary Diplomacy, the Commission hosted foreign delegations from the Kingdom of Eswatini, The Gambia, Zambia, Uganda and Malawi; supported the hosting of the Association for Africa Public Accounts Committees and participated in the East Africa Community Inter-Parliamentary Games. To realize the gains registered in the Financial Year 2022/2023, the Commission held a total of thirty-nine (39) meetings, considered ninety-seven (97) papers and passed one hundred and seven resolutions (107).

Commissioners



Rt. Hon. Sen. (Dr.) Moses F. M. Wetang'ula, EGH, MP

The Rt. Honourable Sen. (Dr). Moses M. Wetangula, EGH, MP, serves as the Speaker of the National Assembly and Chairman of the Parliamentary Service Commission.

The Rt. Hon. Speaker Wetangula has dedicated over forty years to public service, encompassing roles in all three branches of Government. His career includes serving as a Magistrate, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Trade, Member of Parliament for Sirisia Constituency, Senator for Bungoma County and the first Senate Minority Leader. Additionally, Speaker Wetangula is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and an astute legislator with an exceptional grasp of parliamentary practices and procedures.



Sen. Joyce Korir, MP

Hon. Sen. Joyce Korir is the Vice-Chairperson of the PSC. She is the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Mortgage and Car Loan Schemes for Members and Staff of Parliament.

She has served in various capacities as a leader and is currently serving as a nominated Member of Parliament in the Senate. Previously, she served as a Councillor (2003-2013) and a Deputy Speaker in the County Assembly of Bomet (2013-2017). She has also served as a County Woman Representative of Bomet in the National Assembly (2017-2022).



Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, EBS, MP

Hon. Patrick Makau is a member of PSC and the Member of Parliament for Mavoko Constituency.

He was the Chairman of the Security and Development Committee of the Commission during the period under review. He is a third-term Member of Parliament with a wide array of experience in public affairs, having served as an elected Councillor and Mayor in the defunct Municipal Council of Mavoko before joining Parliament.



Hon. Mishi Juma Khamisi Mboko, CBS, MP

Hon. Mishi Juma Khamisi is a third-term Member of Parliament for Likoni Constituency. She was the Chairperson of the Information and Public Communication Committee of the Commission during the period under review.

She holds a Master of Arts in International Relations and boasts of a unique blend of experience and expertise in public communications.



Hon. Faith Wairimu Gitau, MP

Hon. Faith Wairimu Gitau has been the County Woman Representative for Nyandarua County since 2017. She was the Chairperson of the Tender and Procurement Committee of the Commission during the period under review.

She has extensive experience in administration, human resource management and public affairs having worked with international organizations such as the UN and UNESCO.



Hon. Sen. Erick Okongo Mogeni, SC, MP

Sen. Erick Okongo Mogeni is the Senator for Nyamira County. During the period under review, he was the Chairperson of the Members' Welfare Committee of the Commission.

He is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya with a Masters degree in Leadership and Governance from Jomo Kenyatta University. He is a Senior Counsel and has served the country in various capacities, including as Chairman of the Kenya Anti-Corruption Advisory Board, and Member of the Council of Legal Education, Law Society of Kenya, Taskforce on Judicial Reforms and Media Council of Kenya, among others.



Hon. Mohamed Ali Mohamed, HSC MP

Hon. Mohamed Ali Mohamed is the Member of Parliament for Nyali Constituency and is serving his second term. He was the Chairperson of the Staff Welfare Committee of the Commission during the period under review.

He is a seasoned journalist with a career spanning two decades, having served as a dedicated and influential voice in journalism since 2002. He has served in various media stations, including Pwani FM and KBC, and as a Radio Producer and TV producer. He also served in KTN as the Chief Investigations Editor of the renowned investigative show 'Jicho Pevu'.



Hon. Sen. John Kinyua, MP

Sen. John Kinyua joined Parliament in 2017 as the Senator of Laikipia County. He chaired the Commission Committee on Finance during the period under review.

His journey in public service began earlier, as a Councillor in the Laikipia County Council from 2007 to 2013. He possesses a unique blend of legal acumen and scientific knowledge, owing to his diverse professional background as a lawyer and holder of a BSC in Chemistry and Botany.



Hon. Rachel Ameso

Hon. Ameso is a non-MP Member of the Parliamentary Service Commission, pursuant to Article 127(2)(d) of the Constitution. She was the Chairperson of the CPST Board during the period under review.

She has made significant contributions to the political landscape and the field of Human Resource Management, with a career spanning over three decades. She also served as a County Woman Representative of Kakamega in the National Assembly in the 11th Parliament.



Hon. Johnson Muthama

Hon. Johnson Muthama is a non-MP Member of the Parliamentary Service Commission, pursuant to Article 127(2)(d) of the Constitution. He was the chairperson of the Audit Committee of the Commission during the period under review.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Arden University and is a graduate of the Gemological Institute of America. He is also an experienced Legislator who served as the Machakos County Senator and Senate Minority Whip between 2013 and 2017, and Member of the National Assembly and the Government Chief Whip in the 10th Parliament from 2007 to 2013.



Mr. Jeremiah M. Nyegenye, CBS

Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye is the Clerk to the Senate/ Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission. He is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a Certified Public Secretary.

Mr. Nyegenye joined the Parliamentary Service in 2007, was tasked to establish the first legal office in the National Assembly, and later served as the inaugural Director of Legal Services. He was appointed the Clerk of the Senate/ Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission in October, 2012.

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the activities of the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) during the Financial Year 2022/2023. It details the Commission's accomplishments in the year, including the transition to the new Parliament, the appointment of various office holders, the processes and initiatives undertaken to ensure the smooth functioning of the new Parliament and the continuation of pending projects to ensure continuity and efficiency, among others.

Chapter 1 of the report provides for the **Governance and Institutional Framework** of the Parliamentary Service Commission. It sets out the constitutional basis for this report and notes that the achievements presented in this report are anchored on the strategic objectives set out in the PSC Strategic Plan (2019-2030). It also highlights significant transitions in the institution marked by the inauguration of the 6th Commission and the commencement of the term of the13th Parliament.

Chapter 2 focuses on the provision of **Services and Facilities to Members and Staff of Parliament.** It notes that in pursuit of a more effective and efficient Parliament, the PSC has made notable advancements in its physical and digital infrastructure. The Bunge Tower and the upgrading of the CPST are part of efforts to provide a modern and secure working environment. It also highlights significant improvements in the institution, such as enhanced security measures, promotion of health and wellness and the provision of supportive services such as mortgage and capacity-building benefits for Members and staff. Additionally, it notes the Commission's shift towards a digital and eco-friendly Parliament in a bid to promote sustainability in its operations.

Chapter 3 is titled **Supporting Excellence in Service Delivery** and focuses on the Parliamentary Service. Key features of this Chapter are the Commission's focus on strengthening its workforce through performance management systems, professional development opportunities and robust support programmes for new staff. The demographics and overall performance metrics indicate a concerted effort to enhance productivity and employee well-being, which is essential for supporting the legislative body effectively.

Chapter 4 focuses on the **Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy** in fulfilment of the Commission's mandate under Article 127(6)(d) of the Constitution. It highlights the Commission's efforts to foster parliamentary diplomacy and strengthen linkages with various stakeholders. These initiatives aim to enhance the legislative environment and ensure that it remains conducive to addressing the needs of the public.

Chapter 5 is on **Facilitating Parliamentary Business.** While the Commission is independent from Parliament, its core mandate is ensuring an effective and efficient Parliament. This Chapter therefore provides highlights of the legislative business transacted by both Houses of Parliament during the period under review.

Chapter 6 is the final Chapter of this Report. It sets out the **Challenges and Emerging Issues and Recommendations**. The Commission notes that despite notable achievements, it faced various challenges, such as budgetary deficits and managing the high expectations of its diverse stakeholders. The Commission highlights the need for adequate funding going forward so as to adequately undertake its mandate under Article 127(6) of the Constitution. In conclusion, the Commission remains dedicated to its mission of promoting an efficient, effective and people-centred Parliament.



CHAPTER 01

The Parliamentary Service Commission: Governance and Institutional Framework

The core functions of the Commission are providing services and facilities to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of Parliament; constituting offices in the parliamentary service and appointing and supervising office holders; preparing annual estimates of expenditure of the parliamentary service and submitting them to the National Assembly for approval and basically exercising budgetary control over the service; undertaking programmes to promote the ideals of parliamentary democracy; and, performing other functions necessary for the well-being of the members and staff of Parliament; or prescribed by national legislation.

1.0 Introduction

Article 254(1) of the Constitution requires every constitutional Commission and independent office to submit an annual report to the President and Parliament. This report, therefore, highlights the work of the Parliamentary Service Commission in the Financial Year 2022/2023.

Financial Year 2022/2023 was extraordinary. It coincided with the 2022 general election and consequently, the end of the tenure for the 5th Commission and the inauguration of the 6th Commission. As such, this report covers the final undertakings of the 5th Commission until the conclusion of its term in November, 2022 and the work of the 6th Commission from November, 2022 to July, 2023.

1.1 Establishment and Mandate of the Parliamentary Service Commission

The Parliamentary Service Commission is established under Article 127 of the Constitution. Its core functions include providing services and facilities to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of Parliament; constituting offices in the Parliamentary Service and appointing and supervising office holders; preparing annual estimates of expenditure for the Parliamentary Service and submitting them to the National Assembly for approval, thereby exercising budgetary control over the service; and undertaking programmes to promote the ideals of parliamentary democracy; and performing other functions necessary for the well-being of the members and staff of Parliament or as prescribed by national legislation.

The Commission also undertakes other constitutional and statutory functions, including the nomination of a Member of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission under Article 230(2)(b)(i) of the Constitution; facilitation of the Selection of Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) Commissioners under the First Schedule to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission Act, 2011 and the nomination of two out of seven members of the Selection Panel; enforcement of Chapter 6 of the Constitution in respect of Commissioners and staffers; representation in the Parliamentary Honours Advisory Committee established under the National Honours Act, 2013 and the Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council (IBEC) established under the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, and the implementation of the National Values and Principles of Governance and the Principles of Public Service Under Article 232 of the Constitution.

1.2 The Composition of the Parliamentary Service Commission

Pursuant to Article 127(2) of the Constitution, the composition of the Parliamentary Service Commission is as outlined below-

(a) the Speaker of the National Assembly as Chairperson;

(b) a Vice-Chairperson elected by the Commission from the members appointed under paragraph (c);

(c) seven Members appointed by Parliament from among its members of whom-

(i) four shall be nominated equally from both Houses by the party or coalition of parties forming the national government, of whom at least two shall be women; and

(ii) three shall be nominated by the parties not forming the national government, at least one of whom shall be nominated from each House and at least one of whom shall be a woman;

(d) one man and one woman appointed by Parliament from among persons who are experienced in public affairs but are not Members of Parliament.

Article 127(3) provides that the Clerk of the Senate shall be the Secretary to the Commission.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 127(4)(a) and (5), Commissioners who are Members of Parliament are appointed to serve for a term of a House of Parliament and continue in office until a new member has been appointed in the member's place by the next House while Article 250(6) of the Constitution provides that Commissioners who are not Members of Parliament (non-MP Commissioners) are appointed for a single term of six (6) years and are not eligible for re-appointment.

1.3 Commission Committees

In order to facilitate the proper discharge of its mandate, the Commission works through eight (8) Committees as follows-



The Committees derive their authority from the powers delegated to them by the Commission. They enable in-depth scrutiny and focused attention in their respective thematic areas and advise the Commission through recommendations.

1.4 The Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST)

The Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) was established by the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) in 2011. The Centre is the capacity-building arm of the PSC, and its mandate extends to County Assemblies and other Parliaments in the East African Community and beyond. Governed by the CPST Board and headed by an Executive Director, its mandate includes offering training courses, collaborating on parliamentary research and studies, preserving parliamentary knowledge, offering academic awards and contributing to Parliament's democratic governance roles. The CPST works closely with various legislative bodies and institutions to fulfil its diverse educational and training functions.

1.5 The Parliamentary Service

Article 128(2) of the Constitution provides that the offices of the Clerks and the offices of members of the staff of the Clerks shall be offices in the Parliamentary Service. During the period under review, the Parliamentary Service comprised the National Assembly Service, the Senate Service and the Parliamentary Joint Services. Chapter Three of this Report further discusses the structure and composition of the Parliamentary Service.

1.6 The Management

The Board of Senior Management (BoSM) is the apex management body that is the link between the Commission and the Management of Parliament. It enables centralised decision-making on matters touching on the institution and is responsible for the overall administration and management of the Parliamentary Service, advising the Commission on all policy and organisational matters and implementation of decisions of the Commission.

The Board of Senior Management comprises the Clerks of both Houses (the Chairperson is the Clerk of the Senate/Secretary of the Commission, while the Vice-Chairperson is the Clerk of the National Assembly); and the Deputy Clerks of the two Houses of Parliament; the Director General of the Parliamentary Joint Services; the Executive Director of the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST); the Director of Human Capital and Administrative Services; the Director of the Parliamentary Budget Office *(ex-officio)*; the Director of Litigation and Compliance of the Commission *(ex-officio)*; the Director of Finance and Accounting *(ex-officio)*; the Director, Speaker's Office (Speaker of the National Assembly/Chairman, Commission) *(ex-officio)*; and the Director of the PSC Secretariat as the Secretary.

1.7 Service Boards of Management

The Parliamentary Service comprises three services namely-

(i) the National Assembly Service, headed by the Clerk of the National Assembly-

(ii) the Senate Service, headed by the Clerk of the Senate; and

(iii) the Parliamentary Joint Services (PJS), headed by the Director General (PJS).

Each of the Services has a Board of Management. The Service Boards consist of the senior-most officers in the Service at the level of Director or above, and the Heads

The Board of Senior Management (BoSM) is the apex management body that is the link between the Commission and the Management of Parliament and enables centralized decision-making on matters touching on the institution.

of Departments not domiciled in Directorates. The CPST also has a Board of Management comprising of senior officers who serve at the CPST, and officers drawn from the three Services serving at the level of Deputy Director and above.

As far as possible, Commission business originates from Papers emanating from the respective Service Boards and is processed through the Board of Senior Management with the advice and recommendations of the Service Board to the Commission Committees and the Commission.

1.8 The PSC Strategic Plan

The Parliamentary Service Commission Strategic Plan (2019-2030) serves as a blueprint for the overarching goal of provision of services and facilities for the effective and efficient functioning of Parliament. It outlines the Commission's priorities and sets clear measurable objectives to steer the institution towards excellence in governance in a dynamic and ever-evolving political landscape.

The following are the strategic pillars and strategic objectives implemented in FY 2022/2023 and going into the medium term.



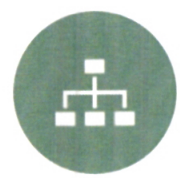
STRATEGIC PILLAR 1 : EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION, LEGISLATION AND OVERSIGHT



STRATEGIC PILLAR 2: EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY



STRATEGIC PILLAR 3: PUBLIC TRUST



STRATEGIC PILLAR 4:EMBRACE AND IMPLEMENT AND AN E-PARLIAMENT



STRATEGIC PILLAR 5: EMBRACE GREEN COMPLIANT PARLIAMENT



STRATEGIC PILLAR 6: PROVISION OF MODERN FACILITIES AND SECURE WORKING ENVIRONMENT FOR MEMBERS AND STAFF OF PARLIAMENT



STRATEGIC PILLAR 7: ENHANCED AND SUSTAINED FINANCIAL RESOURCE BASE

1.9 The Sixth Commission

1.9.1. Inauguration of the Commission and Commencement of the New Term

Article 127(4) and (5) of the Constitution provide for the tenure of Commissioners. Specifically, Commissioners who are also Members of Parliament vacate their office either at the end of their parliamentary term or if they cease to be a Member of Parliament. However, their tenure continues until a new member is appointed by the next House of Parliament, even if the term of the House ends. In addition, the tenure of the non-MP Commissioners is one non-renewable term of six (6) years. Every general election ,therefore, marks the commencement of the transition from one Commission to another. The 2022 general elections thus set in motion the transition from the 5th Commission to the 6th Commission.

By virtue of Article 127(2)(a) of the Constitution, Rt. Hon. Sen. (Dr.) Moses F. M. Wetangula, EGH, MP, ascended to the position of Chairman of the Commission upon his election and swearing-in to the position of Speaker of the National Assembly on 9th September, 2022.

Pursuant to Article 127(2) of the Constitution, on 8th, 9th and 10th November, 2022, the National Assembly and the Senate approved the appointment of seven Commissioners, namely, Hon. Faith Wairimu Gitau, MP, Hon. Mohamed Ali, MP, Sen. John Kinyua, MP, Sen. Joyce Korir, MP, Hon. Mishi Mboko, MP, Hon. King'ola Patrick Makau, MP, and Sen. Eric Okong'o Mogeni, SC, MP to be Members of the 6th Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC). The seven Commissioners took their oaths of office on 10th November, 2023, joining Hon. Rachel Ameso, who has held the position of female non-MP Commissioner since January, 2020.



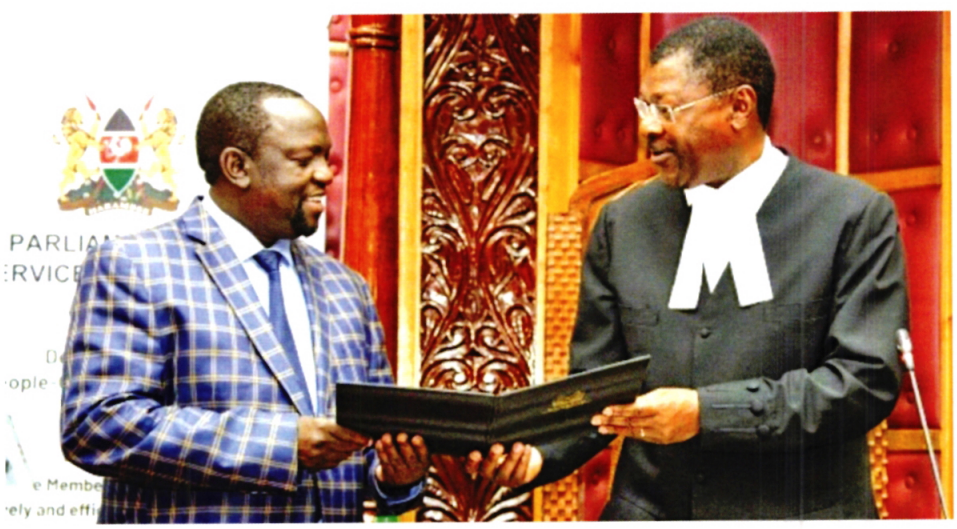
PSC Commissioners after their swearing-in ceremony held on 10th November, 2022

Swearing-in of PSC Commissioners on 10th November, 2022



The Rt. Hon. Sen. (Dr.) Moses F. M. Wetang'ula, EGH, MP , Speaker, N.Assembly /Chairman, PSC hands a gift pack containing the tools of trade to Sen. Joyce Korir, MP

The Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly / Chairman, PSC presents Hon. Patrick Makau, EBS, MP, with a signed copy of his Oath of Office.





