



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE APPROVAL OF THE
SEEDS AND PLANT VARIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 43 OF 2015)**

Honorable Senators,

I wish to report to the Senate that, pursuant to Standing Order 40 (3) and (4), I received the following Message from the Speaker of the National Assembly regarding the passage by the Assembly of the Seeds and Plant Varieties (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 43 of 2015)-

“PURSUANT to the provisions of standing orders 41(1) and 142 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby convey the following message from the National Assembly-

WHEREAS, the Seeds and Plant Varieties (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 43 of 2015) was published *vide* the Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 127 of 11th August 2015, as a Bill concerning county governments proposing to amend the Seeds and Plant Varieties Act, (CAP 326) and to give effect to the provisions of Articles 11(3)(b) and 69(1) of the Constitution so as to recognize and protect the ownership of indigenous seeds and plant varieties, their genetic and diverse characteristics and their use by Kenyan communities and protection of genetic resources and biodiversity for equitable sharing of accruing benefits;

AND WHEREAS, the National Assembly considered and passed the said Bill on Thursday, 5th May, 2016 **with amendments** in the form attached hereto;

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of Article 110(4) of the Constitution and Standing Order 142 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby forward the said Bill to the Senate for consideration".

Honourable Senators,

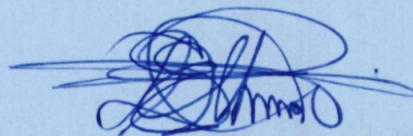
Standing Order No. 148 requires that a Bill which originates in the National Assembly be proceeded with by the Senate in the same manner as a Bill introduced in the Senate by way of First Reading in accordance with Standing Order No. 129.

I therefore direct that the Bill be listed for First Reading in the Order Paper of Thursday, 2nd June, 2016.

Honourable Senators,

I also wish to bring to your attention that this Bill is one of the Bills required to be enacted within 5 years of the enactment of the Constitution of Kenya. This timeline lapsed on 27th August, 2015 but the National Assembly, by resolution, extended the timeline by one year.

I thank you.



SEN. DAVID EKWEE ETHURO, EGH, EBS, M.P.
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

31st May, 2016