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REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – FIFTH SESSION

**COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL COHESION AND EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY**

**REPORT
ON**

THE PEACE AND SECURITY ENGAGEMENT IN ISIOLO COUNTY

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
GIS	Geographic Information System
KPRs	Kenya Police Reservists
LAPSSET	Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport Corridor
NACADA	National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse
NCIC	National Cohesion and Integration Commission
NIS	National Intelligence Service
NPRs	National Police Reservists
NPS	National Police Service
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

It is my honour and privilege to present this Report of the Committee on National Cohesion and Equal Opportunity on the Peace and Security Engagement in Isiolo County, undertaken from 25th to 27th March, 2026.

This engagement was conducted pursuant to the Committee's mandate under Standing Order 212C to monitor and promote measures relating to peace, national cohesion and equal opportunities, and to inquire into matters relating to inter-community relations and marginalization. The visit was undertaken in collaboration with the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) and brought together key stakeholders, including the County Security Team, political leadership, Peace Committees, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), religious leaders and representatives of local communities.

The Committee undertook this engagement at a time when Isiolo County, a cosmopolitan and strategically significant region at the geographical heart of the Republic, has been experiencing heightened insecurity and inter-community tensions. The County's centrality within the national development framework, particularly as a key node in the Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport Corridor (LAPSSET), underscores the imperative of ensuring peace, stability and social cohesion as the foundation for sustainable development.

The Committee notes with grave concern that the situation in Isiolo County reflects a convergence of governance deficits, resource-based conflicts and a security crisis characterized by organized banditry, proliferation of illegal firearms and cross-county criminal networks. These challenges have had far-reaching consequences, including the loss of lives and livelihoods, disruption of education and economic activities, erosion of public trust and heightened vulnerability among communities, particularly among the youth.

During the engagement, the Committee received submissions from stakeholders, which illuminated both the scale of the challenges and the efforts being made to address them. While the Committee acknowledges the progress achieved through ongoing security operations, including the recovery of approximately thirty (30) illegal firearms and a significant number of stolen livestock, it observes that these efforts remain constrained by capacity deficits, coordination gaps and the need for sustained, intelligence-driven interventions.

The Committee further observes that insecurity in Isiolo County is not merely a law enforcement challenge, but a multi-dimensional issue rooted in governance weaknesses, socio-economic vulnerabilities, land and resource conflicts and political dynamics. Addressing these challenges therefore

requires a holistic, whole-of-government approach that integrates security interventions with long-term development strategies, inclusive governance and strengthened community-based peacebuilding mechanisms.

The Committee underscores the critical role of communities, including elders, women, youth and peace structures, in supporting security efforts and promoting social cohesion. The importance of accountable and unifying leadership at all levels cannot be overstated, as it remains central to addressing negative ethnicity, fostering trust and sustaining peace.

This Report sets out the Committee's findings, observations and recommendations aimed at addressing both the immediate security concerns and the underlying drivers of conflict. In accordance with the principles of good governance, all recommendations are structured to be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound (SMART), and call for coordinated action by the National Government, County Government, security agencies and other relevant stakeholders.

The Committee emphasizes that the restoration of peace and stability in Isiolo County requires sustained political goodwill, adequate resourcing of security operations, strengthened governance structures and targeted socio-economic interventions, particularly for the youth. It further calls for enhanced accountability, inter-agency coordination and continuous engagement with communities.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to express sincere appreciation to all stakeholders who participated in this engagement and shared their perspectives with candour and constructive intent. Their commitment to peace, unity and cooperation provides a strong foundation upon which lasting solutions can be built.

The Committee reaffirms its commitment to exercising its oversight mandate to ensure that the recommendations contained in this Report are implemented effectively and that the necessary policy, legislative and budgetary measures are undertaken to secure lasting peace, cohesion and development in Isiolo County.

It is the Committee's expectation that this Report shall serve as both a record of its findings and a catalyst for decisive and coordinated action towards a peaceful, inclusive and prosperous Isiolo County.

On behalf of the Members, I would like to express gratitude to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk for their support in the production of this report.

Pursuant to Standing Order 199(6), I am pleased to table before the House this Report of the Committee on National Cohesion and Equal Opportunity on the Peace and Security Engagement in Isiolo County.

HON. YUSSUF ADAN HAJI, DSM, CBS, MP

**CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL COHESION AND EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY**

PREFACE

1.1. Committee's Mandate

1. The Select Committee on National Cohesion and Equal Opportunity is established under Standing Order 212C. The Committee is mandated to:
 - (i) monitor and promote measures relating to policy and programme initiatives in pursuit of peace and national cohesion;
 - (ii) investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to inter-community cohesion;
 - (iii) monitor and promote measures designed to enhance the equalisation of opportunities and improvement in the quality of life and status of all persons, including persons who are marginalised on the basis of gender, age, disability, health status, ethnic, racial, cultural or religious background or affiliation or any other such ground;
 - (iv) investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to discrimination or marginalisation of persons referred to under sub-paragraph (iii);
 - (v) make proposals to Parliament, including legislative proposals, for the protection, equalisation of opportunities and promotion of the welfare of the groups referred to under sub-paragraph (iii); and
 - (vi) examine the activities and administration of all State departments and statutory bodies in so far as they relate to the rights and welfare of the persons referred to under sub-paragraph (iii).

