

Paper laid by
the Chairperson
Sessional Committee
on County Public
Accounts and Investments
on 29th May 2015

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Sir,
Endorsed for Tabling
22/07/15

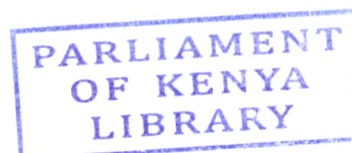
Approved
28/7/15

THE SENATE

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Hon. Speaker
You may approve
for tabling.
23/07/15

**REPORT OF THE SENATE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS ON THE COUNTY VISIT TO UASIN GISHU
FROM 21ST - 22ND MAY, 2015**



**CLERK'S CHAMBERS
THE SENATE
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JULY, 2015

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PREFACE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Committees are a creation of the Constitution through Article 124(1) of the Constitution which empowers each House of Parliament to establish Committees and make Standing Orders for the orderly conduct of its proceedings, including the proceedings of its Committees.

The Senate Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments is established by the Senate pursuant to Standing Order No. 212 and is mandated:-

- (a) Pursuant to Article 96(3) of the Constitution, to exercise oversight over national revenue allocated to the county governments,
- (b) Pursuant to Article 228(6) of the Constitution, to examine the report of the Controller of Budget on the implementation of the budgets of county governments,
- (c) Pursuant to Article 229(7) and (8) of the Constitution, to examine the reports of the Auditor-General on the annual accounts of the county governments,
- (d) To examine special reports, if any, of the Auditor-General on county government funds,
- (e) To examine the reports, if any, of the Auditor-General on the county public investments, and
- (f) To exercise oversight over county public accounts and investments

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The membership of the Committee comprises of the following Senators:-

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Sen.(Dr.) Boni Khalwale | - Chairman |
| 2. Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan | - Vice Chairman |
| 3. Sen. Kipchumba Murkomen | |
| 4. Sen. Wamatangi Kimani | |
| 5. Sen. Karue Muriuki | |
| 6. Sen. (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo | |
| 7. Sen. Wangari Martha | |
| 8. Sen. Khaniri George | |
| 9. Sen. Sitswila Wako Amos | |
| 10.Sen. (Prof.) Anyang Nyong'o | |
| 11.Sen. Kennedy Okong'o Mongare | |

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee was first constituted on 27th March, 2014 pursuant to Senate Standing Order 181 following a resolution of the House on Thursday 27th February 2014 to amend the Senate Standing Orders. The Committee was subsequently reconstituted on 17th February, 2015 Pursuant to Senate Standing Order 210(1) which requires **Sessional Committees** to be reconstituted at the Commencement of every session.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Senate Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments is the avenue through which the Senate under the provisions of Article 96(3) of the Constitution carries out the ex-post scrutiny of County Governments Budgets.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee largely relies on the report of the Auditor General and the Controller of Budget as key instruments for its ex-post scrutiny of County Governments Budgets.

Mr. Speaker Sir

The Committee during its meeting held on 24th February, 2015 vide Minute No.12/2015 resolved to visit Uasin Gishu County from 21st - 23rd May, 2015 as a follow up mechanism of ascertaining whether the projects that were a subject of the report of the Auditor General had been implemented as alleged by the County Government. This County visit was also an avenue for interacting with the County Government to better understand their challenges and experiences.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The following senators attended the County visit:-

1. Sen. Boni Khalwale, MP
2. Sen. Paul Kimani Wamatangi, MP
3. Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan, MP

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Objectives of the visit included:

- 1) To meet with the executive arm of the County Government and share the outcome of the Committee's investigations into the report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of the County Government of Uasin Gishu and its defunct local authorities for the financial year 2012/2013(1st January to 30th June, 2015) and seek responses on pending audit queries.
- 2) To seek responses from the executive arm of the County Government on the policy measures that have ramification on the accountability

processes including revenue collection, debt collection, assets and liabilities registers among others.

- 3) To meet the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts to exchange views, experiences and challenges faced by both Committees in executing their mandates.
- 4) To visit one project that was a subject of the report of the Auditor General under review.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Uasin Gishu County visit by the Senate Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments was conducted from 21st - 23rd May, 2015. The county visit was an important avenue for a post audit report scrutiny briefing for the County Government.

On arrival, the Committee was received by the Governor, Mr. Jackson Mandago the Deputy Governor, the County Secretary and the Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning among others.

The Committee thereafter held a meeting with the Governor and his team where the Committee briefed the Governor and his team on the outcome of the investigations into the audit queries raised in the report of the Auditor General under review. During this meeting the County Government was also accorded the opportunity to respond to those audit queries that remained pending.