Hon. Mishi Mboko, CBS, MP, subscribes to the Leadership and Integrity Code for State Officers Serving in the Parliamentary Service Commission immediately after taking oath of office.



Hon. Faith Gitau, MP, takes oath of office.



Sen. Okongo Mogeni, SC, MP takes oath of office in the presence of the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly / Chairman, PSC and the Clerk of the Senate / Secretary, PSC



Hon. Mohamed Ali, HSC, MP takes oath of office



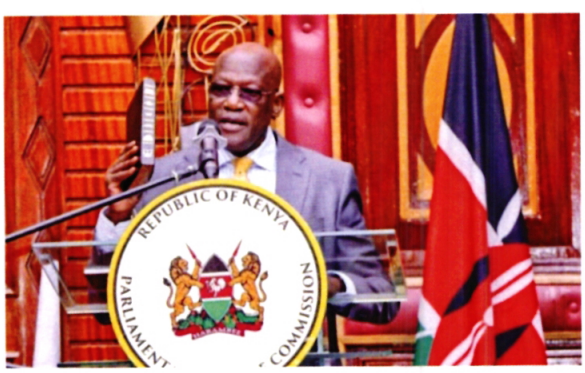
Sen. John Kinyua takes oath of office in in the presence of the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly / Chairman, PSC and the Clerk of the Senate / Secretary, PSC



Swearing-in of the Vice-Chairperson of the Parliamentary Service Commission on 16th November, 2022.

Article 250 (10) and (11) of the Constitution requires that the members of a Commission elect a Vice-Chairperson from among themselves at their first sitting as a Commission, and that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of a Commission shall not be of the same gender. In this regard, the 6th Commission held its first Meeting on 16th November, 2022, in which Sen. Joyce Korir, MP, was elected and sworn into the office of Vice-Chairperson of the Commission.

To be fully constituted, the Commission required the filling of the position of male non-MP Commissioner, which fell vacant following the resignation of Hon. Samuel Chepkong'a, CBS, in February, 2022. Therefore, one of the first activities that the Commission undertook was the recruitment of a male non-MP Commissioner. Following interviews held on Friday, 30th December, 2022, the Commission recommended the appointment of Sen. Johnson Muthama as the male Non-MP Commissioner of the PSC. The appointment of Sen. Muthama was subsequently approved by the two Houses of Parliament, and he assumed office on 1st March, 2023.



Sen. Johnson Muthama takes oath of office for the position of PSC Commissioner on 1st March, 2023.

1.9.2. Orientation, Induction and Capacity Building

To enable the Commission to effectively facilitate Members of Parliament in their representation, legislative and oversight mandate, it was imperative that they first be inducted into their respective offices. In line with the principles of good corporate governance, induction trainings were, therefore, held for the Commission and its Committees. This provided Commissioners with a thorough understanding of their roles, responsibilities and the overall functioning of the Commission and were instrumental in defining the priorities of the Commission, particularly in its first year of office.

The training programmes focused on good governance and leadership in order to equip Commissioners with the knowledge and skills required to effectively discharge their mandate and explored key topics such as public sector governance, risk and financial governance, governance structures, oversight, decision-making, conduct and standards, culture and people management, board governance and leadership and performance.



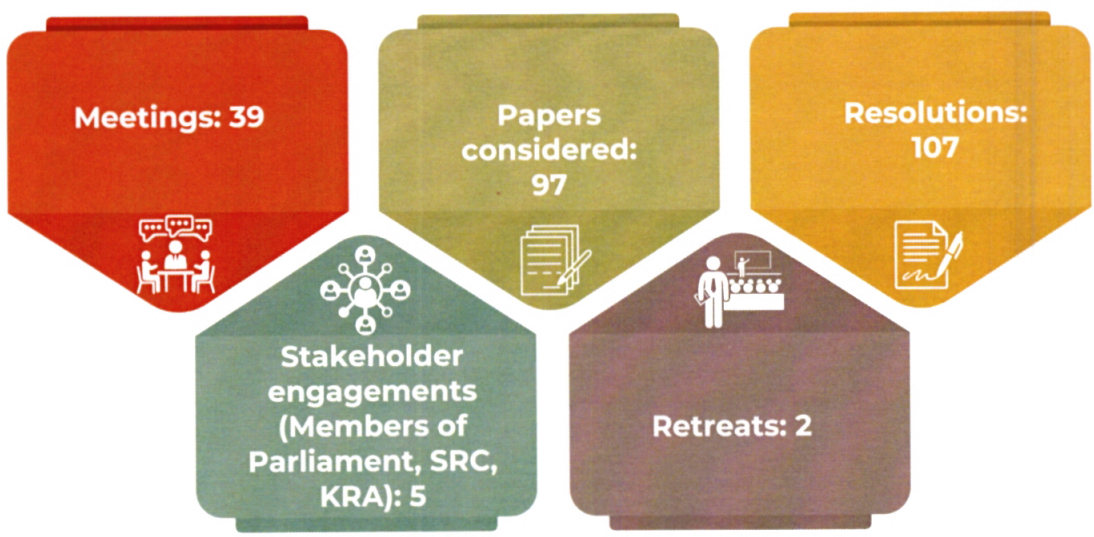
Hon. Patrick Makau, EBS is awarded a Certificate after a successful induction training on Corporate Governance for PSC Commissions held from 18th to 22nd December, 2022.

1.9.3. Highlights of Commission Business Transacted During the Period Under Review

In the year under review, the Commission diligently pursued its mandate through a variety of activities, exceeding targets in several key areas. Notably, the Commission held thirty-nine (39) meetings, far surpassing the initial target of twelve (12) meetings. This increase facilitated the consideration of ninety-seven (97) papers and the passage of one hundred and seven (107) resolutions. The Commission was also able to dispense with pending business that had mounted during the electioneering period.

The Commission proactively engaged stakeholders in respect of emerging issues and challenges. These engagements with Members of Parliament, the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC), and the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) fostered collaborative relationships in addressing matters affecting the mandate of Parliament and that of the Commission.

Additionally, the Commission participated in the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) Games in the exercise of its mandate to promote parliamentary diplomacy. Two strategic retreats were also held to facilitate the transaction of business in an uninterrupted environment and the building of synergies.



(a) Support to the IEBC Selection Panel, 2023

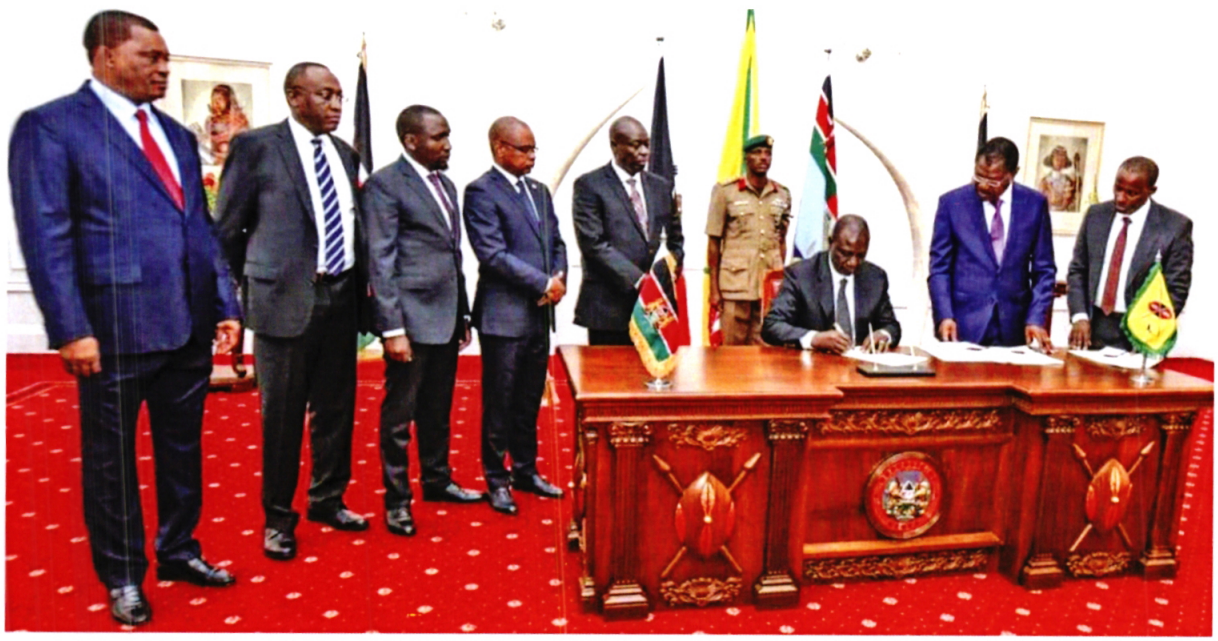
The First Schedule of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission Act, 2011 provides for the procedure for the appointment of the Commissioners of the IEBC through a Selection Panel appointed by the Parliamentary Service Commission. The Schedule further provides that the Parliamentary Service Commission shall provide secretariat services and facilities required by the selection panel in the performance of its functions.

Following a High Court petition challenging the role of the Parliamentary Service Commission in the IEBC selection process (***Okiya Omtatah Okoiti vs Attorney General & 5 others (Constitutional Petition E364 of 2020),*** the Court found that the nomination of four out of seven members of the Selection Panel by the Commission variously infringes Article 10 of the Constitution and is, therefore, unconstitutional.

In view of the above court decision, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2022, for the amendment of the First Schedule to the IEBC Act, 2011, was introduced in Parliament and was assented into law in January, 2023. The Act came into force on 6th February, 2023.

Pursuant to the aforesaid amendments to the First Schedule of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission Act, 2011, the Commission currently nominates only two Members of the Selection Panel.

In this regard, in February, 2023, the Commission undertook a competitive recruitment process and selected its two nominees to the Selection Panel, namely Mr. Bethuel Sugut and Ms. Novince Euralia Atieno. Following the Constitution of the Selection Panel, the Commission appointed a Secretariat to support the work of the Panel and has provided it with financial resources to enable it to execute its mandate.



His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H., assents to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (Amendment) Bill on 23rd January, 2023.

(b) Appointment of a Commissioner of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission

Article 230 (2)(b)(i) requires the Commission to nominate one person to the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC). In this regard, following the resignation of Hon. (Dr.) Amina Abdalla, the Commission embarked on a competitive process for the recruitment of its nominee to the SRC. Hon. (Dr.) Amina Abdalla served in the SRC under Article 230 (2)(b)(i) until 2022, when she resigned from office following her appointment to a diplomatic mission.

The Parliamentary Service Commission conducted interviews for the position of Nominee of the Commission to the SRC under Article 230(2)(b)(i) and submitted the name of Sen. Isaac Kipkemboi Melly, who ranked highest in the oral interviews for the position. Parliament approved the nominee and he shall serve in the SRC for a term of six years from the 11th May, 2023.

(c) Promotion of National Values and Principles

Compliance with Chapter 6 of the Constitution

During the period under review, the Commission remained committed to upholding high standards of integrity and ethical conduct expected of public officials in Kenya through compliance with Chapter 6 of the Constitution, the Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012 and other relevant statutes such as the Public Officer Ethics Act, 2003.

In this regard, during their swearing-in, the Commissioners complied with the requirements of the Leadership and Integrity Act, 2012, by subscribing to the Leadership and Integrity Code for State Officers Serving in the Parliamentary Service Commission.

In respect of the Parliamentary Service, training on ethics and integrity was incorporated in induction

workshops and other capacity-building programmes to ensure continuous awareness and adherence to the ethical standards prescribed by the Act.

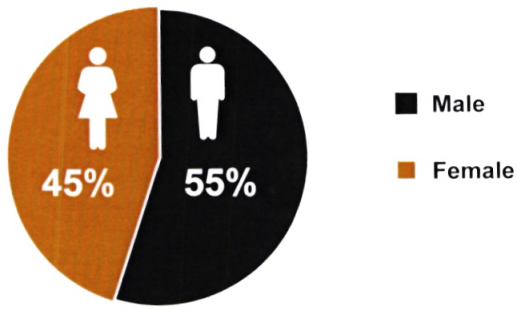
The Commission further continues to implement various initiatives geared at fostering a transparent environment, including the declaration of conflict of interest, wealth declaration, the publication of procurement opportunities, public notification of shortlisted candidates in recruitment processes, consideration of appeals relating to employment processes, and subjecting candidates for constitutional offices to vetting by various agencies such as the Higher Education Loans Board, the Kenya Revenue Authority, the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, among others.

Diversity in the Institution

Compliance with the two-thirds gender rule and representation of regional and ethnic diversity is crucial to the legitimacy and efficient operation of the Commission. By prioritising diversity in its membership and personnel, the Commission promotes the national values and principles of diversity and inclusivity.

The Commission is, therefore, very intentional in its recruitment exercises and ensures that all shortlists for interviews comply with the two-thirds gender rule and reflect the diversity of the nation. In line with Article 254(4) of the Constitution, its membership, taken as a whole, reflects the regional and ethnic diversity of the people of Kenya. The current composition of staffers is 55% male and 45% female.

Figure 1: Gender Distribution of Officers Employed by the PSC



The Commission has also employed thirty-one (31) officers with disabilities and regularly implements measures to promote the employment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

During the period under review, the Commission continued to facilitate officers and Members of Parliament with disabilities to enable them to undertake their duties efficiently and effectively. The Commission provided an allowance for hiring aides to support officers and MPs with disabilities with specific needs, thus enabling them to carry out their duties. The Commission also facilitated the purchase of specialised equipment tailored to the needs of officers with disabilities. These included visual and mobility equipment. The Commission also made significant efforts to ensure that its premises and facilities are accessible to all, regardless of their disabilities. The Commission also enables Members and officers with disabilities to participate in external events by making arrangements to accommodate their specific needs, such as transportation, accommodation and other accessibility considerations.

In addition to complying with the two-thirds gender rule and ensuring regional and ethnic representation, the composition of the Commission reflects age diversity among its staff, which promotes a dynamic and innovative work environment.

Inclusivity in Public Procurement

The Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act (Revised Edition, 2022) sets aside 30% of Government procurement opportunities for youth, women, and persons with disabilities. In furtherance of this im-

portant legal requirement that promotes economic empowerment and inclusivity, the Commission deliberately earmarked 30% of its procurements for these groups.

The Commission, however, observes that on a number of occasions, such procurements were non-responsive. There is, therefore, need for Government-wide policy interventions to address challenges related to financing and capacity building for these groups in order to enable them to fully participate in Government procurement and contribute to Kenya's economic growth.



30%

of government procurement opportunities for youth, women, and persons with disabilities. the Commission deliberately earmarked 30% its procurements for these groups.

(d) Establishment of PSC Vote 2041

Article 249 (3) of the Constitution provides that Parliament shall allocate adequate funds to enable each Commission and independent office to perform its functions, and the budget of each Commission and independent office shall be a separate vote.

In this regard, the 6th Parliamentary Service Commission, at its Special Meeting held on 19th March, 2023, resolved that the current Parliamentary Service Commission Vote 2041, which caters for both the Commission and the Senate, be split into two separate Votes, so as to provide for a distinct Vote for the Senate. Financial Year 2023/24 is therefore, the first year that the Commission is operating independently under a separate Vote.

Further, the National Assembly approved the recommendation of the Budget and Appropriations Committee in the Report on the 2023 Budget Policy Statement (BPS) on re-organisation of Votes and resolved that to streamline service delivery within the Parliamentary Service, a new Vote for Senate Affairs be established by carving it out of the existing Parliamentary Service Commission Vote. This should be done before the submission of Annual Estimates for FY 2023-24.

The new Vote will be operational in FY 2023/2024. The Commission will therefore operate under a separate Vote in compliance with Article 249 (3) of the Constitution.

CHAPTER 02

Provision of Services and Facilities for an Effective and Efficient Parliament

Among the key Strategic Pillars of the Commission's Strategic Plan is to provide modern facilities and a secure working environment for Members and Staff of Parliament.

2.0 Introduction

Under Article 127 of the Constitution, one of the primary responsibilities of the Commission is to provide services and facilities for an effective and efficient Parliament. These services and facilities are aimed at supporting the role of Parliament as provided for in the Constitution. This chapter outlines the services and facilities the Commission provided during the 2022-2023 Financial Year in review, in line with its ongoing Strategic Plan (2019-2030).

2.1 Provision of Modern and Secure Facilities for Members and Staff of Parliament

Among the key Strategic Pillars of the Commission's Strategic Plan is to provide modern facilities and a secure working environment for Members and Staff of Parliament. The intention of the Commission through this Pillar is to create a Parliamentary Square and to provide modern facilities and security for Members and staff of Parliament.

2.1.1 The Bunge Tower

To effectively address the challenge of office space, the Commission oversaw the construction of Bunge Tower, a twenty-eight-floor modern multi-storey office block. Through rigorous project supervision and policy guidance, the Tower is expected to be ready for occupancy by the end of FY 2023/2024.



The Bunge Tower Project, 2023

Additionally, to accommodate Members of Parliament within the precincts of Parliament, the Commission provided office facilities for most Members within the Square. For those Members who did not secure space in the Square, the Commission facilitated them to lease office spaces within the city.

2.1.2 The Ultramodern Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training

One of the Commission's strategic objectives is to provide appropriate learning infrastructure for the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST). This is intended to provide an appropriate learning and capacity building institution for Members and staff of Parliament as well as other legislative organs such as County Assemblies.

To achieve the above objective, the Commission began construction of a modern CPST training facility at Karen in 2022. Once complete, the centre will have lecture rooms, a contemporary theatre, an 80-room accommodation facility, an indoor games arena and a sports field with more than 300 parking spots.



Architectural drawing of the CPST Project, 2023.

2.1.3 Enhancement of Security and Provision of a Safe Working Environment

To ensure a secure working environment and enhance the security of Parliament, the Commission is currently implementing the Integrated Security Management System (ISMS) across the entirety of Parliament Square. This project encompasses supply, installation, configuration, rigorous testing, comprehensive training, seamless commissioning and steadfast maintenance of the ISMS and its underlying infrastructure within the institution. Once complete, the system aims to provide automated and enhanced security of the precincts of Parliament and allow easy coordination and streamlined processes for the security personnel.



Securing the Continental House Entrance, 2023.

Further, in the year under review, the Commission ensured that parliamentary premises, Members and staff of Parliament were secure by providing 24-hour security services. The security services were provided by various national security agencies in collaboration with the Commission's internal security and the Serjeants-at-Arms of the Houses.



Securing the entrances to the main Parliament Buildings, 2023.