1.2. Committee Membership

2. The Committee was constituted by the House on 27th October 2022, following the General Election, pursuant to Standing Order 177. The membership comprises the following Honourable Members:

No.	Name	Constituency	Party
1	Hon. Yussuf Adan Haji, DSM, CBS, MP (Chairperson)	Mandera West	United Democratic Movement (UDM)
2	Hon. Duncan Maina Mathenge, MP (Vice Chairperson)	Nyeri Town	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

3	Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, MP	Kamukunji	Jubilee Party (JP)
4	Hon. Ndung'u George Koimburi, MP	Juja	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)
5	Hon. Antony Njoroge Wainaina, MP	Kieni	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)
6	Hon. Charles Kamuren, MP	Baringo South	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)
7	Hon. Edward Kaunya Oku, MP	Teso North	Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)
8	Hon. Muthoni Marubu, MP	Lamu (CWR)	Independent
9	Hon. Joseph Samal Lomwa, MP	Isiolo North	Jubilee Party (JP)
10	Hon. Joshua Oron Odongo, MP	Kisumu Central	Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)
11	Hon. Martin Peters Owino, MP	Ndhiwa	Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)
12	Hon. Eng. Paul Nzengu, MP	Mwingi North	Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-K)
13	Hon. Rahab Wachira Mukami, MP	Nyeri	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)
14	Hon. Agnes Pareyio Mantaine, MP	Narok North	Jubilee Party (JP)
15	Hon. Dick Maungu Oyugi, MP	Luanda	Democratic Action Party-Kenya (DAP-K)
16	Hon. Orero Peter Ochieng, MP	Kibra	Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)
17	Hon. Fredrick Lusuli Ikana, MP	Shinyalu	ANC Party

18	Hon. (Dr.) Joseph Iraya Wainaina, OGW, MP	Nominated	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)
19	Hon. Jackson Lekumontare Lentoijoni, MP	Samburu East	Kenya African National Union (KANU)
20	Hon. Muratha Anne Wanjiku Mugo, MP	Kiambu (CWR)	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)
21	Hon. Ndakwa David Athman, MP	Malava	United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

1.3. Committee Secretariat

3. The Committee, in the execution of its mandate as stipulated in the National Assembly's Standing Orders, is supported by a Secretariat comprising the following officers:

Officer	Designation
Ms. Angelina Naserian Lotuai	Clerk Assistant, Lead Clerk and Head of Secretariat
Mr. John Mutinda	Clerk Assistant III
Ms. Audrey Andala	Legal Counsel II
Ms. Joanne Naneu	Research Officer III
Ms. Rahab Chepkilim	Audio Officer III
Mr. Tindi	Hansard Reporter
Mr. Peter Atsiaya	Media Relations Officer
Mr. Luka Mutua	Sergeant at Arms

2.0 INTRODUCTION

4. In line with its mandate to monitor and promote measures relating to policy and programme initiatives in pursuit of peace and national cohesion, the Committee undertook a fact-finding and peace engagement visit to Isiolo County from 25th to 27th March, 2026.
5. The visit was conducted in collaboration with the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) and brought together key stakeholders, including the County Security Team, political leadership, Peace Committees, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), religious leaders and representatives of local communities.
6. The primary objective of the engagement was to assess the prevailing peace and security situation in Isiolo County, interrogate the underlying drivers of conflict, evaluate ongoing interventions and identify practical, coordinated measures to restore peace, strengthen cohesion and enhance security.
7. Isiolo County occupies a uniquely strategic position within Kenya, often regarded as the geographical heart of the nation and a critical gateway linking Northern Kenya to the rest of the country. Its cosmopolitan character, marked by the coexistence of diverse communities, presents both an opportunity for national integration and a governance challenge in the management of social cohesion, particularly in the context of resource competition, historical grievances and political dynamics.
8. The engagement provided a critical platform for inclusive dialogue, enabling stakeholders to share perspectives, highlight emerging issues and propose actionable interventions. The findings contained in this Report are informed by stakeholder submissions, field observations and analysis of the broader governance, socio-economic and security context within the County.
9. This Report is structured to present: the situational analysis; the applicable legislative framework; key findings; Committee observations; and SMART recommendations aimed at addressing both the immediate security concerns and the underlying drivers of conflict in Isiolo County.

3.0 SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

10. The current situation in Isiolo County is best understood as a convergence of three interdependent crises: a governance crisis; resource-based conflicts; and a security crisis characterized by organized banditry and cattle rustling. These crises are mutually reinforcing and have combined to create a complex and fragile

environment that demands urgent, coordinated and sustained intervention.

11. Isiolo County occupies a uniquely strategic position within the Republic of Kenya. Often regarded as the geographical heart of the nation, it serves as a critical transit and convergence point linking Northern Kenya to the Central, Eastern and Coastal regions, and as a principal gateway within the broader LAPSSET Corridor, positioning it as a future economic and logistical hub of national and regional significance. The County is distinctly cosmopolitan in character, hosting a rich diversity of communities including the Borana, Somali, Turkana, Samburu, Meru, Rendille and other groups, who coexist within a shared socio-economic and cultural space.
12. In the considered view of the Committee, this diversity, while a strategic national asset and a reflection of Kenya's pluralistic identity, also presents unique governance and cohesion challenges, particularly where resource scarcity, historical grievances and political competition intersect. The Committee emphasized that Isiolo's stability is not only a County concern but a matter of national cohesion, regional integration and economic transformation.
13. The governance crisis, which has persisted since mid-2025, has significantly undermined institutional stability within the County. The protracted political contestation surrounding the attempted impeachment of the Governor resulted in a divided County Assembly operating from parallel locations, thereby paralysing critical County functions, including budget approval, legislative processes and service delivery. This institutional fragmentation has materially weakened the County's capacity to respond effectively to emerging security and social challenges.
14. The Committee observed that this governance breakdown has created an enabling environment in which insecurity has flourished, as leadership attention and administrative capacity have been diverted from core responsibilities such as peacebuilding, conflict resolution and the coordination of security interventions. The absence of cohesive leadership has further engendered uncertainty among residents and diminished confidence in public institutions.
15. Concurrently, Isiolo County continues to grapple with longstanding inter-community tensions rooted in competition over scarce natural resources, particularly water, pasture and land. These tensions are deeply embedded within the pastoralist livelihood systems that dominate the region and are frequently aggravated during periods of drought and environmental stress. The Committee noted that climate

