



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ON THE CONVENING OF A SPECIAL SITTING OF THE SENATE

Honourable Senators,

Let me take this opportunity to welcome you back for this ninth Special Sitting of the Fourth Session of the Senate and thank you for finding time from your holidays and your busy schedules to attend the sitting. I am sure each of you had scheduled family and county events, and it is because of the value you attach to the business of the Senate, that you have created time to be here.

Honourable Senators,

By a letter dated 23rd December, 2016, and pursuant to Standing Order 29 (1) of the Senate, the Senate Majority Leader supported by the requisite number of Senators, requested the Speaker to convene a Special Sitting of the Senate to consider among other things the approval of nominees to the National Climate Change Council, approval of the Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, Commerce and Budget on the Budget Policy Statement and consideration of the Election Laws (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 63 of 2015) among other urgent business as listed in the Order Paper and the *Gazette Notice*.

Following consideration of the request by the Senate Majority Leader, I was satisfied that it met the requirements of Standing Order 29 (2). It is in this respect that I convened this special sitting of the Senate via *Gazette Notice* No. 164 dated 23rd December, 2016.

Honourable Senators,

As required by Standing Order 29 (5), the Gazette Notice specified the business to be transacted at this sitting and it is the business scheduled in today's Order Paper. Indeed, as specified and in accordance with standing order 29(5) of the Senate, the business listed shall be the only business before the Senate during this Special Sitting, following which the Senate shall stand adjourned until Tuesday, 14th February, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. in accordance with the Senate Calendar.

Honourable Senators,

It is in the public domain that some of the Business listed for debate today have elicited a lot of emotions during debate in the National Assembly leading to rise in political temperatures in the country. I want to take this opportunity to ask Hon. Senators to debate issues in a sober manner consistent with the tenets of our Senate as a House of review.

Honourable Senators,

I would like to reiterate that in accordance with Article 123 of the Constitution and standing order 71, for the Senate to approve business scheduled in today's Order Paper, the support of a majority of all delegations (that is 24 delegations) is required. I therefore appeal to you all to remain in the Chamber for the transaction of business as scheduled.

I thank you.

SEN.EKWEE ETHURO, EGH, EBS, MP
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

28th December, 2016