The county visit equally afforded the Committee the opportunity to seek responses from the executive arm of the County Government on various issues that were key in entrenching and deepening accountability for example revenue collection and forecasting policy, debt collection policy, staff and skills audit, assets and liabilities registers and policy on corruption.

The Committee also held a meeting with the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts. This meeting was an avenue for sharing experiences and challenges faced by the two Committees in their oversight role.

This report documents the deliberations, observations and recommendations of the Committee during its meetings with the executive and the legislative arms of the County Government of Uasin Gishu.

The preface details the place of Committees in the Constitution, the establishment and mandates of the Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments, Committee membership and constitution, the niche of the Committee in the Senate, the resolution on the county visit, objectives of

the county visit, the executive summary, highlights of the observations and recommendations and acknowledgement.

Chapter one contains the background to the county visit and a brief overview of Uasin Gishu County.

Chapter two is a record of the meeting of the Committee with the executive arm of the County Government.

Chapter three captures the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee with the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts.

Chapter four and five summarizes the Committee's observations and recommendations respectively.

COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS

The Committee Observed that:

- i. The business persons who traverse various counties in search of market for their produce and services including the small scale traders who sell sukuma wiki, taxi operators and Boda Boda operators among others end up paying more levies due to lack of harmonized inter-county levies.
- ii. The County Government had introduced innovative ways of ensuring compliance in levies and other fees payment by the local corporations and business individuals. One of those innovative ways was negotiating with the levies/fees payers on the appropriate rates before actual introduction of the fees.
- iii. The County Government revenue Collection was lower than the projected revenue returns and remained lower than what the defunct local authorities collected in the preceding years. Although the County Government had introduced robust measures to increase revenue collection, the projections remained below its ideal potential.
- iv. The delayed disbursement of funds by the National Treasury impacted negatively on the development programmes, operational matters and funds absorption rates.
- v. The County Government experienced a lot of difficulties in the recruitment of Kenyans from other counties due to political pressure from the county residents who expected only the locals to be recruited without regard to expertise and equitable distribution of job opportunities to all Kenyans.
- vi. The transitional issues relating to IFMIS and G-Pay had been substantially resolved and the Central Bank and the National Treasury continued to support the County Government through continuous training of designated officers managing the IFMIS and G-Pay systems.

- vii. The County Government had a written and functional policy on staff recruitment and a staff audit and a job evaluation had been undertaken.
- viii. The assets and liabilities registers had been prepared by the County Government. However, the verification and authentication by the Transition Authority had not been concluded. This continued to delay the official handing over and taking over of assets and liabilities.
- ix. The executive arm of the County Government did not report any specific cases of corruption despite the irregularities pointed out in the report of the Auditor General the financial year 2012/2013(1st January, to 30th June, 2013).
- x. The Legislative Assembly relied on the County Executive for disbursement of funds to finance its operations and therefore lacked the requisite autonomy to manage and finance its activities.

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee Recommends that:-

- i. The County Government should take appropriate actions to seal revenue leakage avenues, strengthen its revenue collection supervisory regimes and decisively deal with corruption cases in order to boost its revenue collection. Similarly, the County Government should expedite the development of debt collection policy that will assist in timely settlement of debts and accurate projection of revenue targets.
- ii. The County Government should ensure prudent management of public resources and where incidences of corruption are detected or reported, investigation should be launched immediately and appropriate action taken against those found culpable including suspension pending the outcome of the investigations.
- iii. The Senate should urgently initiate the process of introducing legislation that provide a general framework on (1) Inter-County levies/fees, (2) recruitment of personnel at the Counties and (3) debt collection and management policy for the Counties.
- iv. The Salaries and Remuneration Commission should advise the County Governments on how to harmonize salaries of County employees and similarly provide a general framework on how the issue of salary differences amongst officers who worked with the defunct local authorities and the National Government can be resolved without jeopardizing the chances of counties to attract competent personnel due to salary capping.
- v. The County Public Service Boards should observe the provisions of the County Government Act, 2012 particularly the sections relating to the recruitment of personnel at the County level.
- vi. Whereas the National Treasury should disburse funds to counties within the timelines stipulated in law, the County Governments should also utilize the IFMIS system efficiently in the management of funds.

- vii. In the bid to make citizens appreciate the relationship between payment of levies/fees and service delivery, the County Government should prioritize implementation of projects that address the immediate needs of the local population for example water supply, electricity supply and connection, sewerage systems, motorable roads, decent housing, market stalls, health facilities and parking spaces among others.
- viii. The Senate should consider developing the appropriate legislation that would guarantee the financial autonomy of the County Assemblies and further ensure the separation of powers between the Legislative Assembly and the County Executive.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee wishes to acknowledge the support it received from the Office of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Senate in undertaking the County Visit.

