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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT - (SIXTH SESSION)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

(No. 18 of 2022)

**PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENT OF THE BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS AND
REVENUE RAISING MEASURES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR
2022/2023**

Honourable Members,

As you may be aware, each financial year, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters of finance is required to make a public pronouncement of budget highlights and revenue raising measures for the national government pursuant to Section 40 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), 2012, the National Assembly Standing Order 244C and in line with timelines provided under Article 221 of the Constitution.

For clarity, **Hon. Members**, according to the obtaining sequence in the budget making cycle, it is ordinarily expected that public pronouncement of budget highlights and revenue raising measures for the national government would be preceded by submission of the budget estimates for the National Government, which must be done not later than 30th April. As you are aware, the estimates have not

been submitted yet in order for the House to take the next steps in the budget cycle.

However, **Hon. Members**, you will observe that the budget process for the FY 2022/2023 is happening under extraordinary circumstances that are only unique to an election year. These unique circumstances not only call for flexibility but also necessitates adjustments to facilitate conclusion of the budget processes before the House stands adjourned *sine die* ahead of the General Elections. Indeed, this is not the first time that the National Assembly is called upon to adjust certain timelines in the budget-making cycle. Those who served in the 11th Parliament may recall that during the last session of that Parliament, the National Assembly adjusted its Calendar for the election year to allow certain steps in the budget cycle to be concluded before adjourning *sine die*.

It may be recalled that at that time, the House adjusted the timelines and permitted the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury and Planning to make public pronouncement of the budget highlights for the FY 2017/2018 on 30th March 2017. This was also intended to synchronize the 'Budget Speech' days for the East African Community (EAC) Member States.

Hon. Members, you are aware that the country will hold general elections on 9th August 2022. That being the case, political parties have already scheduled their primaries from 9th April 2022 in line with statutory timelines *gazetted* by the Independent Electoral and

Boundaries Commission (IEBC). Further, the House is due to proceed on a long recess from Friday, 15th April to Monday, 9th May 2022 and thereafter adjourn *sine die* on Thursday, 14th June 2022. These election-related circumstances are obviously disruptive to the budget timelines that would ordinarily have been observed in an ordinary year. It is instructive to note that as per the Calendar of the House, the date of 30th April when the Cabinet Secretary is expected to submit the estimates to this House falls within the recess period. In this regard, if no adjustment is made in order for the estimates to be submitted before the House goes on recess next week, the House would have breached the practice.

Hon. Members, Given the circumstances and noting that the Division of Revenue Bill has since been passed and is due for assent, it has become necessary to adjust the sequence of budget process, particularly with respect to submission of the estimates and public pronouncement of the budget highlights and proposed revenue raising measures for the FY 2022/2023. In this regard, I will allow the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury to make the public pronouncement of budget highlights and revenue raising measures for the FY 2022/23 this Thursday, 7th April 2022 in the National Assembly Chamber not later than 3.30 pm. Thereafter, the Cabinet Secretary shall submit to the House the estimates, the Finance Bill, 2022 and any other attendant Regulations for consideration by the House. I hasten to clarify that the foregoing adjustment does not in any case offend the provisions of the Constitution or the PFM law. In any case,

the practice of requiring the CS National Treasury to make public pronouncement of the budget highlights and revenue raising measures to the House is a creation of this House through Standing Order 244C, which was made in furtherance to Section 40 of the PFM Act, 2012. With respect to the remaining steps, it shall be the responsibility of the House to consider and pass the estimates, the Appropriation Bill and the Finance Bill well before adjourning *sine die* in June 2022.

To this end, **Hon. Members**, I direct the Clerk of the National Assembly to make necessary arrangements in order to facilitate the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury and Planning to discharge his duties with respect to pronouncement of the budget highlights and revenue raising measures for the FY 2022/2023 in accordance with Section 40 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and Standing Order 244C.

The House is accordingly guided.

I thank you!


THE HON. JUSTIN B.N. MUTURI, EGH, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, April 5, 2022