variability and environmental degradation have significantly intensified pressure on these resources, leading to increased migration of pastoralist groups and heightened competition over access and control.

16. The Committee further observed that large-scale national development initiatives, particularly those associated with the LAPSET Corridor, have introduced additional layers of contestation. While these projects present immense opportunities for economic growth and regional integration, they have also heightened sensitivities around land ownership, compensation and benefit-sharing. In the absence of transparent and equitable frameworks, such developments risk exacerbating existing tensions and fuelling perceptions of marginalization among affected communities.
17. The security dimension of the crisis is the most immediate and visible manifestation of these underlying challenges. Evidence presented to the Committee demonstrated a sustained and escalating pattern of banditry and cattle rustling across Isiolo County and its neighbouring regions. A review of documented incidents between October 2025 and March 2026 revealed a consistent cycle of violent attacks, large-scale livestock theft and fatalities, including targeted attacks on civilians, community leaders and security personnel.
18. The Committee is deeply concerned that these incidents are indicative of organized criminal networks operating across County boundaries, with established coordination mechanisms, supply chains and access to sophisticated weaponry. This level of organisation suggests the existence of systemic weaknesses in security response frameworks, including gaps in intelligence coordination, enforcement capacity and inter-agency collaboration.
19. Furthermore, the proliferation of illegal firearms has significantly altered the nature of conflict within the County, transforming cattle rustling from a traditional practice into a highly militarized and commercialized enterprise. This transformation has not only increased the scale and intensity of violence but has also entrenched cycles of retaliatory attacks among communities.
20. The Committee also noted that socio-economic vulnerabilities, including youth unemployment, poverty and limited access to education and economic opportunities, have created fertile ground for recruitment into criminal networks. The intersection of these socio-

economic factors with existing ethnic and resource-based tensions has further complicated the security landscape.

21. In totality, the Committee observes that the situation in Isiolo County is not merely a security challenge but a multi-dimensional governance and development issue that demands an integrated response. Addressing the crisis will necessitate sustained security interventions alongside deliberate efforts to strengthen governance, promote inclusive development, enhance resource management and foster long-term social cohesion.

4.0 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

4.1 The Constitution of Kenya, 2010

22. Article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, prescribes the national values and principles of governance that bind all State organs, State officers, public officers and all persons whenever any of them applies or interprets the Constitution, enacts, applies or interprets any law, or makes or implements public policy decisions. These values include patriotism, national unity, sharing and devolution of power, the rule of law, democracy, participation of the people, human dignity, equity, social justice, inclusiveness, equality, human rights, non-discrimination and protection of the marginalised.
23. Article 26 of the Constitution guarantees the right to life. Every person has the right to life, and a person shall not be deprived of life intentionally, except to the extent authorised by the Constitution or other written law.
24. Article 29 of the Constitution guarantees the right to freedom and security of the person. Every person has the right to freedom and security of the person, which encompasses protection from all forms of violence, torture and degrading treatment.
25. Article 40 of the Constitution provides for the protection of the right to property, including the right to acquire and own property and protection against arbitrary deprivation of property. This provision is directly relevant to the livestock theft and land disputes prevalent in Isiolo County.

26. Article 131 (2)(c) of the Constitution imposes a duty upon the President to promote and enhance the unity of the nation and to respect, uphold and safeguard the rights and fundamental freedoms of the people.
27. Article 232 of the Constitution prescribes the values and principles of public service, including accountability, transparency and the efficient, effective and economic use of public resources.

4.2 The National Cohesion and Integration Act, Cap. 7N

28. Section 11 of the National Cohesion and Integration Act prohibits ethnic discrimination in access to public resources, a provision directly relevant to the community grievances contributing to insecurity in Isiolo County.
29. Section 13 of the Act criminalizes hate speech and incitement to ethnic hatred, which remains a key driver of inter-communal tensions in the County.
30. Section 17 of the Act establishes the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) as the principal statutory body charged with facilitating and promoting equality of opportunity, good relations, harmony and peaceful coexistence between persons of different ethnic and racial communities of Kenya.
31. Sections 25 and 26 of the Act empower the NCIC to facilitate conflict resolution and promote peaceful coexistence in conflict-prone areas, and vest the Commission with the mandate to investigate complaints of ethnic discrimination and recommend appropriate remedial action.

4.3 The Firearms Act, Cap. 114

32. The Firearms Act, Cap. 114, provides the principal legislative framework for the regulation, licensing and control of the manufacture, importation, exportation, transportation, sale, repair, storage, possession and use of firearms, ammunition, air guns and destructive devices in Kenya.
33. Section 3 of the Act establishes the Firearms Licensing Board, which is mandated to issue, cancel, terminate or vary any licence or permit issued under the Act, and to register civilian firearm holders, dealers and manufacturers.
34. Section 4(1) of the Act provides that no person shall purchase, acquire or have in their possession any firearm or ammunition unless they hold

a valid firearm certificate in force at the material time. Contravention of this provision constitutes a criminal offence and is directly relevant to the proliferation of illegal firearms in Isiolo County.