The Committee further appreciates the cooperation it received from the County Government of Uasin Gishu during the logistics planning and the actual visit.

Final appreciation goes to the distinguished and dedicated members of the Committee who created time out of their busy schedule to attend and actively participate in the proceedings of the visit.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

I wish to confirm that the recommendations of the Committee in this report were unanimous.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

This report is issued in accordance with the provisions of the Senate Standing Order 203.

Mr. Speaker,

It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Senate Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments to table this report and commend it to the House for debate and adoption pursuant to the provisions of the Senate Standing Order 203(6).

SIGNED:

DATE:

HON. SEN. (DR.) BONI KHALWALE, MP

CHAIRPERSON

CHAPTER ONE

1.1 Background to the County visit

Following the Committee conclusion of the consideration of the report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of Uasin Gishu County and its defunct local authorities for the financial year 2012/2013(1st January – 30th June, 2013), the Committee resolved to undertake a post audit report consideration visit to the County. This was a follow up mechanism for ascertaining the implementation status of specific projects that were a subject of the audit report under review.

The visit was an avenue for sharing feedback on the investigations carried out by the Committee on the report of the Auditor General under review. This visit was particularly used to apprise the County Government on the issues that were conclusively cleared and those that remained pending and therefore required further clarification from the County Government.

The County visit equally afforded the Committee the opportunity to seek responses from the County Government on various issues that were key in entrenching and deepening accountability for example revenue collection and forecasting policy, debt collection policy, staff skills inventory and audit, assets and liabilities registers and policy on corruption.

Furthermore, the Committee also held a meeting with the Uasin Gishu County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts to share experiences and challenges faced by the two Committees in the execution of their respective mandates.

1.2 Brief overview of Uasin Gishu County

Uasin Gishu County is situated in the mid-west of Kenya's Rift Valley, some 330km North West of Nairobi. It is a cosmopolitan county with the **Nandi** people of indigenous **Kalenjin** communities having the highest settlement. Other notable Communities settled in the County include Luyha, Kikuyu, Luo, Kisii and Kamba among others. The County is named after the *Ilwuasinkishu* Maasai clan that initially used the area for grazing. Its administrative capital is Eldoret town which is a key educational centre and a robust transport corridor linking Kenya with Uganda and South Sudan. Eldoret is also known for its sports tourism.

The county shares common borders with Trans Nzoia County to the North, Elgeyo Marakwet County to the East, Baringo County to the South East, Kericho County to the South, Nandi County to the South West and Kakamega County to the North West. It covers a total area of 3,345.2 Sq. Km.

Uasin Gishu County is divided into six sub-counties: Turbo, Soy, Ainabkoi, Moiben, Kessess and Kapseret. The sub-counties are further subdivided into fifty one locations and ninety seven sub-locations.

According to the 2009 Population and Housing Census, the total population of Uasin Gishu County stood at 894,179. At an inter-censal population growth rate of 3.8%, the total population is projected to grow to 1,211,853 by 2017. The population growth rate is higher than the national growth rate at 2.9%. The population density is 267 persons per sq. Km. which is expected to increase to 362 persons per sq. km. by 2017.

Notable large scale economic activities include wheat and maize farming, dairy farming, horticulture and sports tourism.

The county is also a manufacturing hub, with numerous industries and factories providing employment to thousands of its urban population. These industries include Raiply Wood factory, Rupa Textiles, Kenya Pipeline Company, Kenya Cooperative Creameries, and wheat and pyrethrum factories.

Eldoret International Airport is an important economic hub for handling commercial cargo goods besides passenger flights.

Eldoret town also houses Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, Uasin Gishu District Hospital, Eldoret Hospital, Mediheal Hospital, Elgon View Hospital and Uasin Gishu Langas hospital as prime health facilities within its environs.

Uasin Gishu County boasts of over 770 primary schools, 158 secondary schools and about 15 tertiary institutions.

CHAPTER TWO

2.1 Introduction

On arrival the Committee was received by the Governor, Deputy Governor, the County Secretary and the Executive Committee member in charge of Finance and economic planning among others. After a round of introductions, the Chairman briefly explained to the Governor and his team why the Committee was visiting and invited the governor to give a general briefing to the Committee on his government experiences and challenges faced since the inception of the county government.