Visitors from the Kingdom of Eswatini attend a demonstration of the workings of the ISMS Control Unit on 11th March, 2023

2.1.4 Refurbishment and Modernisation

During the period under review, the precincts of Parliament underwent significant refurbishments and upgrades. Buildings in the Parliamentary Square, including Protection House and County Hall, were renovated to meet the required standards for use by Members and staff. Other refurbishments included the construction of pedestrian ramps for better accessibility at the National Assembly's entrance, renovation of the Senate's entrance, reception areas and parking facilities. Improvements were also made to storm water drainage systems and lavatory facilities for better sanitation and hygiene. Water supply systems were also upgraded to enhance availability within parliamentary offices.



Refurbished Senate Reception, 2023.

2.2 Facilitation of Members and Staff of Parliament

2.2.1 Transition to a new Parliament

The Commission's role in facilitating the transition to the 13th Parliament was multifaceted. Through meticulous logistical, administrative, financial planning and lobbying for additional resources by the Commission, the Parliamentary Service effectively managed handover and transition processes.



Officers of the PSC Secretariat at the Commission's stand during the orientation of newly elected Members of Parliament.

2.2.2 Facilitation of Members at the Constituency and County Offices

To enable Members of Parliament to effectively undertake their representative, oversight and legislative mandate, the Commission facilitates Members of Parliament with constituency and county offices. This ensures that MPs remain connected to the needs and aspirations of their constituents while fulfilling their duties in Parliament.

During the period under review, the Commission availed funds for constituency and county offices to cater for operational expenses and constituency staff salaries to all Members of Parliament in the 47 counties and 290 constituencies, in line with its mandate to provide facilities to Members of Parliament.

2.2.3 Facilitation of Leadership Offices

Parliamentary leadership offices play a crucial role in the functioning of Parliament. These offices enable effective oversight of various aspects of the legislative process, managing party or coalition affairs and representing their members' interests. The unique duties and responsibilities of these offices often warrant the need for additional staff, including policy analysts, legislative experts, communication professionals, legal advisors, researchers and administrative personnel.

During the period under review, the Commission facilitated the parliamentary leadership offices to enable them to undertake their additional responsibilities better. These included the provision of a dedicated staff complement ranging from legal, fiscal and administrative officers in the Speakers' offices, the Deputy Speakers, the Majority and Minority leadership, Parliamentary Service Commissioners and Members of the Speaker's Panel.

2.2.4 Mortgage and Car Loan Facilities

In the year under review, the Commission facilitated the administration of the Mortgage and Car loan schemes for Members and Staff of the Commission. This particularly entailed securitisation of the mortgages to mitigate the credit risk of borrowers and ensure that monies lent to Members and Staff are secured in the interest of the Commission.

In the year, two hundred and two (202) Members of Parliament and eight (8) members of staff benefitted from the mortgage fund. Twenty-two (22) Members of Parliament and thirty-seven (37) staff benefited from the car loan facility.

2.2.5 Salaries and Remuneration

Facilitation, remuneration and benefits of the legislators are essential elements to be considered for the protection of the independence of the Legislature. The Commission, therefore, sought to ensure that Members' remuneration and other forms of facilitation were adequate and commensurate with the status, dignity and responsibilities of their offices.

While on the one hand, the Commission is mandated to provide services and facilities to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of Parliament and to perform functions necessary for the well-being of the Members and staff of Parliament, the SRC, on the other hand, is mandated under Article 230 of the Constitution to set and regularly review the remuneration and benefits of all State officers. Such State officers include Members of Parliament and the Parliamentary Service Commissioners.

In view of this, the Commission appreciated the need for engagements and collaboration with the SRC over the matter of salaries and remuneration of Members of Parliament, particularly during the third review cycle. This continuous engagement is necessary to demarcate the roles of the two bodies clearly and to ensure the overall compensation package for Members of Parliament is fair, transparent and aligned with constitutional provisions, thus enabling Members to undertake their mandates effectively.



202

Members of Parliament benefitted from the mortgage fund.

8

Members of staff benefitted from the mortgage fund.



37

twenty-two (22) Members of Parliament and seven (37) staff benefited from the car loan facility.



Consultative Meeting of the Parliamentary Service Commission with Members of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission held on the 19th September, 2022

2.3 Embracing and Promoting a Digital and Eco-Friendly Parliament

In line with its Strategic Pillars of embracing and implementing an e-Parliament and a green Parliament, the Commission, in the year under review, continued to implement various strategies to facilitate Parliament's transition to a paperless Parliament by 2030. The objectives of this pillar aim to enhance the automation and digitalisation of all systems and processes essential to Parliament's operations. This is expected to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery and support efforts to mitigate the impact of climate change.

2.3.1 Automation of systems and processes

To enhance the automation of all systems and processes in Parliament for efficient service delivery, the Commission facilitated the digitalisation of House processes with a particular focus on going paperless. The purchase and installation of multi-media digital congress systems, including an electronic voting system, allowed legislators and staff to access and share legislative documents such as bills, committee reports and other important materials. Additionally, there was support for streaming House sittings and plenary activities through Bunge Virtual.

2.3.2 Leveraging of ICT in all processes and operations of Parliament

To enhance the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in parliamentary operations, several initiatives have been implemented:

(i) Digital Publishing and Access: Parliamentary documents, including House Committee Reports and analytical reports, are now available on the parliamentary website. This move promotes transparency and good governance by making information accessible to the public.

In an effort to embrace and implement a green Parliament, the Commission resorted to digital innovation by facilitating paperless processes and meetings within the parliamentary service and promoted environmental consciousness in the functioning of Parliament by utilizing digital platforms, electronic communication tools and information technology to enhance and streamline the functioning of the legislative process. This transition not only enhanced efficiency and accessibility, but also contributed to the broader global effort to reduce paper waste and mitigate environmental impact.

(ii) Technological Upgrades and Training: The procurement of equipment was prioritized. Additionally, training sessions for members and staff have been conducted to improve the effective use of ICT tools, aligning with the E-Parliament initiatives.

During the period under review, there was enhanced contract management and case management to mitigate risks and improve turnaround times.

(iii) Hansard Services Digitization: The provision of Hansard services has been modernised through the upgrade of its digital tools. This includes the transmission of recorded audio segments, enabling remote work for staff in editing and compiling drafts. Staff can access chamber documents through dedicated email accounts and Hansard reports are promptly available on the parliamentary website. A digital repository of all Hansard reports for the period under review has been maintained. Additionally, audio clips are now disseminated online.

(iv) Virtual Communication and Meetings: To further capitalise on ICT, Parliament has adopted enhanced virtual communication tools, including video conferencing and online meetings. This allows for remote debates and meetings, utilising platforms like Zoom, WebEx, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams.

(v) Digital Document Management and Email Communication: The implementation of a digital document management system and the use of parliamentary email communication have streamlined operations. These measures ensure the safety of information, expedite the formal onboarding of other E-parliament objectives and contribute to reducing paper usage.



iPads installed in the National Assembly Chamber. The Order Papers, Committees Reports, and related documents are uploaded for ease of Members' reference



The Senate Chamber System comprising the digital voting system and a tablet for the paperless solution.

(a) Adoption and Implementation of modern energy management systems in Parliament

To support the global push for sustainable, environmentally friendly processes amid finite natural resources, modern energy management systems were adopted and implemented within Parliament. In the year under review, the Commission devised various strategies, including power saving and use of natural energy and rainwater harvesting.

There was successful implementation of water harvesting, treatment and distribution within Parliament Square and replacement of high-water consumption sanitary fittings with low-water consumption fittings. Further, there was continuous identification and repairs and deliberate uptake of efficient lighting systems and facilitated efficient energy use.

Solar panels were installed and commissioned on various buildings within Parliament Square to achieve its objective of having modern energy management systems for a green-compliant Parliament. This included the installation of a 3200a grid synchronization panel at Bunge Tower.

2.3.3 Implementation of modern waste recycling technologies.

An initiative to pulp old records, which involved converting paper documents into pulp for recycling purposes, ensured that waste documents were securely disposed of while contributing to environmental sustainability through paper recycling.

In the year under review, the Commission facilitated the removal of obsolete office equipment and furniture from offices to centralised storage facilities and the disposal of some equipment and furniture to Government institutions through donations.

In addition, through linkages with other Government agencies such as the Kenya Prisons, National Museums of Kenya and Nairobi City County, the Commission disposed of obsolete recycling equipment.

2.3.4 Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Action

Further, in line with its objective of having a green-compliant Parliament and supporting the global push for sustainability and environmental friendliness, the Commission facilitated the establishment of the Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Action. This was to increase oversight on the implementation of climate change commitments made by the Government, build awareness and capacity of Members of Parliament on climate change issues, and create a network of Climate Champions. The Commission also facilitated Members of Parliament to participate in meetings and events of the Caucus.

2.3.5 Green Spaces

In line with PSC Strategic Pillar No.5 on *Embracing a Green Compliant Parliament*, the Commission has aspired to, among other things, establish parliamentary gardens, including upgrading all open spaces, installing lighting and irrigation systems, installation of solar energy generation and treatment of wastewater for irrigation of lawns and engagement of a landscape architect to prepare the designs for parliamentary gardens.

During the period under review, the Commission facilitated the maintenance of green spaces and is working towards the establishment of more green spaces within the Parliament Square.



A Section of the Green Spaces in Parliament

2.4 Health Care and Wellness

During the financial year, the Commission was able to develop and implement various policies geared towards the promotion of the health and wellness of Members and engaged multiple service providers to provide the much-needed services that were unavailable in-house. Some of the initiatives included-

2.4.1 Medical and Emergency Services

During the period under review, the Commission facilitated access to timely and appropriate medical services for Members of Parliament in line with guidelines from the SRC. Medical service providers were engaged to provide medical cover and auxiliary services to Members and staff of Parliament. Members and staff were also supported for in-patient and out-patient expenses in case of benefit depletion.

A 24-hour medical call centre was facilitated to offer round-the-clock support to Members and staff in accessing medical care. In addition, comprehensive emergency and first aid services were made readily available during all parliamentary events to respond to any health emergencies or accidents.

2.4.2 Crèche

To foster a family-friendly work atmosphere that prioritizes the needs of working parents, the Commission provided nursing facilities for lactating mothers and their infants. This has led to greater employee engagement, job satisfaction, and organisational loyalty.



The Crèche

2.4.3 Post-Retirement Medical Scheme

In an effort to ensure that Members of Parliament have access to health care in retirement, the Commission resolved to put in place a post-retirement medical scheme for Members of Parliament. In this regard, the Commission also engaged an actuary to design a scheme for Members of Parliament, which is expected to be realised before the end of the term of the 13th Parliament.

CHAPTER 03

The Parliamentary Service: Supporting Excellence in Service Delivery

The Parliamentary Service boasts a dynamic structure designed to support MPs and staff. It encompasses various departments, each tailored to cater to the unique needs of the institution.

3.0 Introduction

The Commission's vision for a democratic and people-centered Parliament is to be achieved through facilitating Members of Parliament to effectively and efficiently discharge their constitutional mandate of representation, legislation and oversight. Core to this goal is the capacitation of Members of Parliament to competently undertake their mandate supported by a robust, dynamic, committed and skilled workforce.

This Chapter, therefore, highlights the activities and achievements of the Commission in pursuit of the following strategic objectives:

(i) development of the capacity and capability of the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) as a center of excellence in legislative studies;

(ii) institutionalization of performance management systems across the Parliamentary Service;

(iii) strengthening the capacity of staff to facilitate Members in discharging their constitutional duties in an effective and efficient manner;

(iv) enhancement of Human Resource Management and business processes for efficient service delivery; and

(v) enhancement of staff wellness for efficient service delivery

3.1 Overview of the Service

The Parliamentary Service boasts of a dynamic structure designed to support MPs and staff. It encompasses various directorates and departments, each tailored to cater to the unique needs of the institution. Owing to the bicameral nature of the Legislature and the distinct mandates of the two Houses, during the period under review, the Parliamentary Service was broadly organised as follows:

(a) The National Assembly Service was headed by the Clerk of the National Assembly, who is the accounting officer for the Service under Vote 2042;

(b) The Senate Service was headed by the Clerk of the Senate, who is the accounting officer for the Service under vote 2041. The Service included the Commission Secretariat and the Internal Audit Directorate, under Vote 2041 (the Commission and the Senate Service will be separated in subsequent years following the establishment of a separate Vote for the Senate);

(c) The Parliamentary Joint Services (including the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training) is headed by the Director General, who is the accounting officer for the Service under Vote 2043.

(d) The services that are most proximate to the Houses are in the respective House Services, and each House, therefore, has its dedicated officers in respect of Committee Services, Legal Services, Litigation and Compliance, Legislative and Procedural Services, Hansard and Audio Services, Serjeant-at-Arms, and Directorate of the Speaker's Office comprising Public Communications and Media. The Heads of the House Services are the respective Clerks who are each deputized by two Deputy Clerks.

(e) The common services are located under the Commission and the Parliamentary Joint Services, which provides shared services to both Houses of Parliament. They include Human Capital and Administrative Services; Finance and Accounting; Parliamentary Research Services; ICT and Library;

Directorate of Engineering and Maintenance Services; and Directorate of Security and Safety. The Parliamentary Budget Office and the Catering Unit, however, are located within the National Assembly Service.

(f) The Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST), which falls under the Joint Services, is a one-stop specialized resource Centre for the training and capacity development of Members and staff of Parliament, the forty-seven (47) county assemblies and other interested stakeholders under the Parliamentary Service Act. The mandate of the CPST is entrenched in Section 34 of the Parliamentary Service Act, 2019; and,

(g) The Services operate under a unitary framework which is led by the Commission with the support of the Board of Senior Management.

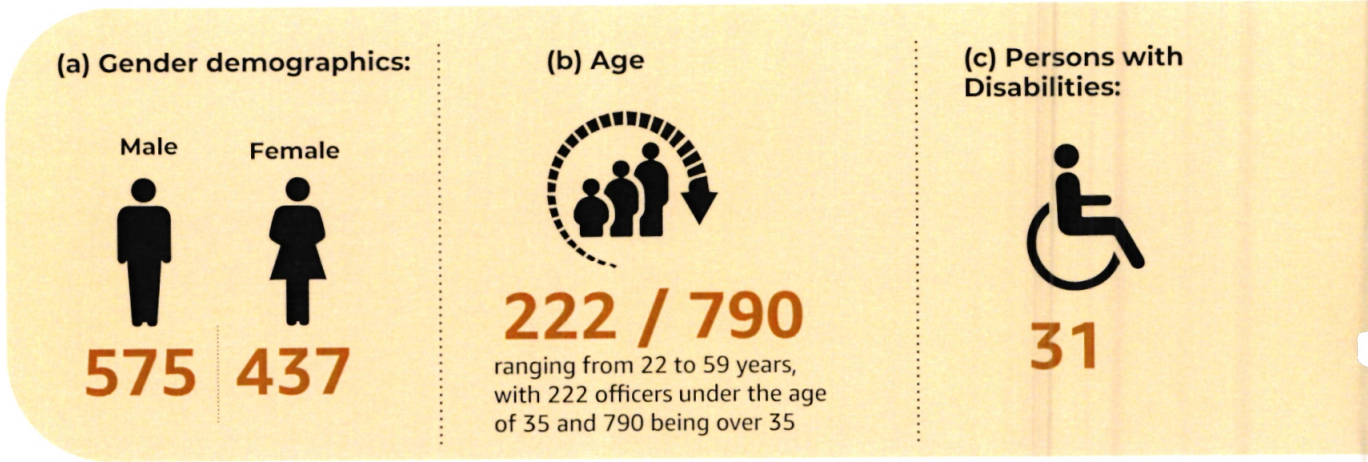
3.1.1 Demographics

During the period under review, the Parliamentary Service comprised non-partisan staffers in the permanent and pensionable establishment, non-partisan contract staffers, contract staffers in the partisan establishment who serve for the tenure of the offices of the respective Members of Parliament, and constituency/county officers who serve in the partisan establishment for the tenure of office of Members of Parliament.

Table 1: Employees of the Parliamentary Service in FY 2022/23

	Category	Number
1.	Non-partisan staffers in the permanent and pensionable establishment	**1,012**
2.	Non-partisan contract staffers	**56**
3.	Contract staffers in the partisan establishment who serve for the tenure of office of Members of Parliament	**350**
4.	Constituency/County officers who serve in the partisan establishment for the tenure of office of Members of Parliament	**9,300**

The demographic representation in the non-partisan cadre was as follows-



3.1.2 Institutionalisation of Performance Management Systems in the Parliamentary Service

The institutionalisation of performance management systems in the Parliamentary Service was undertaken in two phases through a consultancy involving the Institute of Human Resource Management. The first phase was undertaken in FY 2020/21 and involved the adoption of a Performance Management Policy and the signing of balanced scorecards for the Senior Management.

Phase two was subsequently undertaken during the period under review. During this phase, the Performance Management Unit conducted a sensitization programme for middle-level staff on developing Balanced Scorecards. This initiative aimed to align individual objectives with the organisation's strategic goals. Thereafter, lower cadre staff were sensitised on the development of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Officers officially signed their Balanced Scorecards and Key Performance Indicators after the sensitisation. Capacity-building initiatives were also undertaken to develop the capacity of the Performance Management Unit and various departments in the institution. Customer satisfaction and employee engagement surveys were conducted during the review period to set a baseline for performance targets in subsequent years. The institution adopted a new performance measurement tool, the Balanced Scorecard, where officers were sensitised on specific areas of assessment and targets were agreed upon. The period under review also marked the closure of the consultancy on Performance Management.

The Commission utilised Programme-Based Budgeting (PBB) to support its performance management system. Under this framework, Directorates and Departments developed their annual work plans based on the 2019-2030 Strategic Plan, against which performance metrics are drawn for all staff. Quarterly financial and non-financial performance reports are then based on the set targets.

Between December, 2022 and January, 2023, officers were subjected to appraisal assessments of their achievement against agreed targets. The appraisal scores formed a crucial evaluation for targeted capacity building of officers through employer-initiated training courses.

The institution also reviewed and enhanced various Service Charters and manuals of Directorates and Departments to facilitate service delivery, including the Hansard Manual, Chairpersons' Manual, Legal Services Operational Manual and Budget Office Service Charter, among others.

3.2 Human Capital Activities

In the Financial Year 2022/2023, the Institution witnessed significant developments in its human capital landscape, marked by senior appointments, promotions, redesignations, deployments and the induction of new staff members. This was primarily facilitated by the Directorate of Human Capital and Administrative Services, the Commission Secretariat and the Staff Advisory Committee.

3.2.1 Appointments

Appointment of the Clerk of the National Assembly

With the impending retirement of the former Clerk of the National Assembly, the 5th Commission, in February, 2022, commenced the process of recruiting a new Clerk of the National Assembly. Four candidates were shortlisted and interviewed by the 6th Commission on 28th October, 2022. Pursuant to Article 128(1) of the Constitution, the Commission appointed Mr. Samuel Njoroge, CBS, to be the new Clerk of the National Assembly. His appointment was approved by the National Assembly on 1st November, 2022.