4.4 The Firearms Rules

35. The Firearms Rules provide for the identification and marking of firearms and firearm parts. Firearms dealers are prohibited from selling, issuing or returning firearms or critical firearm components unless such firearms or parts bear proper identification marks or serial numbers.
36. Rule 4(4) of the Firearms Rules requires every firearms dealer to maintain, securely under lock and key, an accurate register of marks in the prescribed form, recording the make, type and calibre of each firearm or part stamped, together with the name and address of the person to whom it is issued. These provisions are relevant to the accountability gaps that have been identified in the management of firearms within Isiolo County.

5.0 KEY FINDINGS

37. The Committee's engagement with stakeholders in Isiolo County yielded a comprehensive understanding of the prevailing peace, security and cohesion challenges, as well as the progress achieved and the constraints associated with ongoing interventions. The deliberations brought together security leadership, political actors, community representatives and peacebuilding institutions, and revealed a complex interplay of governance, socio-economic and security dynamics that continue to shape the stability of the County.

5.1 Unity, Diversity and Cohesion Challenges

38. A dominant and recurring theme throughout the deliberations was the urgent imperative to reaffirm national unity and strengthen social cohesion within a County that represents Kenya's remarkable diversity.
39. Stakeholders emphasized that this diversity is a strategic national asset, provided it is managed within a framework of equity, inclusion and mutual respect. However, the Committee observed that negative ethnicity and the politicization of identity continue to undermine cohesion efforts. Stakeholders strongly criticized the conduct of certain political actors who have historically inflamed tensions and mobilized communities along ethnic lines, thereby contributing significantly to instability in the County.
40. While it was acknowledged that deliberate efforts have recently been made to reduce political tensions through dialogue and engagement among leaders, the Committee noted that these gains remain fragile and require sustained commitment to consolidate.

5.2 Nature and Escalation of Insecurity

41. The Committee established that the security situation in Isiolo County has deteriorated to alarming levels, with insecurity increasingly normalized in certain areas. Stakeholders reported frequent incidents of armed theft, violent attacks and targeted killings, with some communities indicating that movement at night has become unsafe.
42. These developments have significantly disrupted social and economic life, adversely affecting livelihoods, education and overall community well-being. The Committee observed that the persistence of such conditions points to a breakdown in public safety and raises serious constitutional concerns regarding the State's capacity to guarantee fundamental rights, including the rights to life, security and livelihood under Articles 26, 29 and 40 of the Constitution.

5.3 Proliferation of Illegal Firearms and Militarization of Conflict

43. A critical driver of the prevailing insecurity is the widespread proliferation of illegal firearms within communities. Stakeholders reported that many civilians are in possession of unlicensed firearms, while criminal elements are frequently equipped with more sophisticated weaponry than that available to security agencies operating in the area.
44. The Committee noted that this proliferation has fundamentally transformed cattle rustling from a traditional communal practice into a highly militarized and commercialized enterprise, resulting in higher fatalities, more organized criminal activity and complex security challenges that transcend County boundaries.

5.4 Security Operations

45. The Committee received detailed briefings on ongoing security operations, including the implementation of a phased, multi-agency approach aimed at restoring order and dismantling criminal networks. It was reported that the current phase of operations has resulted in the recovery of approximately thirty (30) illegal firearms and a significant number of stolen livestock, representing measurable progress.
46. The Committee noted that the operational approach has become more targeted, intelligence-driven and community-informed, thereby enhancing operational precision and minimizing harm to innocent civilians through collaboration with local administration and community leaders.
47. However, notwithstanding these gains, security operations continue to face significant challenges. Stakeholders indicated that operations are often short-lived and lack sustained follow-through, allowing criminal networks to regroup and reconstitute. Additionally, known bandit hideouts reportedly remain unaddressed, while the absence of transparent reporting mechanisms weakens accountability and erodes public confidence in security institutions.

5.5 Community Role in Security and Peacebuilding

48. A key insight to emerge from the deliberations is the indispensable role of communities in security management and peacebuilding. Stakeholders consistently emphasized that local communities are active and essential partners in addressing insecurity.

49. Community elders, peace committees and local leaders possess critical intelligence regarding the identity and operations of criminal elements, which has been instrumental in supporting ongoing security operations. The Committee observed that while this collaboration has contributed to current operational successes, there is an urgent need to institutionalize community participation through structured mechanisms, such as the Nyumba Kumi Initiative and strengthened peace committees, to ensure sustainability and enhance early warning systems.

5.6 Resource, Capacity and Infrastructure Constraints

50. The Committee noted significant resource and capacity constraints affecting security agencies operating within the County. Stakeholders highlighted critical gaps, including inadequate protective gear, limited availability of armoured vehicles for operations in high-risk terrain and insufficient logistical support.
51. These constraints limit operational effectiveness and expose officers to heightened risk, thereby undermining morale and overall mission success. Serious concerns were also raised regarding the welfare of National Police Reservists (NPRs), particularly with respect to inconsistent funding, delayed allowances and inadequate support, notwithstanding their critical role in frontline security operations.
52. The Committee further established that several high-risk areas lack formal police stations and rely predominantly on NPRs for security coverage. The absence of permanent security installations weakens the State's presence, limits rapid response capabilities and creates operational vulnerabilities that are routinely exploited by criminal elements.