Mr. Samuel Njoroge, CBS was appointed the Clerk of the National Assembly with effect from 1st November, 2022.

Other Appointments in the Institution

The Parliamentary Service continues to experience significant expansion, restructuring, and growth, reflecting the increasing complexity and scope of legislative work. This growth has been accompanied by a strategic shift towards more specialised roles. During the period under review, following a consultancy undertaken during the term of the 5th Commission, several departments and units were elevated to directorate and department status respectively. These were: the Commission Secretariat; the Internal Audit Department; the Serjeant-at-Arms Departments (Senate and National Assembly); the Hansard and Audio Services Departments (Senate and National Assembly); the Parliamentary Research Services; the Engineering and Maintenance Department; the ICT and Library Department; the Catering Unit; and the Security and Safety Department.

The operationalisation of the new Directorates through the appointment of substantive directors and their deputies began under the 5th Commission and was concluded by the 6th Commission, with sixteen (16) officers being appointed to the new positions. These elevations and appointments will enable officers to play a more influential role in shaping the institution's strategic direction, strengthen leadership capacities and foster innovation.

3.2.2 Career Development and Growth

The financial year witnessed the recognition of employee dedication and performance through promotions, redesignations, and deployments. These practices motivate employees, provide them with a clear path for career progression and encourage a culture of healthy competition and professional development.

Officers from various cadres were promoted to higher scales upon acquiring the required qualifications. A total of 129 officers were promoted during the period under review.

In response to changing needs and to optimize employee skills, the Commission approved cross-functional deployments and redesignations. These allowed staffers to leverage their talents in different departments and projects, enhanced personal growth and improved service delivery to the 13th Parliament. During the same period, the following actions relating to career mobility and growth were also undertaken-

Table 2: Career Mobility of Officers

	Matter	Number of officers
1.	Special duty allowance	106
2.	Seconded to other government institutions	3
3.	Seconded from other government institutions	3
4.	Re-designations	16
5.	Confirmation in Appointment	1
6.	Re-deployments	8
7.	Contract renewal	4
8.	External advertisements	3

3.2.3.Commissioning of a Review of the Schemes of Service for the Parliamentary Service

An emerging issue during this period was the need for a comprehensive review of the schemes of service to reflect the evolving needs of the institution and the organisational structure. In this regard, an institution-wide review of schemes was commissioned and is expected to be concluded by the end of the next financial year.

3.2.4 Onboarding of New Staff Members

The onboarding of new staff members was a vital aspect of the Commission's human capital strategy during the period under review. Following a recruitment process at the end of the Financial Year 2021/2022, the Commission received new staff in the Financial Year 2022/2023, most of whom were in entry-level positions with diverse skills and capabilities. A comprehensive induction programme was designed for the incoming employees. It emphasised the values, policies and expectations of the Commission to ensure a smooth assimilation of the new officers into the work environment. Furthermore, by providing the new officers with the necessary resources for the performance of their duties, the Commission accelerated their integration and productivity within the institution.

Three hundred and eighty-six (386) non-partisan staff members were successfully inducted into the Parliamentary Service Commission, as indicated in the table below:

Table 3: Recruitment of Staff in Various Cadres 2022-2023 FY

No.	Cadre	PSC Scale	Number
1.	Legal Counsel	PSC 9	51
2.	Clerks Assistants	PSC 8	81
3.	Research Officer III	PSC 8	64
4.	Media Relations Officer III	PSC 8	17
5.	Public Communication Officer III	PSC 8	18
6.	Constituency Liaison Officer III	PSC 8	06
7.	Accountant III	PSC 8	12
8.	Media Relations Assistant	PSC 7	06
9.	Public Communication Assistant	PSC 7	05
10.	Audio Assistant	PSC 6	22
11.	Assistant Serjeant At-Arms	PSC 6	15
12.	Secretarial Assistant	PSC 6	10
13.	Legal Clerk	PSC 6	06
14.	Telephone Operator	PSC 4	21
15.	Artisan	PSC 4	02
16.	Cook Assistant III	PSC 3	07
17.	Waiter Assistant III	PSC 3	09
18.	Office Assistant III	PSC 3	34
	Total		**386**

Further, with the transition to the 13th Parliament, new partisan staffers were appointed to serve the Members of the new Houses of Parliament. The Commission therefore, facilitated training for the 418 Personal Assistants to equip them with the skills and knowledge to facilitate the work of the Members better. Inductions were also undertaken for the Office Managers in the 47 County offices and the 290 Constituency Offices in the areas of financial management practices, general office management, handing over and human resource management. A VIP protection course was also undertaken for twenty-two (22) security officers and drivers attached to leadership offices.

3.2.5 Pupillage, Internship and Attachment Programmes

The Commission also recognises its role in mentorship and building the capacity of the country's workforce and next generation of parliamentary practitioners and, therefore, operates an internship programme, attachments programmes and is accredited by the Council for Legal Education to operate a pupillage programme. The Commission, therefore, engaged interns, attachees and pupils during the period under review as indicated in Table 4 below:

Table 4: Pupils, interns and attaches in FY 2022/2023

	Category	Number Attached
1.	Pupils	12
2.	Interns	88
3.	Attachés	16
	TOTAL	**116**



Clerk of the Senate, Mr. J.M. Nyegenye, CBS, presents a certificate to a County Assembly Officer after successfully attending an attachment programme in Parliament.

3.2.6 Payroll and Management of Benefits

During the period under review, the payroll comprised 37% of the appropriated budget in the form of personnel emoluments for both Members of Parliament and staff. The institution further complied with the requirements for the monthly filing of payroll returns for Members and staff, processing NHIF and NSSF contributions and Post-Retirement Medical Scheme contributions for staff.

The Commission also operationalised a post-retirement medical scheme for the staff of Parliament and provided seed capital for the same. Under the Scheme, officers in the Parliamentary Service will make contributions while in employment and have access to adequate, affordable and comprehensive health care in retirement. Mass sensitization of staffers on the scheme and negotiation of facilities with hospitals, pharmacies, opticians, and specialists were undertaken.

3.2.7 Separation from the Institution

The attrition from the institution was as follows:

Table 5: Exit from the Parliamentary Service

	Mode of Exit	Number
1.	Exit by retirement	22
2.	Contract expiry	6
3.	Exit by demise	3
4.	Termination	0
5.	Resignation	0

The Commission processed various claims as follows-

Table 6: Benefits processed and paid to beneficiaries in FY 2022/23

	Issue	Number
1.	pensions for members of staff who retired after attaining the age of sixty (60)	16
2.	pension benefits for former Members of Parliament	93
3.	Refunds for former members of Parliament	111
4.	Claims relating to former (deceased) Members of Parliament	7
5.	Claims relating to former (deceased) members of staff.	6
6.	Group Personal Accident for staff	13

The Parliamentary Service Commission operates a contributory staff pension scheme aimed at ensuring members of staff are accorded a dignified living after retirement. A Board of Trustees is appointed to safe-guard staff pension benefits and to manage and oversee the appointed pension managers. During the period under review, a new Board of Trustees was inducted. Furthermore, the Commission conducted a pension scheme audit to ensure accountability for pension contributions and issued member statements.

To effectively prepare staff for life after Parliament and manage succession, the Commission facilitated mass pre-retirement training for staff aged 60 to 40. This was deemed necessary to prepare staff for the transition from the institution at both individual and institutional levels.

3.2.8 Employee Well-Being

The Commission supports employee wellness through democratically elected Wellness Committees. These committees played an important role in promoting a positive work environment through various initiatives.

During the period under review, these activities included team-building exercises, sporting events, wellness talks and programmes focused on nutrition, personal financial management, mental health and comprehensive health check-ups.

Staff also engaged in a wide range of physical wellness activities and programmes. These included the Annual Sports Day for the Services, the 2022 East African Community – Inter-Parliamentary Games (EAC-IPG), golf tournaments, volleyball and football matches, friendly games, hiking, and staff excursions with activities like tree planting in various locations such as Elephant Hill, Aberdares Mountains, Kijabe Hills, and Raggia Falls. These diverse activities promoted physical well-being and strengthened team spirit and camaraderie among the staff.





Staff participating in the National Assembly Sports Day on 4th November, 2022.



Senate Staff during the Senate Sports Day, 2022.





Senate Sports Day on 18th November, 2022.







Staff take part in an 18km hike at the Kijabe Hills in Kiambu County on Saturday, 1st October, 2022.

3.2.9 Training and Development Initiatives

Throughout the financial year, the Commission invested in training and development initiatives, including professional development courses such as the Senior Management Course, Supervisory Skills Development Course and other leadership courses relevant to the scheme of service, to enhance employee skills, knowledge and competencies. A range of workshops, seminars, online courses, attachments, and exchange programmes were also organised to equip employees with the tools required to excel in their roles and contribute to the success of the Parliamentary Service.

Table:7: Summary of training and Development Opportunities

Category of training		
492	9	386
Staff trained	Course approvals for various academic programmes	Induction of newly recruited staff

The Commission also facilitated officers to be in good standing with their respective professional bodies by facilitating them to attend Continuous Professional Development (CPD) events for Legal Counsel, Accountants, Finance Professionals, among others. The Commission also supported the participation of various professionals to attend periodic events organised by professional bodies, including the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), Commonwealth Hansard Editors Association - Africa Region Conference, Hansard Association of Kenya (HAK) Conference, Africa Colloquium of Legal Counsel to Parliaments, Public Relations Society of Kenya, ICPAK and Institute of Human Resource Management (IHRM).

Budgetary constraints in relation to the growing training needs remained a challenge during the period under review. This issue stems from an increase in the number of staff and an enhancement of the staff establishment without commensurate allocation of resources.



Media Relations Officers during training on modern trends in communication, held in Naivasha, in 2022.

3.3 Building Capacities and Strengthening Legislative Institutions through the CPST

The Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) is the capacity-building arm of the Parliamentary Service Commission. It is established through the Parliamentary Service Regulations, 2011. Its mandate extends to providing training to the County Assemblies and other Parliaments in the East African Community, the Great Lakes Region, the rest of Africa and any entities and individuals interested in gaining appreciable knowledge in parliamentary matters.

3.3.1 Overall Performance of the CPST

In the Financial Year 2022/23, the Commission, through the CPST, conducted fifty-four (54) training activities through which one thousand one hundred and sixty-six (1,166) participants were trained. The participants were from the county assemblies, Members and Staff of Parliament.

In terms of gender distribution, seven hundred and sixty-four (764) of the trainees were male and four hundred and two (402) were female, translating to 74% male and 26% female, as presented in the table below.

Figure 2: Gender Distribution of training participants

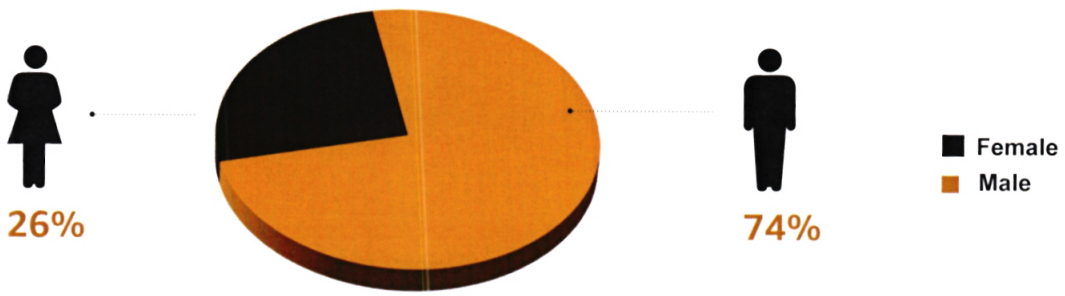
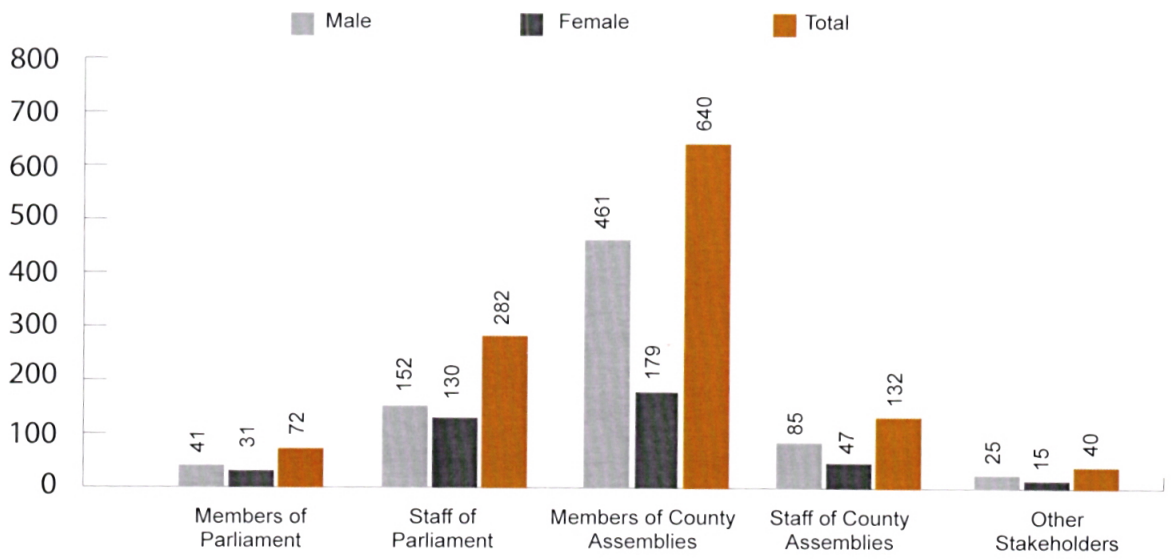


Figure 3: Summary of Participants Trained during the Year 2022/2023



3.3.2 Capacity Building for Members of Parliament

In the Financial Year 2022/23, the CPST conducted four training programmes aimed at enhancing the skills of Members of Parliament. These programmes were attended by a total of seventy-two (72) participants. The programmes included training sessions for the Liaison Committees of the Senate and the National Assembly, gender-responsive training for female Members of the National Assembly, and training on governance, which was conducted in partnership with McGill University.



Training of the Senate Liaison Committee on Leadership and Governance that was held from 1st to 4th June, 2023.

Table 8: Training for Members of Parliament

	PROGRAMME	DATE	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS		TOTAL
			MALE	FEMALE	
1.	Training of Liaison Committee National Assembly	13th – 18th December 2022	22	4	26
2.	Contemporary Issues in Parliamentary Governance for Select Members of The National Assembly	5th to 15th May, 2023	6	4	10
3.	Training of Liaison Committee Senate on Leadership and Governance	1st to 4th June, 2023	13	0	13
4.	Capacity Building Programme on Gender, Peace Building and Gender Responsive Budgeting for KEWOPA	15th – 19th June, 2023	0	23	23
	Total		**41**	**31**	**72**

Source: CPST Data Financial Year 2022/2023



Capacity Building Programme on Gender, Peace Building and Gender Responsive Budgeting for KEWOPA held in Mombasa from the 15th to 19th June, 2023.

3.3.3 Strengthening Devolution and the Capacity of Devolved Units

During the reporting period, the Commission, through the CPST organised thirty-seven (37) training programmes targeting members of county assemblies through which a total of six hundred and forty (640) participants were trained. In addition, experts from the Parliamentary Service Commission and the County Assemblies Forum (CAF) collaborated on the revision and validation of an Induction Curriculum and Manual for County Assembly Members, which was published and printed for distribution.

The CPST also facilitated nine (9) training programmes targeting Staff of the County Assemblies. One hundred and thirty-two (132) staff drawn from County Assemblies were trained in various short courses, including, Training of Trainers Programme, Records Management; Legislative Management of Committees; Research and Policy Analysis; Legislative Management of Committees; Security Management in Legislative Setting; Minutes and Report Writing; and Performance Management Training among others. Eighty-five (85) participants were male, while forty-seven (47) were female.



640

the Commission, through the CPST organized thirty-seven **(37)** training programmes targeting members of county assemblies through which a total of six hundred and forty **(640)** participants were trained.

3.3.4 Mandatory Courses

Furthermore, in the pursuit of excellence and continuous improvement of the workforce in the Parliamentary Service, the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) took significant strides towards enhancing the skills, knowledge and capabilities of the parliamentary workforce through the implementation of mandatory courses for the purpose of capacity building. These courses have played a vital role in shaping the professional growth of employees and contributing to the overall advancement of the Parliamentary Service.



Hon. Commissioner Rachel Ameso awards a certificate to a graduate of the CPST mandatory courses (2023).



Cake-cutting ceremony in honour of a graduating class (2023).

3.3.5 Knowledge Sharing Events

The Commission facilitates hosting various events to promote its mandate and that of the Legislature. In the Financial Year 2022/2023, the Commission hosted the 3rd Annual Parliamentary Symposium on the theme ***"Effective Public Participation: The Big Question for Legislatures"***. The symposium attracted two hundred twenty-six (226) participants drawn from Commissioners, Parliamentary Leadership, Members of Parliament, Parliamentary Committees, the Board of Senior Management, staff of Parliament, staff of county assemblies, the academia and other stakeholders who attended the event as paper presenters or reviewers.



The Leader of Majority in the National Assembly, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, makes his opening remarks during the 3rd Annual National Symposium organised by the CPST from 26th to 27th May, 2023 at Sawela Lodges, Nakuru County.

A total of seven (7) webinars were hosted during the period attended by a total of one thousand, one hundred and thirty-two (1,132) participants from the Parliament of Kenya, County Assemblies, international collaborating institutions and other stakeholders from in the country.

Table 9 Summary of participation in the CPST Webinar series

Category of participants				
PSC Staff	**County Assemblies**	**International participants**	**Other stakeholders**	**Total**
711	199	22	200	1132

In conclusion, the Parliamentary Service remained an institution of exemplary administrative and technical competence. This is demonstrated by the low turnover rate among its employees. The requests for the secondment of officers to prestigious positions in the East African Legislative Assembly, the offices of Clerks of County Assemblies, and various ministries further attest to the esteemed reputation and the high calibre of its staff in the Service.

CHAPTER 04

Promotion of the Ideals of Parliamentary Democracy

The ideals of parliamentary democracy are rooted in the principles of democratic governance, under which the government is elected by the people and is accountable to them. The Commission advances the principles of parliamentary democracy through building public trust, promoting transparency and open government, public participation and inclusiveness, and the rule of law.

4.0 Introduction

The mandate of the Commission in Article 127(6) of the Constitution includes undertaking, singly or jointly with other relevant organisations, programmes to promote the ideals of parliamentary democracy.

The ideals of parliamentary democracy are rooted in the principles of democratic governance, under which the people elect the government and is accountable to them. The Commission advances the principles of parliamentary democracy by building public trust, promoting transparency and open government, public participation and inclusiveness, and the rule of law. Additionally, the Commission undertakes programmes and activities focused on entrenching and strengthening parliamentary diplomacy, partnerships, and linkages that promote democratic ideals. These activities align with the objectives of constitutional commissions as enshrined in Article 249 of the Constitution, which are to protect the sovereignty of the people, secure the observance by all State organs of democratic values and principles, and promote constitutionalism.

Further, Strategic Pillar III of the PSC Strategic Plan on Public Trust 2019-2030 seeks to actualise Articles 118 and 201 of the Constitution on public access and participation in parliamentary processes and business, including the consideration and approval of public finances. The Commission has thus been instrumental in providing critical support to both the Senate and the National Assembly to ensure that the two Houses continue building public trust through initiatives such as broadcasting parliamentary proceedings, open Committee proceedings, and public and student visitation programmes.

The key activities in this chapter are summarised in three thematic areas as follows-

(a) promotion of transparency in the conduct of legislative business;

(b) parliamentary diplomacy, partnerships and linkages; and,

(c) parliamentary outreach.

4.1 Promotion of Transparency in the Conduct of Legislative Business

During the period under review, the Commission promoted public involvement in legislation and oversight by facilitating various people-centred activities.

4.1.1. Broadcasting of Proceedings

Broadcasting of Parliamentary proceedings responds to the need for open access, demystifying Parliament and linking voters to their elected representatives. During the period under review, the Commission, through the Parliamentary Broadcasting Unit (PBU), facilitated media coverage, including live broadcasts of proceedings in both Houses, use of media platforms, live streaming and broadcasting of committee and plenary sessions.

For effective broadcasting of proceedings, the Commission partnered with the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) through KBC Channel 1 and Radio Taifa (92.9 FM). This arrangement ensures continuous broadcasting of the plenary sessions of both Houses on Bunge TV, Senate TV and Parliament's YouTube channels, thus greatly expanding the reach and coverage of Parliament.



Live coverage of proceedings of the National Assembly by the Parliamentary Broadcasting Unit team.



A delegation from the Parliament of Zambia visits the PBU studios in 2022.

4.1.2 Media Access and Coverage Proceedings

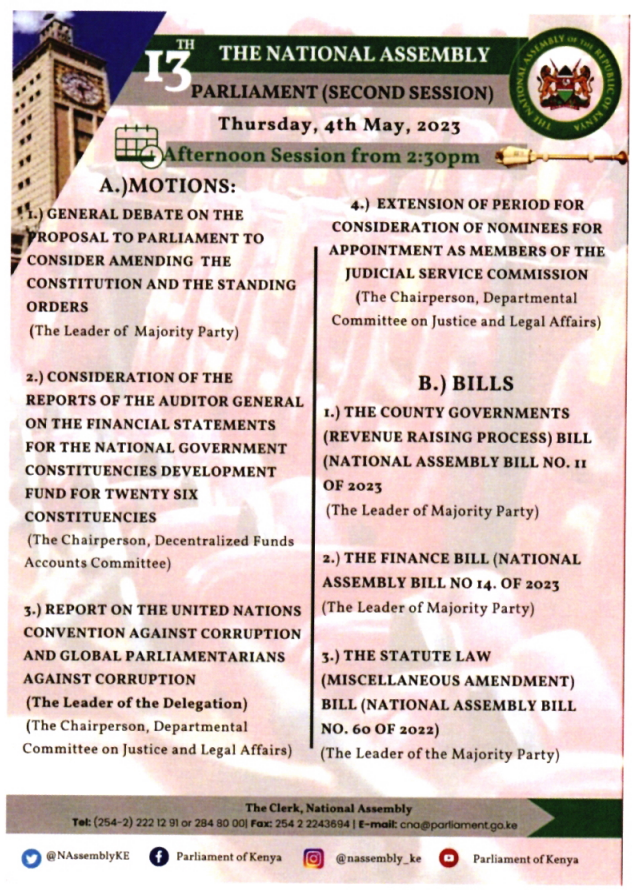
During the period under review, the Commission facilitated media coverage of parliamentary proceedings and events, as well as Members' communication with the public through press statements and interviews. To this end, one hundred and twenty-four (124) journalists were accredited to cover parliamentary proceedings and activities, resulting in extensive media coverage of the Houses and their Committees. Furthermore, through collaboration with the Media Council of Kenya, the Kenya Parliamentary Journalists Association and media houses, the Commission enhanced transparency and public engagement in the legislative process.

In addition, the provision of a media centre enabled engagement with the media and increased the visibility of Parliament through press statements and interviews. It also helped Members of Parliament, Committees, party caucuses and other groups to draw attention to matters or make clarifications easily.

4.1.3 Social Media Presence

The Media Relations Department of the Parliamentary Service actively enhanced public engagement by creating and sharing content about petitions, statements, and bills on various social media platforms, including Facebook, X, Instagram and WhatsApp. This content focused on the activities and business of both the Houses and their Committees and was not only aimed at engaging the public and stakeholders but was also readily available for journalists to feature in their media outlets. Additionally, updates were regularly published on Parliament's website to keep the public abreast of the happenings in Parliament. This approach, particularly during the period under review, ensured timely and effective dissemination of information to all interested parties.

@ ParliamentofKenya



Sample of House business briefs posted on the social media pages of Parliament.

4.1.4 Weekly Publications

The Commission facilitated the publication of Bunge This Week and the Senate Weekly magazines, which provided platforms for the National Assembly and the Senate to inform and educate the Members and the public on parliamentary business. The magazines were published consistently every week.



Monday May 8th, 2023 - Sunday May 14th, 2023

BUNGE

Issue No. 008 This Week

PLENARY | COMMITTEES | BUNGE MASHINANI | CLIQUE & CLICKS | QUESTION TIME

MPs root for introduction of Junior Secondary in all primary Schools

Hon. Ruku said communities have over the years continuously established learning institutions within their localities to address the shortage of physical facilities. PG 3

COMMITTEE

Committee wants Treasury to improve Diaspora facilitation to promote their participation in Economic Development PG 2

MASHINANI

Bright and needy students from Kitui County to benefit from the Mama Care Foundation Programme recently launched by County MP. Hon. Irene Kasalu. PG 8

Speaker's Office

Speaker Wetang'ula calls for enhanced efforts to strengthen political parties PG 10

Members of Parliament listen to Education Cabinet Secretary Mr. Ezekiel Machogu when he appeared before the House to respond to questions raised by legislators recently

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION

3rd ANNUAL NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY SYMPOSIUM

Theme: "Effective Public Participation; The Big Question for the legislatures" Date: 26th -27th May 2023 | Venue: Sawela Lodges, Naivasha, Kenya

An issue of the Bunge Weekly Magazine for the week of 26th to 27th May, 2023.

Monday, June, 12, 2023 - Sunday, June, 18, 2023

The SENATE Weekly

For the Welfare of Society and the Just government of the People

Issue No 001

Senate Heads to Turkana County

House gives nod for first 'Senate Mashinani' under 4th Senate to be held in Turkana County in September

The 4th Senate has settled on Turkana County as the host of its first round of sittings and proceedings to be held outside Parliament Buildings in Nairobi, as it moves to entrench Senate Mashinani.

Senate Mashinani is a deliberate and bold move by the Senate to enhance public awareness about its role and that of Parliament at large, by taking its activities to a chosen county at a set time.

It enables the Senate to highlight existing and

PAGE 2 →

The official procession of the Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, makes its way to the Chamber on Wednesday, May 31, 2023

An issue of the Senate Weekly Magazine for the week of 12th to 18th June, 2023.

4.2 Parliamentary Diplomacy, Partnerships and Linkages

To strengthen parliamentary diplomacy and democracy, the Parliamentary Service Commission undertook a series of significant initiatives and engagements, showcasing its commitment to fostering collaborative relationships and knowledge-sharing among various Legislatures. The Commission welcomed foreign delegations that sought to benchmark on a wide array of subjects, including oversight, government accountability, human resource development, parliamentary capacity building and public participation.

Furthermore, a number of Presidents or Heads of State were hosted, including H.E. the President of Italy, Sergio Mattarella, Prime Minister of the Great Republic of Japan, Fumio Kishida, Chancellor of Germany, Olaf Scholz, H.E. the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ebrahim Raisi, H.E. the President of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa, H.E. the President of Zambia, Hakainde Hichilema, H.E the President of Guinea Bissau, Umaro Sissoco and H.E. the President of the Pan-African Parliament, Fortune Z. Charumbira.

The Commission further facilitated the hosting of approximately five hundred and five (505) visitors from local and foreign delegations, including delegations from the Parliaments of Zambia, Nigeria, the Gambia, Namibia, Eswatini, Austria, Bangladesh, Germany, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Japan, Korea, and Zimbabwe.

Students and faculty of foreign universities undertook benchmarking study visits, attachments and transition technical taskforce peer reviews. Those who visited include South Korea University and the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Affairs of Georgetown University, USA. These interactions were aimed

at facilitating the exchange of insights and best practices on diverse topics touching on the Legislature, democracy and governance.

The Commission further successfully hosted international Parliamentary delegations led by Speakers of both Houses and Committee Chairpersons and the holding of over 20 meetings with civil society groups, various NGOs and corporates. These activities also included the recognition and operation of twenty-two (22) Parliamentary Caucuses, coordinating over twenty-one (21) study tour programmes by other Parliaments and visiting delegations, and numerous benchmarking visits by the County Assemblies.

In addition, the offices of the Speakers of both Houses of Parliament hosted up to twenty-four (24) visiting diplomatic courtesies from the Heads of Foreign Missions in Nairobi.



The Speaker of the National Assembly, the Rt. Hon. Sen. (Dr.) Moses F.M. Wetang'ula, EGH together with the Senate Speaker, the Rt. Hon. (Sen.) Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, receive the President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, at the Mausoleum of the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta during a State visit in November, 2022.

4.2.1 Parliamentary Friendship Groups (PFGs)

During the period under review, channels for bilateral engagements through Parliamentary Friendship Groups (PFGs) were opened and enabled. These bilateral engagements included Kenya-France, Kenya-Saudi Arabia, Kenya-Iran, Kenya-China, Kenya-Hellenic, Kenya-Hungary, Kenya-Qatar, Kenya-Ireland, Kenya-Serbia, Kenya-South Korea, Kenya-Germany, Kenya-Pakistan, Kenya-Switzerland, Kenya-Israel, Kenya-Turkey and Kenya-Canada.



Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula, EGH, hosted Ms. E. Puan Maharani Nakshatra Kusyala Devi, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Indonesia on 12th October, 2022.



Senator Kathuri Murungi, the Deputy Speaker of the Senate with Hon. Dorina Hernandez Palomino, President of the Chamber for Bolivar County of Colombia, on 16th May, 2023.



The National Assembly Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations Committee hosted a German delegation on 3rd November, 2022.

4.2.2 Participation in Regional and International Bodies

In recognition of the unique platforms for networking and fostering partnerships that regional and international bodies offer, the Commission continued to support the participation of Members and staffers in regional and international parliamentary bodies. These bodies include the ACPEU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), and the Forum of Parliaments for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR). Some of these engagements included-

(a) The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA): The CPA is made up of over 180 legislatures and divided into nine (9) geographic regions of the Commonwealth. It offers a vast opportunity for Parliamentarians and parliamentary staff to collaborate on issues of mutual interest and to share good practice. During the period under review, the Parliament of Kenya took part in five (5) Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) engagements held in various locations, including Australia, the United Kingdom, Cameroon and Tanzania, to strengthen legislation and partnerships.

(b) Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU): The IPU is the global organization of national parliaments. It empowers Parliaments and parliamentarians to promote peace, democracy and sustainable development. During the period under review, the Parliament of Kenya participated in the 145th and 146th Assembly of the IPU meetings held in Kigali, Rwanda and Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, respectively.

Notably, several Members of the Parliament of Kenya took up various positions in the organisation. They include Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP, (Member of the Bureau of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians), Hon. Millie Odhiambo, MP, (Member of the IPU Committee on Human Rights of Parliamentarians), Hon. John Kiarie, MP, (President of the IPU Committee to Promote and Respect for International Humanitarian Law), Hon. Naisula Lesuuda, (MP Member of the IPU Committee on Sustainable Development) and Hon Rebecca Tonkei, MP, (Member of the IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs). These opportunities not only build the capacity of Members of Parliament but also enable them to apply their skills and knowledge in the promotion of democracy and good governance.

(c) *Pan-African Parliament (PAP):* The Pan-African Parliament (PAP) is one of the organs of the African Union. Article 4 of the establishing Protocol requires that each national Parliament be represented by five members, at least one of whom must be a woman. Kenya is currently represented by Sen. Danson Mungatana, MGH, MP, Sen (Prof.) Margaret Kamar, EGH, MP, Hon. Esther Passaris, OGW, MP, Hon. Joseph Majimbo, MP and Hon. Rahab Mukami, MP. During the period under review, Kenya's representatives participated in the first Ordinary Session of the Sixth Parliament of the PAP in November, 2022, during which the new members were sworn in. The members also participated in the Second Ordinary Session of the Sixth Parliament, held in June, 2023.

In recognition of the unique platforms for networking and fostering partnerships that regional and international bodies offer, the Commission continued to support the participation of Members and staffers in regional and international parliamentary bodies.



Rt. Hon. (Sen.) Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, with Members of the Pan-African Parliament.



Members of the Pan African Parliament (PAP) during an election observation mission.

(d) Forum of Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR): The ICGLR is an inter-governmental organization of the countries in the African Great Lakes Region. Its establishment was based on the recognition that political instability and conflicts in these countries have a considerable regional dimension and thus require a concerted effort in order to promote sustainable peace and development. Parliaments participate in the ICGLR Forum of Parliaments of Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR).

During the period under review, through the Commission's support, the Parliament of Kenya continued to be an active participant in the activities of the FP-ICGLR, including welcoming the Secretary-General of the FP-ICGLR on a courtesy call to the Senate, a working visit by the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Senate in Kinshasa, DRC and participation in the 13th Plenary Assembly of the FP- ICGLR in Juba, South Sudan, the 5th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Finance held in Kampala, Uganda, and the 25th Ordinary Session of the Executive Committee also held in Kampala, Uganda.

During the period, the Speaker of the Senate Rt. Hon. Sen. Amason Kingi, EGH, presided over the official opening of the 13th Assembly of Speakers of the Forum of Parliaments of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR) in Juba, South Sudan. Speaker Kingi took over the Presidency from former Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Kenneth Lusaka, following the August, 2022 General Election. Speaker Kingi handed over the presidency of the Assembly to Hon. Jemma Nunu Kumba, who is the Speaker of the South Sudan Transitional Legislature.



The Speaker of the Senate Rt. Hon. Sen. Amason Kingi, EGH, hands over the presidency of the Forum of the Parliaments of International Conference on the Great Lakes Region.

(e) The Organisation of African Caribbean & Pacific and European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly (OACPS-EU): the OACPS-EU is a permanent democratic institution that brings together elected representatives from the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states and the European Union. The Assembly's work focuses on promoting human rights, democracy, and greater understanding. Such engagement provides the Parliament of Kenya with access to a vast pool of knowledge, expertise and best practices.

During the period under review, Members of Parliament were facilitated to participate in the 42nd Session of the OACPS – EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly held in Maputo, Mozambique, the 63rd Session of the OACPS Parliamentary Assembly, and the 43rd Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly held in Brussels, Belgium.

(f) The East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA): The Kenyan Parliament plays a significant role in the furtherance of the objectives of the East Africa Community (EAC). Participation included meetings of Clerks and Speakers of the National Legislatures of the East African Community and the election of Members of the East African Legislative Assembly. On the 17th November, 2022, the Parliament of Kenya elected nine members who will represent Kenya in the 5th EALA up to 2027.

The nine members are Hon. Kennedy Musyoka (as a second-term Member of the Assembly), Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan, Hon. Zipporah Kerring, Hon. David Sankok, Sen. Imana Falhada, Hon. Mwangi Maina, Hon. Winnie Odinga, Hon. Kanini Kega and Hon. Suleiman Shahbal. The eight new members will serve a five-year term and are eligible for re-election for another subsequent five-year term, except Hon. Musyoka, who is serving his final term.



A section of Parliamentary Leadership with newly elected Members of the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA).



A section of Parliamentary Leadership with newly elected Members of the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA).



Team Kenya Football Team during the Kenya Vs Uganda football match held on 29th November, 2022 in Juba, South Sudan.

4.2.3 Collaborations under the Centre for Parliamentary Studies (CPST)

The Commission has provided critical support to the Centre for Parliamentary Studies (CPST) by enabling it to undertake its mandate directly or in collaboration with other institutions of higher learning and providing facilities for parliamentary research, studies, and training. To strengthen and sustain partnerships in legislative governance, the CPST formalised several collaborations. It reviewed and validated the CPST-DDIS (Department of Diplomacy and International Studies) under the University of Nairobi curriculum for a Master's degree in International Relations. This activity is part of the actualisation process for the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the PSC and the University of Nairobi.

CPST initiated a partnership with Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) on a Master's degree programme. Through a mutual agreement, the existing JKUAT Master of Science in Leadership and Governance programme is to be amended to incorporate parliamentary leadership courses. The development of CPST units on parliamentary matters was conducted in compliance with the Commission of University Education (CUE) course description and approval format as guided by JKUAT



Curriculum and content validation workshop between the University of Nairobi and the CPST held in Machakos from the 14th to 16th September, 2022.

4.2.4 Parliamentary Outreach

The Parliamentary Service Commission facilitated various outreach activities that were aimed at enabling Parliament to reach out to its principal client, the People of Kenya. Some of these activities are discussed below.

(a) School Visits to Parliaments

The Commission operates a school visits programme that enables students to visit Parliament. Through this outreach programme, Parliament is demystified by educating students on the workings of the Legislature and enabling them to tour Parliament and attend plenary sittings.

Under the programme, the Commission facilitated numerous visits through which over fifty thousand (50,000) students from primary schools, secondary schools and universities, along with accompanying staff from their respective institutions, visited Parliament. The visits included lectures, tours of Parliament buildings, and visits to the galleries, with acknowledgement by the Speaker on the floor of the House and addresses by Members present, often including the area Member of Parliament of the visiting delegation.

(b) National Events

The Commission supported the participation of the House Leadership in attendance of national days' celebrations and other State events, including those by other arms of Government, such as the Judiciary's State of Judiciary and Administration of Justice Report, State banquets in honour of visiting Heads of States, Mashujaa Day, Jamhuri Day, Labour Day and Madaraka Day, among others.

4.2.5 The 20th National Prayer Breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast brings together the top leadership of the country to reflect, engage, interact, pray, and seek God's divine intervention and guidance in the affairs of the nation. The event brings together leaders from all sectors of society and all religious affiliations.