5.7 Socio-Economic Drivers and Community Vulnerability

53. The Committee observed that insecurity in Isiolo County is deeply intertwined with socio-economic challenges. Stakeholders highlighted the significant economic impact of insecurity, including the loss of livestock, disruption of trade and reduced productivity across all sectors.
54. These factors have contributed to increased poverty levels and heightened community vulnerability, in some cases incentivising participation in criminal activities. Youth were specifically identified as a particularly vulnerable demographic, with limited access to

economic opportunities and increasing cases of drug and substance abuse contributing to their involvement in banditry and other forms of crime.

5.8 Land, Resource Governance and Conflict Dynamics

55. The Committee noted that land ownership and equitable access to natural resources remain central to the conflict dynamics in Isiolo County. Stakeholders emphasized the need for transparent and equitable processes in the issuance of title deeds and the resolution of historical land injustices.
56. The Committee observed that unresolved land disputes, coupled with competition over water and pasture resources, continue to fuel inter-community tensions and perpetuate cycles of retaliatory violence.

6.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

57. Having considered the submissions made by stakeholders and the evidence gathered during the engagement, the Committee makes the following observations:

1. Isiolo County continues to experience organized banditry and cattle rustling, facilitated by the proliferation of illegal firearms and the operations of cross-county criminal networks. While ongoing security operations have yielded measurable results, including the recovery of approximately thirty (30) illegal firearms and a significant number of stolen livestock, these operations remain inconsistent and insufficiently sustained to produce enduring security outcomes.
2. Oversight and control of firearms, including those held by National Police Reservists (NPRs), Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs) and civilians, is inadequate, thereby contributing to the misuse and proliferation of weapons within communities, in contravention of the Firearms Act, Cap. 114.
3. Several high-risk areas within the County lack adequate security presence and administrative infrastructure, thereby limiting the State's capacity for rapid response and effective coordination of security interventions.
4. Poor road infrastructure in remote and conflict-prone areas constrains access, delays response times and materially undermines effective security operations, particularly in emergency situations.
5. Current security operations are not fully supported by modern technology and coordinated intelligence systems, limiting the precision, reach and effectiveness of interventions against organised criminal networks.
6. Unregulated livestock markets and transport systems continue to provide avenues for the sale and onward movement of stolen livestock, thereby sustaining the economic incentive for cattle rustling.
7. Community peace structures, including peace committees, elders and local networks, play a critical and demonstrable role in conflict prevention and resolution; however, these structures remain chronically under-resourced and under-utilised, limiting their effectiveness and sustainability.
8. Insecurity in Isiolo County is inextricably linked to cross-border activities involving neighbouring Counties, underscoring the need

for coordinated inter-county and inter-agency security frameworks.

9. Conservancy rangers operating within Isiolo County play an important complementary role in supporting community-level security, especially in remote and high-risk areas where formal security presence is limited. However, their capacity remains constrained due to inadequate training, limited equipment and the absence of a clear legal and operational framework governing their role in security operations.
10. Youth unemployment, drug and substance abuse and the lack of economic opportunities are significant and proximate drivers of insecurity in the County.
11. Limited access to quality education and inadequate civic sensitization and peace education programmes hinder long-term peacebuilding and community resilience.
12. Affected individuals and families lack adequate compensation and psychosocial support mechanisms following the loss of lives, property and livestock as a result of insecurity-related incidents.
13. Unresolved land disputes and perceived inequities in the issuance of title deeds continue to fuel inter-community tensions and remain a significant underlying driver of conflict in the County.
14. Isiolo County's strategic location as a transit corridor linking the Horn of Africa to the rest of Kenya has rendered it a conduit for transnational crimes, including drug trafficking and human trafficking. Evidence from stakeholder engagements indicated that trafficking routes originating from Ethiopia pass through Isiolo en-route to Nairobi and further to South Africa. This has contributed to the availability and abuse of illicit drugs among youth in the County, thereby exacerbating insecurity, crime and social vulnerability.

7.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

58. Arising from the foregoing observations and having regard to the applicable legal framework, the Committee makes the following recommendations—

Recommendation 1: Ministry of Interior and National Administration

1. Within sixty (60) days of the adoption of this Report by the House, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Interior and National Administration shall:

- (i) implement sustained, intelligence-driven, multi-agency security operations in Isiolo County and the neighbouring Counties of Laikipia, Meru, Wajir and Marsabit, with a publicly accessible quarterly progress report published within thirty (30) days of the end of each quarter, detailing the number of operations conducted, firearms recovered and criminal networks disrupted;
- (ii) conduct a comprehensive audit and vetting of all NPRs, KPRs and civilian firearm holders within Isiolo County and enforce the disarmament of all illegally held or misused firearms, with a written report on the outcome of the audit, indicating the number of individuals vetted, firearms surrendered and prosecutions initiated, submitted to the National Assembly within sixty (60) days;
- (iii) develop and operationalize a multi-agency framework to disrupt drug trafficking and human trafficking networks along the Isiolo corridor, targeting a minimum reduction of thirty percent (30%) in reported trafficking incidents within twelve (12) months of the framework's operationalization, as measured against the baseline statistics for the period October 2025 to March 2026;
- (iv) strengthen controls and investigations on the supply chains of illegal firearms and ammunition, including addressing any leakages or weaknesses within State-linked systems, and submit an initial investigation report to the National Assembly within sixty (60) days, with a full review report within one hundred and eighty (180) days;
- (v) integrate community leaders, elders and local structures into a structured intelligence-gathering and early warning system within sixty (60) days, with at least two (2) inter-agency

community liaison forums conducted in Isiolo County within the first ninety (90) days of adoption of this Report;

- (vi) in collaboration with the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA), implement targeted anti-drug and substance abuse interventions and youth rehabilitation programmes in Isiolo County within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report; and
- (vii) in collaboration with the National Treasury, establish and operationalize a structured compensation and victim support framework within sixty (60) days, which shall provide for the documentation of all eligible beneficiaries within ninety (90) days and the commencement of payments or support services within one hundred and twenty (120) days of adoption.