The event is organised under the auspices of the Speakers of both Houses of Parliament who serve as Co-Patrons of the event. The Parliamentary Prayer Fellowship, co-chaired by a Member of the National Assembly and a Senator, help in oversighting the event and offers liaison with external Prayer Fellowships who also participate in the event.

The 20th Prayer Breakfast was held on Wednesday, 7th June, 2023, at the Safari Park Hotel. Three thousand (3,000) participants were invited to attend the event which was broadcast live by media houses and various online platforms.



The Prayer breakfast steering team led by the two Speakers when they called on His Excellency the President on 5th June, 2023, to brief him on the Prayer Breakfast.



Parliament hosted the 20th National Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday, 6th June, 2023, under the theme "Fostering Unity and Reconciliation"

4.2.6 Public Attendance of Plenary and Committee Sittings

The Commission further facilitated multiple stakeholders and members of the public to appear before House Committees to give their views on matters under consideration by Committees, including Bills and Legislative Proposals, Approval Hearings, Petitions for Removal of a Member of a Commission or Independent Office, Agreements, Treaties and Protocols; Sessional Papers; Inquiries; and Budget documents.



Members of the Vihiga County Assembly during a benchmarking visit to Parliament.

4.2.7 Hosting of County Assemblies

The Commission facilitated the hosting of various county Assembly delegations to facilitate learning and sharing of best practices. This included visits from Vihiga, Homabay, Murang'a, Makueni, Kakamega, Kirinyaga, Nakuru and Kilifi Counties.

4.2.8 Committee Sittings outside Nairobi, Field visits and public outreach activities

To ensure that Parliament remained connected and accountable to the people it serves, the Commission facilitated the committees of Parliament to hold some of their sittings away from Nairobi. In this regard, over sixty (60) field visits were undertaken by the Committees of the National Assembly and the Senate across the country.



The Kenya Women Senators' Association (KEWOSA) holds a Mentorship programme at Lodwar Girls Secondary school, Turkana County.

CHAPTER 05

Facilitating Parliamentary Business

The Parliamentary Service Commission provides the services and facilities necessary for the effective and efficient functioning of Parliament. These include provision of the necessary human resource, ensuring budgetary provision for the Houses and provision of the necessary infrastructure.

5.1 Introduction

The Constitution provides for the sovereignty of the people of Kenya. In particular, Article 2 emphasizes the cardinal role that the legislature plays in ensuring that the people exercise their sovereign power either directly or through their democratically elected representatives.

Article 93(1) of the Constitution further provides for the establishment of a bicameral Legislature comprising the National Assembly and the Senate. Special attention lies with Article 94 on the Role of Parliament, which emphasizes that the legislative authority of the Republic is derived from the people and, at the national level, is vested in and exercised by Parliament. The Constitution further sets out the role of Parliament (comprising both Houses) and the specialized role of the two Houses. The two Houses perform their distinct roles in accordance with various provisions of the Constitution, including Articles 95 and 96. The National Assembly consists of 349 Members and the Speaker, while the Senate consists of 67 Senators and the Speaker.

The Parliamentary Service Commission provides the services and facilities necessary for the effective and efficient functioning of Parliament. These include provision of the necessary human resources, ensuring budgetary provision for the Houses and provision of the necessary infrastructure. The output of Parliament is, therefore, directly related to the services and facilities provided by the Commission.

5.2 Highlights of Business Transacted by Parliament During the Period Under Review

(i) First Sitting of the 13th Parliament.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Article 126 (2) of the Constitution of Kenya, the President and Commander in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces, appointed the First Sitting of the Senate on the 8th September, 2022, at 9.00 a.m.

The National Assembly and the Senate, therefore, held their first sittings on Thursday, 8th September, 2022. During the sittings, Members took their oaths of office pursuant to Article 74 of the Constitution which requires that before assuming a State office, acting in a State office, or performing any functions of a State office, a person shall take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation of office, in the manner and form prescribed.

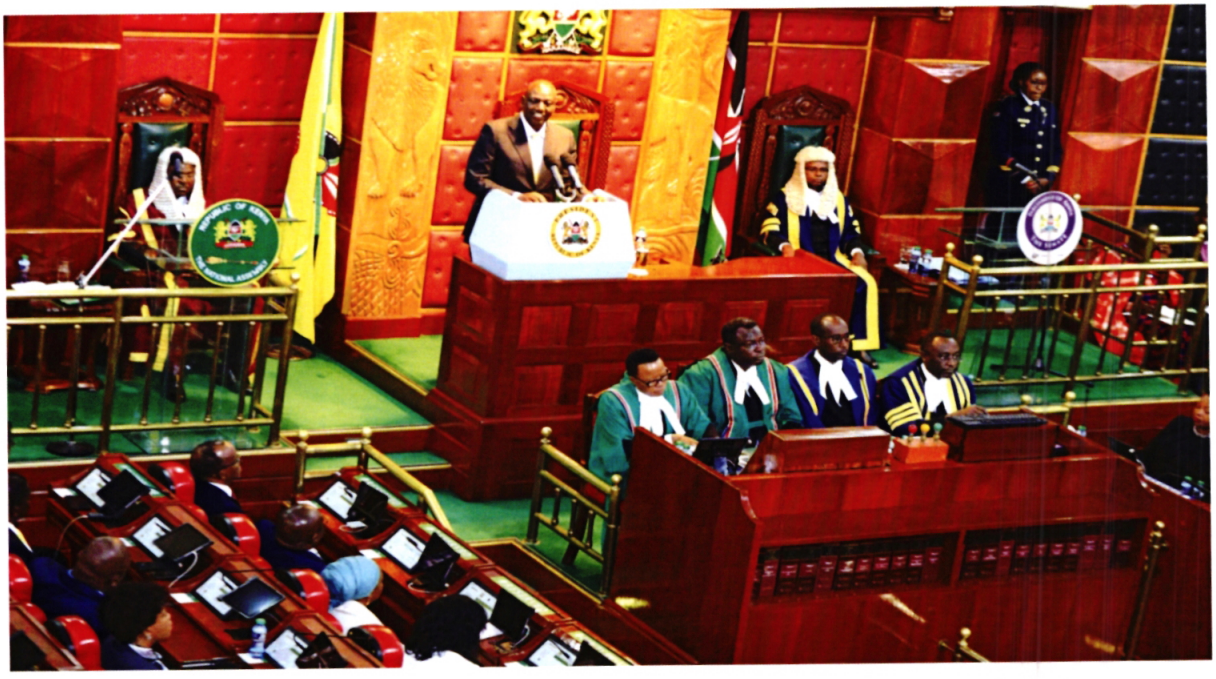
Additionally, the two Houses elected their respective Speakers and Deputy Speakers. Hon. Moses Masika Wetang'ula, EGH, MP and Hon. Gladys Boss, MP were elected Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, respectively. In the Senate, Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, MP and Hon. Kathuri Murungi, MGH, MP were elected Speaker and Deputy Speaker, respectively.

(ii) Presidential Address

His Excellency (Dr.) William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya, addressed the inaugural Joint Sitting of both Houses on the 29th of September, 2022, in fulfillment of Article 132(1)(a) of the Constitution. This address traditionally heralds the commencement of parliamentary business as it forms the subject of the first debate of the Houses when they reconvene in their respective Chambers.



Procession on the Official Opening of the 13th Parliament on 29th September, 2022.



H.E. the President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H., addresses the inaugural Joint sitting of the 13th Parliament on 29th September, 2022

(iii) Appearance of Cabinet Secretaries before Parliament

In March, 2023, both Houses of Parliament amended their Standing Orders to enable Cabinet Secretaries to physically appear before the plenary of the National Assembly every Wednesday afternoon for the National Assembly and Wednesday Morning for the Senate to answer questions from Members of Parliament.

The change aimed to enhance Executive accountability and transparency by enabling direct engagement between the Cabinet Secretaries and the people's elected representatives. Previously handled through committees, this process often faced delays and accountability issues.

5.3 House-Specific Reports

5.3.1 The National Assembly

Some of the key achievements of the National Assembly during the period under review include-

(a) Intensive and comprehensive inaugural induction for Members of the National Assembly from the 18th to 24th September, 2022. The induction themed "Setting the Stage for Smooth Take Off" sought to expose members to the workings of the legislature and ensure that they were well-capacitated ahead of their assumption of office.

(b) Induction seminars for Committees of the National Assembly.

(c) The National Assembly Post Election Seminar, which was held to enhance Members' understanding of the operations of an effective legislature and to prepare them to navigate the challenges of the discharge of their mandate in the 21st Century. The seminar was held in Mombasa County.

(d) Election of Members of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), including conveyance and announcement of the election results in both Houses through Messages, as well as formally communicating the decision of the Parliament of Kenya to the East African Legislative Assembly.

(e) Eighty- nine (89) sittings as indicated in the table below-

Table 10: National Assembly Sittings

Month	Sept 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	June 23	Total
Sittings	2	12	19	4	9	15	12	4	12	89

National Assembly at a Glance

Plenary Sittings
87

Committee Sittings
937

Papers Laid
2428

The House considered various Bills as follows-

60 Bills originated from the National Assembly

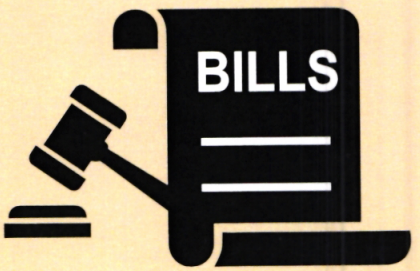
6 referred to the House from the Senate for concurrence

36 Bills sponsored by Members of Parliament in their individual capacity

16 Bills Committee-sponsored Bills

14 Bills sponsored by the Leader of the Majority Party

9 Bills were assented to by the President



Treaties and Conventions

15

Treaties and conventions processed on various matters of international obligation, of which the House approved the ratification of seven (7) treaties and conventions, rejected the ratification of three (3) conventions and five treaties and conventions were under consideration

Petitions

209

Petitions received while twenty-nine (29) petitions were referred for consideration and processing.

Statements
19

Sessional Papers
5

Questions
93

Motions

228

Facilitated the processing and committal of 228 Motions, of which 175 Motions were passed and adopted.

(f) Undertook and facilitated 937 Committee sittings as summarized in Table 2.

Table 11: Summary of committee sittings during the period under review

S/No	Directorate/Department	No Of Sittings
1	**Audit, Appropriations and Other Select Committees**	
	Twenty-Four (24) Committees	420
2	**Departmental Committees**	
	Twenty (20) Committees	489
3	**Other Committees, Including Meetings And Ad Hoc Committee**	
	Five (5) Joint Committees	23
	Ad hoc Committee (To Amend the Constitution)	5
Total		**937**

(g) The House considered various Bills as follows-

(i) sixty (60) Bills originated from the National Assembly;

(ii) six (6) were referred to the House from the Senate for concurrence;

(iii) thirty-six (36) Bills were sponsored by Members of Parliament in their individual capacity;

(iv) sixteen (16) Bills were Committee-sponsored Bills;

(v) fourteen (14) Bills were sponsored by the Leader of the Majority Party; and

(vi) nine (9) Bills were assented to by the President.

(h) The House received two hundred and nine (209) petitions while twenty-nine (29) petitions were referred for consideration and processing.

(i) The House considered five (5) Sessional Papers from various Government Ministries, of which three (3) that had transited from the 12th Parliament were completed while two (2) were under consideration as of 30th June, 2023.

(j) The House processed fifteen (15) treaties and conventions on various matters of international obligation, of which the House approved the ratification of seven (7) treaties and conventions, rejected the ratification of three (3) conventions and five treaties and conventions were under consideration at the conclusion of the financial year.

(k) Facilitated the processing of 2,428 papers laid before the House for consideration and matters incidental thereof.

(l) Facilitated the processing and committal of 228 Motions, of which 175 Motions were passed and adopted.

(m) Facilitated the approval of amendment of Standing Orders to enable Cabinet Secretaries to attend before plenary to respond to Members' Questions. This enhanced the representation and oversight roles of the Members of the National Assembly

(n) Processing and facilitated 297 Questions, of which 288 were referred to various Ministries, and 12

questions were asked and submitted to the Independent Offices, Constitutional Commissions and Government Departments for written reply.

(o) Undertook and completed approval hearings and vetting of nominees by Departmental committees, which included: Principal Secretaries; Inspector-General of the National Police Service, Chairperson of the Kenya Fish Marketing Authority, Commissioner to the National Police Service Commission, Director-General of the National Intelligence Service, Chairperson and commissioners of CRA, Governor and Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya, Solicitor-General; Chairperson of the EACC; Members of the Judicial Service Commission; Members of the SRC and a Member to the National Gender and Equality Commission.

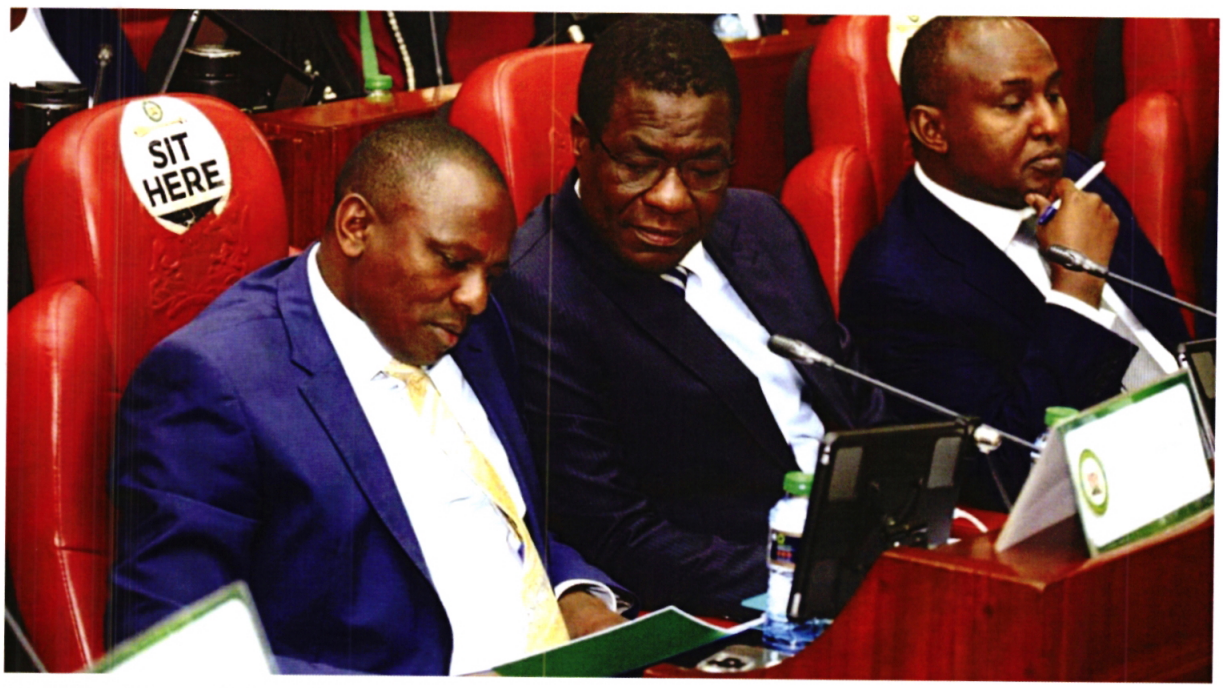
(p) Consideration of 93 Questions and 19 Statements by Departmental Committees of which 71 Questions were concluded representing 76% of the Questions referred to the Committees and 17 responses to requests for Statements by Members of Parliament were processed to conclusion representing 89 % of the Statements requested.



The Valedictory sitting of the former Speaker of the National Assembly and the former Chairperson of the Parliamentary Service Commission.



Swearing in of the Speaker of the National Assembly and Chairperson, Parliamentary Service Commission, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula, EGH, on 8th September, 2022.



The National Assembly Committee on Appointments at one of its sittings.



Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH, is affirmed during his vetting for the position of Prime Cabinet Secretary on 16th October, 2022.



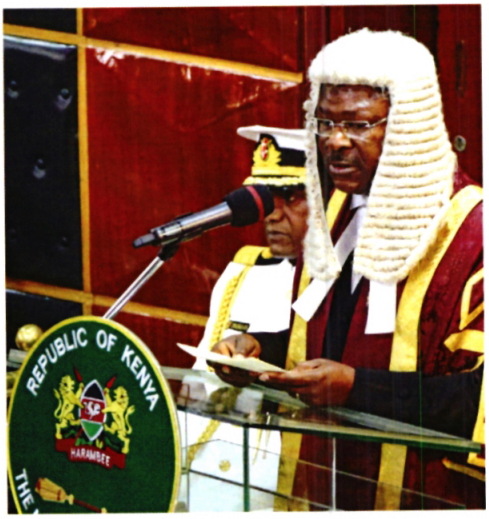
Vetting of the Hon. Justin B.N. Muturi, EGH, for the position of Attorney General.



Hon. Gladys Boss, CBS, is escorted by Hon. Farah Maalim, EGH, and Hon. Faith Gitau, MP, to take the oath of office for the position of Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly on 8th September, 2022.



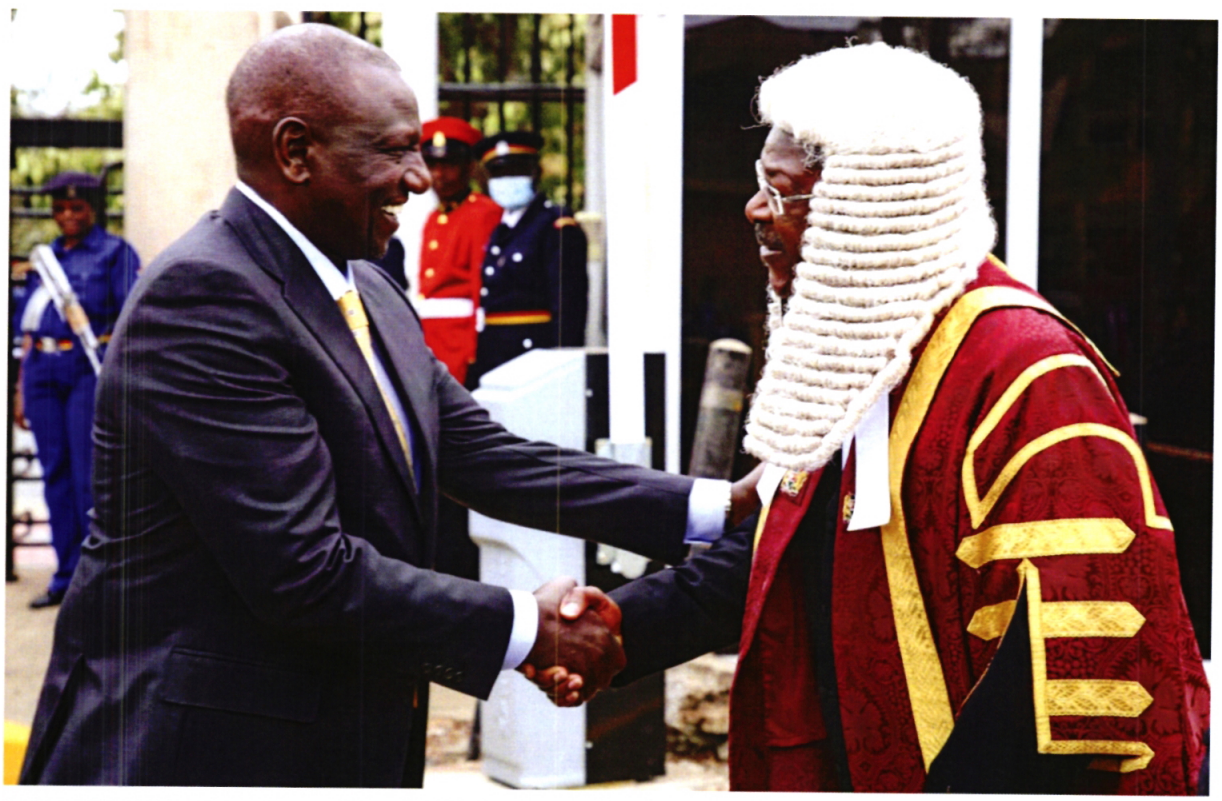
The Serjeant-at-Arms of the National Assembly close the ballot boxes during the election of the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly on 8th September, 2022.



The Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula, EGH, delivers his convocation during the first sitting of Parliament held on 29th September, 2022.



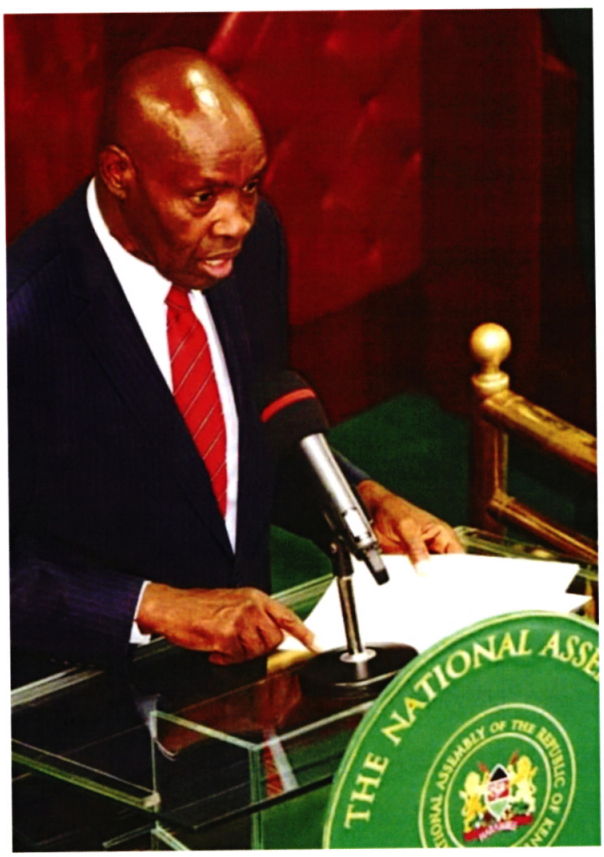
First Joint Sitting of the 13th Parliament on 29th September, 2022.



Arrival of H.E Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H., President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces in Parliament Buildings for the first Joint sitting of Parliament on 29th September, 2022.



National Assembly Post-election Seminar held on 31st, January, 2023.



The Cabinet Secretary for Education, Hon. Ezekiel Machogu, responding to questions during the National Assembly plenary session on 7th June, 2023.



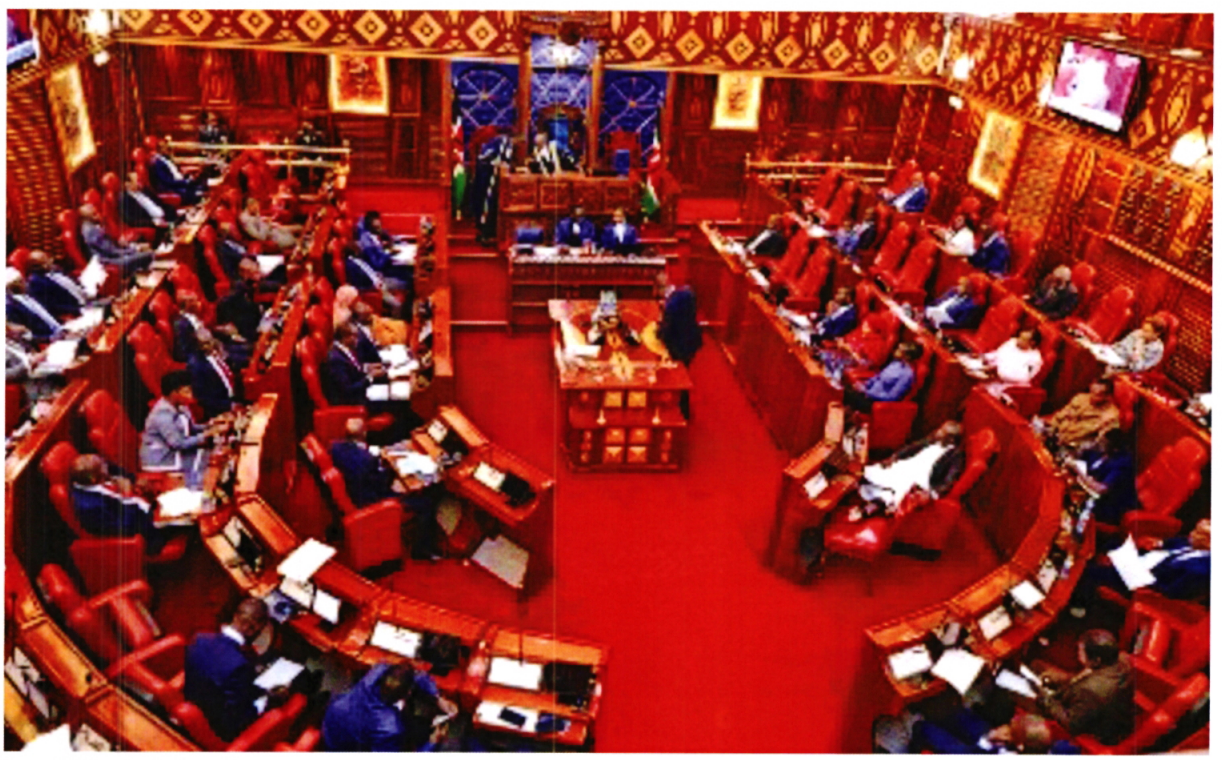
The Clerks of both Houses address the Joint Committee on Election of Representatives to the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), during a Pre-Nomination Briefing held on 7th November, 2022.



The Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning holds public hearings on the Finance Bill, 2023.

5.3.2 The Senate





The 4th Senate in Session.

Senate at a Glance

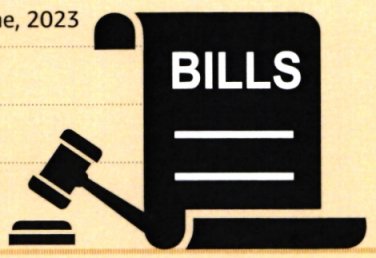
Plenary Sittings 90

Committee Sittings 846

Papers Laid 1140

The House considered various Bills as follows-

- **38** Bills published
- **3** Bills Assented to
- **3** Bills Passed by the Senate and referred to the National Assembly pending conclusion
- **21** Bills pending conclusion by 30th June, 2023
- **8** Bills undergoing Concurrence
- **2** Bills denied concurrence
- **1** Withdrawn Bill (s)



Motions

- **47** motions introduced
- **36** were adopted
- **4** were pending
- **1** was negatived
- **1** withdrawn
- **5** lapsed

Petitions

30

The Senate received 30 Petitions on diverse matters including, amendments to the Constitution, statute law, land matters, injustices suffered by various communities, recruitment and remuneration of teachers and county officials, among others.

Statements 381

Sessional Papers 5

Questions 42

Messages 41

Summons 17

The Senate, achieved the following during the period under review

(a) The Senate conducted an orientation exercise for all Senators elected on 7th September, 2022 to help them familiarise themselves with the Senate traditions. They were also briefed on how to carry out their duties and the privileges they enjoy as Members of the House.

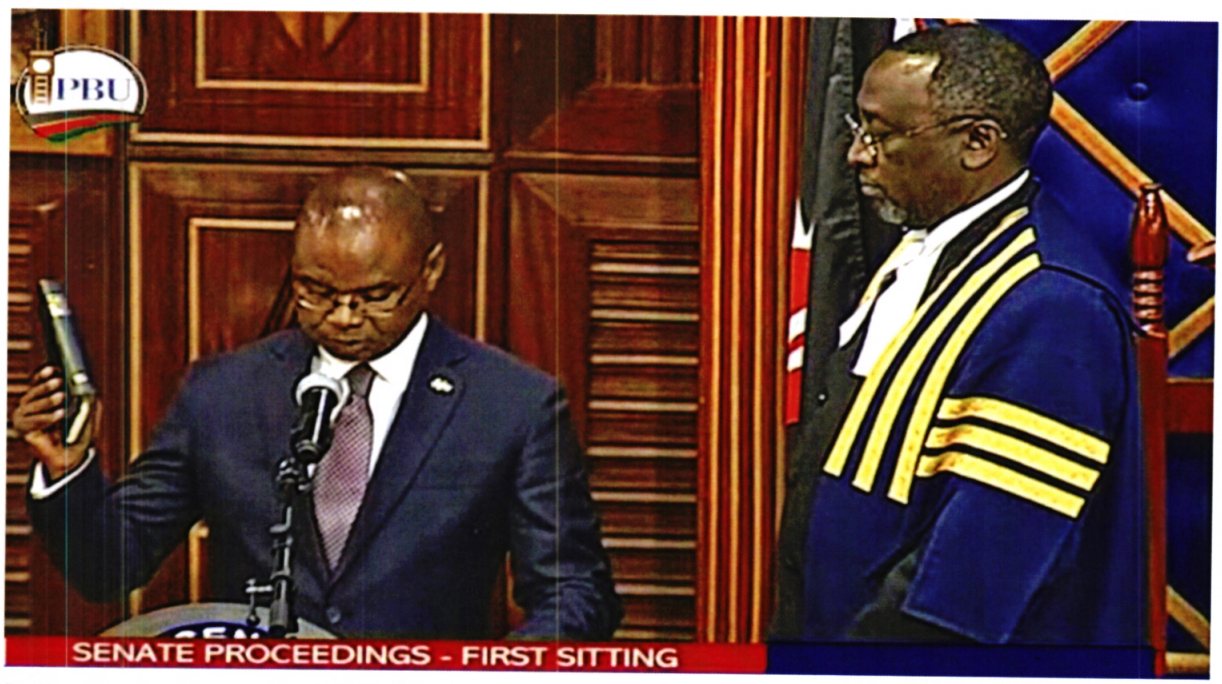


Clerk of the Senate, Mr. J.M. Nyegenye, CBS, guides Sen. (Prof) Tom Ojienda, MP during the Orientation of Senators of the 13th Parliament held on 7th September, 2022.



Deputy Clerk of the Senate, Ms. Eunice Gichangi welcomes Sen. Okong'o Mogeni to the Orientation of Senators of the 13th Parliament held on the 7th of September, 2022.

(b) Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker



Rt. Hon. Speaker Amason Kingi, EGH, MP taking the oath of office on 8th September,2022.

(c) Following the swearing-in of Senators, the Senate facilitated the induction of the Senators on 20th September, 2022 in Nakuru County. The Induction offered them the opportunity to deepen their understanding of various issues such as the role of Parliament and the Senate as provided for under Articles 94 and 96 of the Constitution, the Standing Orders of the Senate, the linkages between the Senate and other Constitutional and independent offices, amongst others.



First induction of the 4th Senate in Naivasha, Nakuru County.



The Speaker of the Senate Rt. Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, E.G.H., MP, closes the five-day induction retreat of the Senate.

(d) **Senate Sittings:** In line with its mandate, during the period under review, the Senate held a total of ninety (90) sittings and transacted a wide array of business.

Table 12: Summary of Senate Sittings

Month	Ordinary Sittings	Special/Joint Sittings	Total Sittings
September to December 2022	25	6 (including the official opening of the 13th Parliament)	**31**
February to June, 2023	58	1	**59**
Total Sittings	**83 Sittings**	**7 Special & Joint Sittings**	**90**

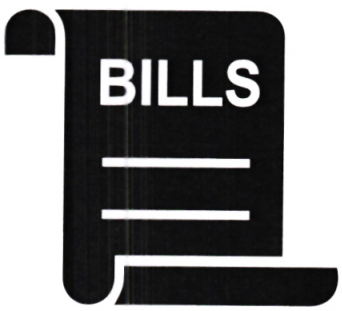
(e) **Committee Sittings:** Senate Committees held eight hundred and forty-six (846) sittings to consider various businesses in line with the specific mandates, during which they also engaged various stakeholders. The Standing Committee on Health and the Sessional Committee on County Public Investments and Special Funds (CPIC) held the highest number of meetings at 70 and 67, respectively.

(f) **Legislative Proposals:** On legislative proposals and Bills, 38 Bills were published in the Senate, out of which six were passed and referred to the National Assembly for consideration, three (3) of which were referred to His Excellency the President for assent.

(g) **Bills:** Twenty-one (21) Bills were pending conclusion in the Senate, while eight (8) were undergoing concurrence pursuant to Article 110(3) of the Constitution by the end of the Financial Year. One Bill was withdrawn pursuant to the provisions of the Senate Standing Orders. Public participation matrices and committee-stage amendments were prepared in respect of 13 Bills.

(h) Following the introduction of Bills in the House by way of First Reading, the Bills stand committed to the relevant Standing Committee for consideration and thereafter preparation and tabling of a Report in the Senate. Committees in the Senate considered 30 Bills and three (3) Statutory Instruments during the period. The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries considered the highest number of Bills in the Senate.

TABLE 13: Breakdown of Bills Processed in the Senate



Bills published	38
Bills published	**38**
Bills Assented to	**3**
Bills Passed by the Senate and referred to the National Assembly pending conclusion	**3**
Bills pending conclusion by 30th June, 2023	**21**
Bills undergoing Concurrence	**8**
Bills denied concurrence	**2**
Withdrawn Bill (s)	**1**

(i) On processing and managing questions, on Thursday, 23rd March, 2023, the Senate passed a Motion on the 5th Report of the Procedure and Rules Committee and approved amendments to the Senate Standing Orders, whose effect provided a framework for Questions to Cabinet Secretaries. In approving the amendments to the Standing Orders, the Senate also varied the hours of sittings to provide for sittings on Wednesday mornings. To this end, a Resolution of the Senate to amend the Senate Calendar was approved and adopted on the 29th March, 2023.

(j) The first question was scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, 26th April, 2023, with the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration being the first to respond to a Question in the House. During the period under review, 42 Questions were processed, 11 of which were responded to.



Hon. Prof. Kithure Kindiki, Cabinet Secretary, Interior and National Administration, during Question Time.

(k) A total of fifty-four (54) Statements were facilitated through the House pursuant to Standing Order 52(1); 381 Statements pursuant to Standing Order 53(1); 11 Statements issued quarterly by Chairpersons of Committees pursuant to Standing Order 56(1)(a); and 35 Statements facilitated under Standing Order 56(1)(b) of the Senate Standing Orders. Three Senators made/issued personal Statements pursuant to Standing Order 58.

Table 14: Breakdown of Statements Processed in the Senate.

Statements under SO 52 (1)	Statements under SO 53 (1)	Statements under SO 56(1) (a)	Statements under SO 56(1)(b)	Statements under SO 58
54	381	11	35	3

(l) Out of the 381 Statements, the Committees considered 325 Statements during the Financial Year. The Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources and Committee on National Security and Foreign Relations considered the highest number of Statements, at 63 and 49, respectively.





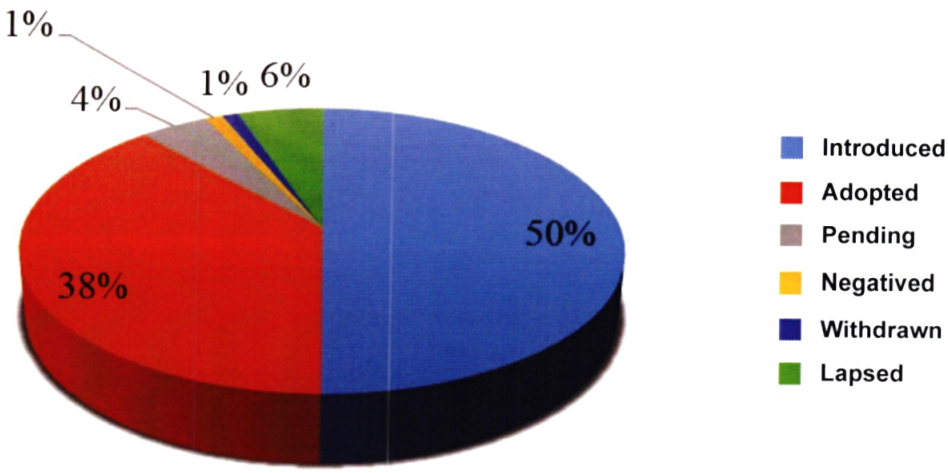
The Senate Standing Committee on Trade, Industrialisation and Tourism holding a public hearing with members of Drumvale Farmers' Co-operative Society at Kamulu, Machakos County, during consideration of a Statement on Liquidation of the Society.

(m) On Petitions, the Senate received 30 Petitions on diverse matters including, amendments to the Constitution, statute law, land matters, injustices suffered by various communities, recruitment and remuneration of teachers and county officials, among others.

(n) Pursuant to Senate Standing Order 238(1), every Petition is required to be committed to the relevant Standing Committee. The Committee is required to consider the Petition and respond to the Petitioners by way of a report tabled in the Senate. During the period under review, 30 Petitions were considered by Committees.

(o) On Motions, during the reporting period, 47 Motions were introduced in the Senate from which 36 were adopted, four were pending before the House, one was negatived, one was withdrawn while five lapsed.

Figure 4: Summary of Motions processed in the Senate during FY 2022/2023



(p) Once a Motion is adopted in the Senate, the Clerk transmits the Resolution to the implementing Ministry and/or Government Agency. In this regard, 24 Resolutions were conveyed for implementation during the Financial Year.

(q) A total of 1,140 Papers were laid on the Table of the Senate during this period. Out of these, one (1) was the President's Address on the Opening of the 13th Parliament, two were the Senate Calendars, 37 were Committee reports on various legislative businesses undertaken by Committees, 37 were annual institutional reports, four were Regulations from Ministries, 24 were from the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and 1,035 were reports of State corporations, constitutional and Independent Offices.

(r) The Senate formally communicates with the National Assembly, the President, County Assemblies and County Governors through Messages. During the period under review, 41 Messages were processed. Table 15 below shows the various Messages processed by the Senate during the reporting period.

Table 15: : Breakdown of Messages Processed in the Senate

Messages from the Senate to the National Assembly	Messages from the National Assembly to the Senate	Messages to /from the President	Messages to/ from County Assemblies	Messages to/from Governors
14	14	3	10	Nil

(s) The Senate Committees issued 17 summons on various State and Public officers pursuant to the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act No.29 of 2017.



The Speaker of the Senate Rt.Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, E.G.H., MP presents the County Governments Additional Allocation (Conditional Grants) Bill, 2022 to H.E. President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H. for assent.



The Council of County Governors (CoG) and the Senate of Kenya at their inaugural high-level meeting from 15th to 17th June, 2023 in Nakuru County. The meeting's theme was "Enhancing Collegiality Between the Senate and the Council of Governors: Opportunity for stock-taking ten (10) Years into Devolution".



H.E. the President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, H.E. the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, EGH, the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly Moses Wetang'ula,EGH, the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Senate Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah M. Nyegenye, CBS and Ag. Clerk of the National Assembly Serah Mbuli Kioko, MBS pose for a photo during Joint Sitting of Parliament held on 29th September, 2022.

CHAPTER 06

Resource Utilization and Accountability

The Commission exercised oversight of the use of the financial resources through various organs, including the Commission Committee on Finance, Commission Committee on Tender and Procurement and Commission Committee on Audit. These Committees are supported by competent officers serving in the Finance, Accounting, Procurement and Internal Audit departments.

6.0 Introduction

Article 127(6)(c) of the Constitution provides that the Commission shall prepare annual estimates of expenditure of the Parliamentary Service and submit them to the National Assembly for approval and exercise budgetary control over the service. This Chapter reports on the resources allocated to the Commission under three Votes: the Parliamentary Service Commission (including the Senate); Vote 2041, National Assembly, Vote 2042, and Parliamentary Joint Service, Vote 2043. It also provides a comparative analysis of the budget allocation, actual expenditure releases during the FY 2022/2023 and the trend during the medium term. It outlines the mechanisms that the Commission put in place to ensure that the financial resources are used for the intended purposes and in accordance with the established standards.

6.1 Policy Environment

During the period under review the Commission continued to abide by the set policies and regulations to ensure the smooth running of the financial system, avoid wastages and guarantee that errors and fraud are detected. The financial reporting was done in accordance with the National Treasury and Public Sector Accounting Standards Board guidelines.

The resources advanced to the Commission were administered and accounted for by three Accounting Officers responsible for the Senate and PSC, Vote 2041; National Assembly, Vote 2042, and Parliamentary Joint Services, Vote 2043.

The Commission exercised oversight on the use of the financial resources through various organs, including the Commission Committee on Finance, Commission Committee on Tender and Procurement and Commission Committee on Audit. These Committees are supported by competent officers serving in the Finance, Accounting, Procurement and Internal Audit departments.

6.2 Budgetary allocation

The annual work plans and the budget estimates for FY 2022/2023 were prepared, taking cognizance of the August, 2022 General Elections and the attendant expenses associated with the transition from one Parliament to another. In furtherance of its Strategic Objective No.20, which aims to mobilize sufficient financial resources to fund Parliamentary Programmes, the Commission mobilized KES. 49.475 billion, which was appropriated to the Parliamentary Service Commission and Senate (Vote 2041), National Assembly (Vote 2042) and Parliamentary Joint Services (Vote 2043).

The KES. 49.475 billion allocation for FY 2022/23 compared to KES. 38.377 billion allocated in FY 2021/2022 represented a growth of 28.9 per cent, with the bulk of the additional resources meant to finance one-off activities arising from a new Parliament, such as enhancing car and mortgage loans for new Members of Parliament, payment of gratuity for outgoing contract staff serving in counties and constituencies of Members of the 12th Parliament and inductions of Members in the 13th Parliament.

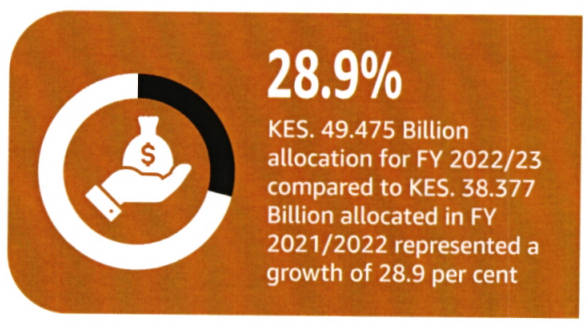
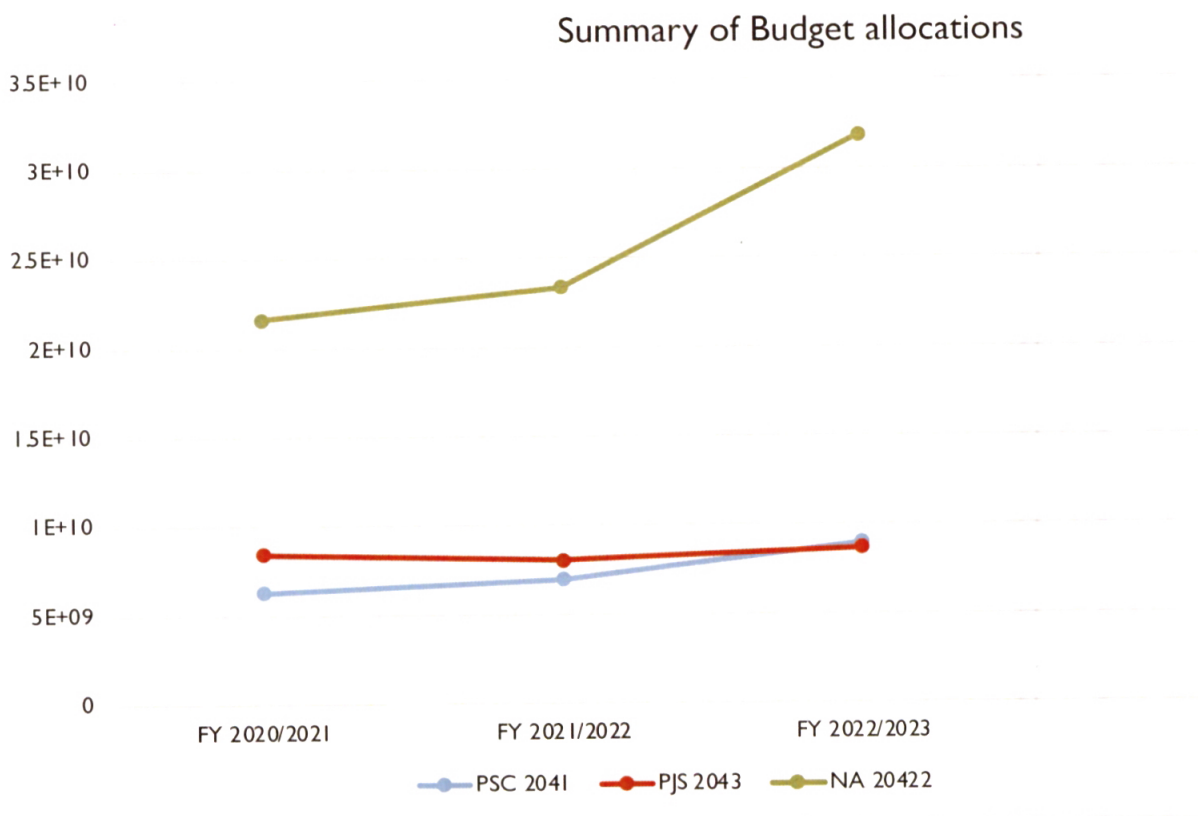


Table 16: Summary of budget allocations

	Vote	Approved Estimates 2020/21	Approved Estimates 2021/22	Approved Estimates 2022/23
	KES	KES	KES	KES
1.	Parliamentary Service Commission/ Senate R2041	6,271,543,470	6,961,619,367	8,950,000,000
2.	National Assembly R2042	21,615,499,775	23,372,082,199	31,848,747,598
3.	Parliamentary Joint Services R2043 & D2043	8,449,909,101	8,042,803,573	8,676,000,000
	Grand Total	**36,336,952,346**	**38,376,505,139**	**49,474,747,598**

Figure 5: Summary of budget allocations



Expenditure items



Capital projects (EG Bunge Tower, CPST complex)

Paperless solutions



Compensation to employees

General administration

use of goods and services

(i) Actual Budget Receipts

The actual receipts for the FY2022/23 was KES. 42,715,457,646 compared with KES. 33,316,147,701 received in the previous year, accounting for an increase in absolute numbers of KES. 9,399,309,945.

Table No. 17: Summary of actual budget receipts by vote

Senate Vote 2041		National Assembly Vote 2042		Joint Services Vote 2043		Total	
2021/2022	2022/2023	2021/2022	2022/2023	2021/2022	2022/2023	2021/2022	2022/2023
6,221,172,874	7,986,036,008	19,982,358,015	26,907,928,128	7,112,616,812	7,973,216,640	33,316,147,701	42,867,180,776

Actual Expenditure

The actual expenditure for the period FY2022/23 was KES. 42,715,457,646 against approved budget estimates of KES. 49,474,747,598. This translates to an absorption rate of 86.34%.

Table No. 18: Summary of Actual Expenditure by Vote

Senate Vote 2041		National Assembly Vote 2042		Joint Services Vote 2043		Total	
Approved	expenditure	Approved	expenditure	Approved	expenditure	Approved	expenditure
8,950,000,000	7,865,074,472	31,848,747,598	26,897,425,729	8,676,000,000	7,952,957,445	49,474,747,598	42,715,457,646

Table No. 19: Summary of Expenditure on Economic Classification in FY 2022/2023

Economic Item	Printed Estimates	Supplementary Estimates	Final Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure	Balance
Vote R2041					
Compensation of Employees	3,372,000,000	25,000,000	3,397,000,000	2,925,788,506	471,211,494
Use of Goods and Services	3,150,000,000	280,100,000	3,430,100,000	3,078,459,188	351,640,812
Grants and Transfers	2,112,000,000	(150,000,000)	1,962,000,000	1,754,249,635	207,750,365
Acquisition of Assets	151,000,000	9,900,000	160,900,000	106,577,143	54,322,857
TOTAL	**8,785,000,000**	**165,000,000**	**8,950,000,000**	**7,865,074,472**	**1,084,925,528**

Economic Item	Printed Estimates	Supplementary Estimates	Final Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure	Balance
Vote R2042					
Compensation of Employees	13,723,674,973	(1,321,252,402)	12,402,422,571	10,390,576,557	2,011,846,014
Use of Goods and Services	9,689,966,897	620,000	10,339,966,897	9,152,264,476	1,187,702,421
Grants and Transfers	9,396,358,130	(750,000)	8,646,358,130	7,136,435,350	1,509,922,780
Acquisition of Assets	460,000,000	-	460,000,000	218,149,346	241,850,654
TOTAL	**33,270,000,000**	**(1,451,252,402)**	**31,848,747,598**	**26,897,425,729**	**4,951,321,869**

Economic Item	Printed Estimates	Supplementary Estimates	Final Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure	Balance
Vote R2043					
Compensation of Employees	2,302,058,632	135,000,000	2,437,058,632	2,435,318,611	1,740,021
Use of Goods and Services	3,623,341,368	36,000,000	3,659,341,368	3,336,236,312	323,105,056
Grants and Transfers	12,000,000	-	12,000,000	11,908,002	91,998
Acquisition of Assets	138,600,000	(36,000,000)	102,600,000	57,475,679	45,124,321
TOTAL	**6,076,000,000**	**135,000,000**	**6,211,000,000**	**5,840,938,604**	**370,061,396**
Vote D2043	**2,065,000,000**	**400,000,000**	**2,465,000,000**	**2,112,018,841**	**352,981,159**

The Commission utilised and deployed exchequer releases in line with the appropriations measures and the Public Finance Management Act, including quarterly expenditure requirements as indicated in Table 20.

Table 20: Trends of Quarterly Exchequer releases for FY 2022/2023 (KES)

Description	Senate	National Assembly	Parliamentary Joint Services
Total Exchequer Releases for Quarter 1	1,389,559,919	3,085,960,337	1,211,161,553
Total Exchequer Releases for Quarter 2	1,997,559,640	7,343,588,578	1,851,172,146
Total Exchequer Releases for Quarter 3	1,791,234,511	5,828,160,705	1,242,347,117
Total Exchequer Releases for Quarter 4	2,807,681,936	10,650,218,508	3,668,535,822
TOTAL	**7,986,036,008**	**26,907,928,128**	**7,973,216,640**

Table 21: Budget allocation and the budget expenditures by Votes

No	Vote	Printed Estimates FY 2022/2023	Supplementary	Final Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure
			FY 2022/2023	FY 2022/2023	FY 2022/2023
1	PSC & Senate	8,785,000,000	165,000,000	8,950,000,000	7,865,074,472
2	National Assembly	33,270,000,000	(1,421,252,402)	31,848,747,598	26,897,425,729
3	PJS	8,141,000,000	535,000,000	8,676,000,000	7,952,957,445
	TOTAL	**50,196,000,000**	**(721,252,402)**	**49,474,747,598**	**42,715,457,646**

(ii) Appropriation in Aid (A-I-A)

The National Assembly approved Appropriation-in-Aid (AIA) of KES 20 million to be collected by the CPST during the Financial Year 2022/2023. This money was raised from revenues charged for training programmes and consultancy assignments the CPST planned to offer to County Assemblies and legislators within the region.

The CPST raised a total revenue of KES 42,725,206.47 during the Financial Year 2022/2023. By the end of the Financial Year 2022/2023, the CPST collected a total of KES 32,776,945. Fees arrears stood at KES 10,591,510 as at the 27th of June, 2023.

6.3 Enhancing Efficiency in Procurement of Goods and Services

During the period under review, the Directorates in all three Votes developed work and procurement plans that efficiently guided the procurement of goods and services and ensured proper management and accounting of finances allocated to promote efficient and effective use of budgetary resources during the financial year.

The Commission empowered the Service Boards to continuously monitor procurement processes by considering weekly Reports on the status of pending bills and made appropriate recommendations for enhancing efficiency in the procurement of goods and services.

6.4 Efficiency in Resource Utilization, Monitoring and Evaluation

Section 73(5) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 provides that "every national government public entity shall establish an Audit Committee, whose composition and functions shall be as prescribed by the Regulations. Inter alia, Regulations 174 to 182 of the Public Finance Management (National Government) Regulations, 2015, deal with the establishment, duties, and composition of the audit committees.

In compliance with the Regulations, the Directorate of Internal Audit functionally reports to the Committee of the Commission on Audit and administratively to the Clerk of the Senate/Secretary to the Commission.

The Directorate of Internal Audit conducted audits during the period under review.

Table 22: : Audit Activities undertaken

No.	Major Activities(Reports)	Expected Outcome
1.	Review of Security Allowance	Strengthened efficiency and effectiveness of service Delivery
2.	Serjeant-At-Arms-Senate	Efficiency in Service Delivery
3.	Review in of Legal Operations-Senate	Efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.
4.	Turkana County Office Special Audit	Effective representation, legislation and oversight
5.	Disposal of County Assets	Compliance with Public Assets and Disposal Act
6.	Hansard and Audio Services	Accurate reporting and effective service delivery
7.	Disposal of Motor Vehicles	Compliance with Public Assets and Disposal Act.
8.	Mileage Review-National Assembly	Effective representation, legislation and oversight
9.	Catering Fund review	Improved efficiency.
10.	County offices operations review	Safeguarding of assets and efficiency in utilisation of the funds.
11.	Constituency offices operations review	Safeguarding of assets and efficiency in utilisation of the funds
12.	Boards of Surveys	Improved accountability.

Further, the Auditor General's report for FY 2022/23 found that there were no material issues noted during the audit of the financial statements of the institution.

CHAPTER 07

Emerging Issues and Conclusion

7.1 Emerging Issues

(i) Election Cycle and Electioneering

The election cycle is important in the calendar of the Commission. The year under review presented unique challenges for the Commission, particularly during the electioneering period. The political climate and the heightened activity during this period led to an unexpected pile-up of regular business. This had a cascading effect, resulting in delays in making key decisions, some of which were constitutional.

Further, this backlog adversely impacted the orientation process for Commissioners. Instead of an optimal induction experience that provides a comprehensive overview and understanding of their roles and the Institution's intricacies, Commissioners were met with an overloaded in-tray. The Commission, however, diligently dispensed with all the pending business and normalised its routine operations.

(i) Litigation

Litigation poses a reputational risk to the Commission and threatens public trust. The Parliamentary Service Commission is highly susceptible to litigation due to its connection to the Legislature and its role in overseeing vital functions like administration, welfare and staffing. Further, Parliament's role as a critical pillar of democratic governance exposes its activities to intense public scrutiny, thus the potential legal ramifications on the Commission's actions.

The Commission thus ensures representation in all litigation matters and engages external legal counsel when necessary.

(iii) Budgetary Constraints

The global and domestic economic challenges during the period under review emerged as a challenge to the seamless functioning of many organisations, including the Parliamentary Service Commission. Some of the impacted areas in the operations of the Commission include-

(i) Delay in Key Capital Projects: One of the most direct consequences of budgetary constraints has been the slowdown of projects such as the Bunge Tower, refurbishment of the buildings within Parliamentary Square and the CPST Project. Without the requisite funding, these projects, crucial for the Parliament's operational efficiency and infrastructural enhancement, have experienced prolonged timelines for completion.

(ii) Accumulation of Pending Bills: Budgetary shortfalls have inevitably led to a buildup of unpaid bills. This not only strains relations with suppliers and service providers, but also jeopardizes public trust, leading to higher costs in the future.

(iii) Postponement of Strategic Activities: Essential activities, including training and capacity-building initiatives, have been postponed. Such delays impede the professional growth of Members and staff and hinder the continuous improvement of the institution, potentially affecting the quality of services rendered.

(iv) Implementation of Austerity Measures: In an attempt to balance the budget and manage the prevailing financial crisis, the Commission has had to adopt severe cost-cutting measures. While necessary, these measures have restricted the Commission's operational flexibility and led to reduced efficiency and effectiveness in its functions.

7.2 Recommendations

To enhance the efficiency of budget management, it is necessary for the National Treasury to enable prompt access to the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) at the start of each financial year to minimize delays in budget execution. Additionally, the National Treasury should ensure adherence to the Appropriation Act and guarantee consistent funding disbursements in line with approved allocations.

The Commission further reiterates the need for adequate funding to enable Parliament to function in an efficient and effective manner.

In conclusion, the 6th Commission's inaugural year stands testament to its unwavering commitment, dynamic leadership and proactive approach to its mandate. Despite the challenges, the achievements of the year indicate a trajectory that promises even higher accomplishments.



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION

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