Recommendation 2: National Police Service and National Intelligence Service

2. Within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the adoption of this Report, the Inspector-General of the National Police Service (NPS) and the Director-General of the National Intelligence Service (NIS) shall jointly:
 - (i) enhance intelligence-led operations specifically targeting organised criminal networks and identified bandit hideouts within Isiolo County, with a measurable target of disrupting the criminal networks within one hundred and eighty (180) days, as evidenced by arrests, prosecutions or the destruction of operational bases;
 - (ii) undertake benchmarking of best practices in intelligence-led security operations, including engagements with at least two (2) counties or jurisdictions with demonstrably successful models, and submit a benchmarking report with actionable recommendations to the National Assembly within one hundred and eighty (180) days; and
 - (iii) improve enforcement against cross-border and transnational criminal networks through bilateral coordination with neighbouring counties and national security agencies, with a joint inter-county security protocol developed and signed within one hundred and eighty (180) days.

Recommendation 3: Ministry of ICT, the ICT Authority and the Kenya Space Agency

3. Within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the adoption of this Report, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Information, Communications and the Digital Economy, the ICT Authority and the Kenya Space Agency, shall:
 - (i) develop and implement technology-driven security and monitoring systems, including satellite imagery, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping and real-time livestock and personnel tracking, covering a minimum of seventy percent (70%) of the high-risk zones within Isiolo County within one hundred and eighty (180) days;
 - (ii) leverage existing space-based systems currently utilised for monitoring forest cover, habitat degradation and conservancies, and adapt them for security operations and livestock tracking within one hundred and eighty (180) days, with a pilot deployment report submitted to the National Assembly at the end of that period; and
 - (iii) support the integration of digital systems across the security, livestock and administrative sectors, with a full integration roadmap submitted to the National Assembly within one hundred and eighty (180) days and system operationalization achieved within twelve (12) months of adoption of this Report.

Recommendation 4: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development

4. Within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the adoption of this Report, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Agriculture and Livestock Development shall:
 - (i) establish a national livestock identification and traceability system, including digital registration, branding and movement permits, with a pilot rollout in Isiolo County covering a minimum of ten thousand (10,000) livestock within one hundred and eighty (180) days;
 - (ii) introduce microchipping of livestock in high-risk areas of Isiolo County to enhance tracking and recovery of stolen animals, with a minimum of five thousand (5,000) animals microchipped within one year of adoption of this Report;

- (iii) strengthen regulation and monitoring of livestock markets, transport routes and slaughterhouses in Isiolo County and the neighbouring counties, including the deployment of a dedicated monitoring unit within sixty (60) days; and
- (iv) in collaboration with the ICT Authority and the Kenya Space Agency, integrate technology into livestock tracking systems and submit a joint integration plan to the National Assembly within one hundred and eighty (180) days.

Recommendation 5: Ministry of Roads and Transport

5. Within the financial year 2026/2027 the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Roads and Transport shall:
 - (i) prioritize the opening, upgrading and maintenance of roads in conflict-prone and remote areas within Isiolo County;
 - (ii) align infrastructure development plans with security operational requirements and access to public services; and
 - (iii) improve connectivity to reduce the isolation of vulnerable communities, with a target of reducing average response time by security agencies in high-risk areas by thirty percent (30%) within twenty-four (24) months of the commencement of road improvement works.

Recommendation 6: Office of the President, National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management

6. Within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this Report, the Head of Public Service, acting through the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management, shall:
 - (i) strengthen and provide adequate funding to at least fifteen (15) community peace structures and peace committees operating in Isiolo County, with letters of engagement, operational budgets and monitoring frameworks issued within ninety (90) days;
 - (ii) institutionalize peace committees within formal governance structures by developing and publishing a legal or regulatory framework for their operation, recognition and accountability within ninety (90) days; and
 - (iii) reinforce the Nyumba Kumi Initiative as a structured community policing and early warning system, with a target of establishing functional Nyumba Kumi units in all the villages

in Isiolo County within one hundred and eighty (180) days, and progress reports submitted to the National Assembly on a quarterly basis.

Recommendation 7: Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife in Collaboration with the Ministry of Interior and National Administration

7. Within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this Report, the Cabinet Secretaries responsible for Tourism and Wildlife and Interior and National Administration shall jointly:
 - (i) develop and implement a comprehensive legal and operational framework for the training, vetting, equipping and regulation of conservancy rangers in Isiolo County, with the framework gazetted within ninety (90) days, and a full compliance audit conducted at the end of twelve (12) months; and
 - (ii) integrate conservancy rangers into formal security coordination systems with clear accountability mechanisms, including prescribed reporting lines, disciplinary frameworks and operational protocols, which shall be in place within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this Report.

Recommendation 8: Ministry of Education

8. Within one (1) year of the adoption of this Report, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Education shall:
 - (i) scale up the Elimu Manyattani Initiative to cover additional nomadic and pastoral learning centres in Isiolo County within twelve (12) months, with a progress report submitted to the National Assembly at the end of six (6) months and at the end of twelve (12) months;
 - (ii) integrate peace education, civic awareness and social cohesion curricula into school programmes and community-based learning centres in Isiolo County, with materials developed and distributed to all schools within one (1) year of adoption of this Report; and
 - (iii) improve access to quality education in pastoral and marginalised areas, with a measurable target of reducing the school dropout rate in Isiolo County by twenty percent (20%) within two (2) academic years of the adoption of this Report, as measured against the current baseline statistics.

Recommendation 9: Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning

9. Within one (1) year of the adoption of this Report, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Lands and Physical Planning shall:
- (i) undertake a transparent and consultative land audit in Isiolo County, with a public report on the findings, including the extent of unresolved land disputes, disputed parcels and irregular allocations, submitted to the National Assembly within twelve (12) months;
 - (ii) accelerate the issuance of title deeds in Isiolo County through equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory processes, targeting the issuance of a minimum of two thousand (2,000) title deeds to eligible landholders within **twelve (12) months** of the adoption of this Report; and
 - (iii) develop and implement a structured programme to address historical land injustices and resource-based grievances in Isiolo County, including the establishment of a dedicated land dispute resolution mechanism within **six (6) months** of adoption of this Report, with quarterly progress reports submitted to the National Assembly.

Recommendation 10: The National Treasury

10. Within ninety (90) days of the adoption of this Report, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for the National Treasury, in collaboration with all relevant agencies, shall:
- (i) undertake a comprehensive costing of all approved interventions arising from this Report through a structured fiscal analysis framework, with a costed implementation plan submitted to the National Assembly within **ninety (90) days**;
 - (ii) align the recommendations to existing and upcoming budget allocations within the current financial year, and propose supplementary estimates where existing allocations are insufficient, with specific budget lines identified within ninety (90) days;
 - (iii) identify and ring-fence dedicated funding streams across the security, livestock, technology and socio-economic programme sectors to finance the interventions recommended in this Report; and
 - (iv) develop measurable key performance indicators (KPIs) to track budget utilisation, impact and the effectiveness of all

recommended interventions, with quarterly financial and performance reports submitted to the National Assembly for the duration of the implementation period.

Recommendation 11: National and County Governments

11. Within one hundred and **eighty (180) days** of the adoption of this Report, the National and County Governments of Isiolo shall jointly:

- (i) establish a fully operational youth rehabilitation centre in Isiolo County within one hundred and eighty (180) days;
- (ii) design and roll out targeted youth employment, skills development and livelihood programmes within one year of adoption of this Report, and progress reported to the National Assembly on a bi-annual basis;
- (iii) initiate socio-economic interventions to improve access to basic services, including clean water, healthcare, education and local infrastructure, in at least five (5) underserved sub-locations in Isiolo County within one year of adoption of this Report; and
- (iv) implement structured community-based programmes addressing poverty, marginalization and vulnerability in Isiolo County, with documented beneficiary targets, monitoring frameworks and semi-annual progress reports submitted to the National Assembly.

Recommendation 12: All Relevant Government Agencies

12. Within **one (1) year** of the adoption of this Report, all relevant Government agencies, including the NCIC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Interior, shall:

- (i) formally recognize and document the evolving cultural dynamics in Isiolo County, including the commercialization of cattle rustling and changes in traditional practices such as bride price, through a county-specific cultural assessment report published within **twelve (12) months**; and
- (ii) support a gradual and rights-based cultural transformation through education, development and economic empowerment, rather than coercive approaches, with a minimum of ten (10) community dialogue forums conducted in Isiolo County within **twelve (12) months**, targeting traditional leaders, youth and women's groups.

SIGNED



HON. YUSSUF ADAN HAJI, DSM, CBS, MP

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL COHESION AND EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY

DATE

30/06/2026

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 01 JUN 2026	
DAY: 	
TABLED BY:	HON. DANOM MATHEUCE VICE-CHAIRPERSON
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	MAD



8.0 List of Annextures

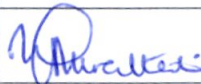
1. Adoption Schedule
2. Minutes



COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL COHESION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY **ADOPTION SCHEDULE**

We, the undersigned members of the Committee on National Cohesion and Equal Opportunity, today the 14th April 2026 do hereby affix our signatures to this **REPORT ON PEACE AND SECURITY ENGAGEMENT IN ISIOLO COUNTY FROM 25TH TO 27TH MARCH, 2026** to affirm our approval and confirm accuracy, validity and authenticity: -

No.	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	The Hon. Yussuf Adan Haji, CBS, MP - Chairperson	
2.	The Hon. Duncan Maina Mathenge, MP - Vice Chairperson	
3.	The Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, MP.	
4.	The Hon. George Koimburi, MP.	
5.	The Hon. Antony Njoroge Wainaina, MP.	
6.	The Hon. Charles Kamuren, MP.	
7.	The Hon. Edward Kaunya Oku, MP.	
8.	The Hon. Jackson Lekumontare Lentoijoni, MP.	
9.	The Hon. Joseph Samal Lomwa MP.	
10.	The Hon. Joshua Oron Odongo, MP.	
11.	The Hon. Martin Peters Owino, MP.	
12.	The Hon. Eng. Paul Nzengu, MP.	
13.	The Hon. Rahab Wachira Mukami, MP.	
14.	The Hon. Agnes Pareyio Mantaine, MP.	

No.	NAME	SIGNATURE
15.	The Hon. Dick Maungu Oyugi, MP.	
16.	The Hon. Muthoni Marubu, MP.	
17.	The Hon. Fredrick Lusuli Ikana, MP.	
18.	The Hon. (Dr.) Joseph Iraya Wainaina OGW, MP.	
19.	The Hon. Anne Wanjiku Mugo Muratha, MP.	
20.	The Hon. Peter Orero Ochieng', MP.	
21.	The Hon. Athman Ndakwa, MP.	

MINUTES OF THE 12TH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL COHESION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HELD ON TUESDAY, 14TH APRIL 2026, IN COMMITTEE ROOM 16, 3RD FLOOR BUNGE TOWER AT 10:00AM

PRESENT

1. The Hon. Yussuf Adan Haji, CBS, M.P. - Chairperson
2. The Hon. Duncan Maina Mathenge, M.P. - Vice Chairperson
3. The Hon. Yusuf Abdi Hassan, M.P.
4. The Hon. (Dr) Joseph Iraya Wainaina OGW, M.P.
5. The Hon. Jackson Lekumontare Lentoijoni, MP.
6. The Hon. Martin Peters Owino, MPH, M.P.
7. The Hon. Joseph Lomwa Samal, MP.
8. The Hon. Dick Maungu Oyugi, MP.
9. The Hon. Joshua Oron Odongo, MP.
10. The Hon. Rahab Wachira Mukami, MP.
11. The Hon. Agnes Pareyio Mantaine, M.P
12. The Hon. Fredrick Lusuli Ikana, M.P.
13. The Hon. Anne Wanjiku Mugo Murathe, MP.
14. The Hon. Orero Peter Ochieng', MP.

APOLOGIES

1. The Hon. Edward Kaunya Oku, M.P.
2. The Hon. Charles Kamuren, M.P.
3. The Hon. Athman Ndakwa, MP.
4. The Hon. Muthoni Marubu, M.P.
5. The Hon. George Koimburi, M.P
6. The Hon. Eng. Paul Nzengu, M.P.
7. The Hon. Antony Njoroge Wainaina, MP.

IN-ATTENDANCE SECRETARIAT

1. Ms. Naserian Lotuai -Clerk Assistant I
2. Mr. John Mutinda -Clerk Assistant III
3. Ms. Audrey Andala -Legal Counsel II
4. Ms. Joanne Naneu -Research Officer III
5. Mr. Peter Atsiaya -Media Relations Officer
6. Mr. Amos Tindi -Hansard Officer
7. Mr. Luka Mutua -Serjeant at arms
8. Ms. Furaha Wangiri -Student Loreto Convent Valley road School
9. Mr. Luqman Hassan -Student Starehe Boys Centre & School

MIN.NO. /NCEO/2026/060:

PRELIMINARIES

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. followed by a word of prayer by Hon. Jackson Lekumontare Lentoijoni, MP.

MIN.NO. /NCEO/2026/061: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the meeting was adopted, having been proposed and seconded by Hon. Dick Maungu Oyugi, M.P. And Hon. Jackson Lekumontare Lentoijoni, M.P respectively.

MIN.NO. /NCEO/2026/062: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 11th sitting were confirmed as true records of the deliberation and it was proposed by Hon. Martin Peters Owino, MPH, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Joshua Oron Odongo, M.P respectively.

MIN.NO. /NCEO/2026/063: MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE

The Committee was scheduled to meet with the Director General (DG), Kenya Wildlife Service on Inquiry into the employment diversity and compliance with the 30% reservation of public procurement to disadvantaged groups.

However, the meeting was informed that the DG was absent without any official communication to the Committee. It was noted with concern that this is the third time the Director General had not honored the committee's invitation.

After deliberating on the matter, it was resolved that the secretariat writes to the DG rescheduling the meeting to a later date. Highlighting the **National Assembly Standing Order 191. Powers and Privileges of committees.**

(1) Committees shall enjoy and exercise all the powers and privileges bestowed on Parliament by the Constitution and statute, including the powers to-

- a) Summon any person to appear before it for the purpose of giving evidence or providing information;
- b) Enforce the attendance of witnesses and examine the under oath, affirmation or otherwise;
- c) Compel the production of documents;
- d) Request for receive papers and documents from the Government and the public; and
- e) Issue commission or request to examine witnesses abroad.

191A. Procedure if witness fails to appear

- (1) Where a witness summoned does not appear, or appears but fails to satisfy the House or Committee, the House or Committee may impose upon the witness a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand shillings, having regard to the witness' condition in life and all the circumstances of the case.
- (2) A person may pay the fine under paragraph (1) to the Clerk.
- (3) Parliament or its committee may order the arrest of a witness who fails to honor a summon for the purpose of compelling his or her attendance.

MIN.NO. /NCEO/2026/064:

**CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE
COMMITTEE REPORT ON PEACE AND
SECURITY ENGAGEMENT IN ISIOLO COUNTY**

Members considered and adopted the Report on Peace and Security Engagement in Isiolo County, having been proposed and seconded by Hon. Dick Maungu Oyugi, M.P. And Hon. Joseph Lomwa Samal, M.P respectively. I was agreed that

MIN.NO. /NCEO/2026/065: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 16th April, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

SIGNED  DATE 14/4/2026

HON. YUSSUF ADAN HAJI, CBS, MP.

CHAIRPERSON