2.2 Governor's brief.

The Governor in his briefing informed the Committee that:-

- i. His Government welcomes the Committee to the County and appreciates the role the Committee and the senate continues to play at the national level.
- ii. Agriculture was the highest economic earner in the County.
- iii. The County Government had successfully initiated many development programmes in various sectors including the health sector and early childhood development.
- iv. The delayed disbursement of funds by the national treasury remains a major challenge in the implementation of development projects in the County.
- v. The local population has embraced devolution with a lot of enthusiasm. However, there is a challenge in the recruitment processes where the locals would not want Kenyans from other counties to be employed in the county. This remains a key challenge in attracting the required expertise.
- vi. The County Government initially experienced a lot of challenges in the revenue collection due to sabotage from the employees of the defunct local authorities who did not disclose all the revenue sources to the

- incoming county government, insufficient revenue collection supervisory regimes and lack of appreciation of the revenue collection dynamics.
- vii. The Transition Authority had not concluded the verification and authentication of assets and liabilities registers. This had delayed the processes of official handing over of assets and liabilities.
 - viii. The County Government had put in place the necessary infrastructure for the county to continue devolving services and facilities to the lowest units of the county government in its bid to deepen and entrench devolution.
 - ix. The County Government had embarked on strengthening the internal audit systems by employing more staff in audit and procurement department and absorbing experienced officers from the Transition Authority and the defunct local authorities to improve the efficiency of the procurement depart.
 - x. The County Government continues to pay its personnel in good time and this had ensured that the officers remain motivated and productive.
 - xi. In order to streamline and ensure efficiency in the management of IFMIS and G-Pay systems, the County Government had requested the Ministry of Devolution to second officers who will continuously train the county officers on the management of the two systems.
 - xii. The County Government continues to pay officers doing similar jobs different salaries because the County Government inherited staff from the national Government and the defunct local authorities who earned different salaries. This remains a challenge for the county Government despite the guidelines issued by Salaries and Remuneration Commission
 - xiii. The county has pending court cases including a case where an individual moved to court to claim ownership of Langas Estate which houses schools and hospitals for the residents of the area.
 - xiv. The disciplinary cases for the county employees who were previously employees of the national government and defunct local authorities were taking too long to be resolved. Under the circumstances, the county

government could not recruit replacements for the suspended officers and at the same time continued to pay officers the suspended officers.

2.3 Chairman's Brief

The Chairman in his remarks:-

- i. Thanked the Governor and his team for their cooperation during the consideration of the report of the Auditor General under review and commended them for the submissions they made to the Committee when they appeared before it.
- ii. Informed the governor and his team that the Committee had considered but not concluded its consideration of all the audit queries raised in the report of the Auditor General under review on Uasin Gishu County. The Chairman pointed out that the Committee had been constrained by the injunctions of the High court which bared it from summoning the Governors. He however pointed out that an interim report had been prepared and tabled in the Senate to apprise the House on the progress made on its consideration of the report under review.
- iii. Clarified that the Committee was visiting as follow up mechanism to share its findings with the County Government and seek responses to specific policy related issues that it considered critical in deepening and streamlining prudent management of public finances.
- iv. Reiterated the Commitment of the Committee to ensure devolution is a success through prudent management of public funds.
- v. Outlined the mode of engagement during the meeting and pointed out that members of the Committee will seek clarifications from the Governor on a number of issues and the Governor assisted by his team will respond to the issues raised.
- vi. Underscored the need for the County Government to fastrack the development agenda and hasten the completion of projects because Kenyans wanted devolution so that they can see faster implementation of policies and projects.
- vii. Pointed out that the locals including 'mama mboga' and 'boda boda' riders paid tax or other related levies with expectation that the county government will play a role in alleviating their suffering. They expect the county government to not only collect taxes but also deliver services in the form of improved roads and market places.

- viii. Reiterated the need for the Governors to cooperate with the Senate on matters of accountability in order to safeguard public resources and ensure devolution works.

2.4 Policy issues discussed

(i) Information systems assessment:

The Committee sought to find out whether the transitional issues relating to IFMIS and G-Pay raised in the report of the Auditor General had been sufficiently addressed by the County Government.

The Governor informed the Committee that the County IFMIS system is fully operational and all county transactions are carried out through IFMIS. He further reported that IFMIS backup systems have been installed.

On the issue of G-Pay, the Governor informed the Committee that the system continues to experience a lot of breakdowns periodically. However, Central Bank of Kenya had deployed its officers to train the County targeted county employees on the management of G-Pay. He further informed the Committee that the county government faced the challenge of installing the IFMIS and G-Pay systems at the sub-county levels.

The Committee noted that the transitional issues relating to ICT and IFMIS had substantially been resolved. However, the County Government continued to experience breakdowns in the G-Pay system but appropriate measures had been instituted to manage the challenges.

(ii) Staff Audit

The Committee sought to know whether the County Government had conducted a staff audit as a means of cleaning its payroll and establishing whether there existed ghost workers.

The Governor informed the Committee that a staff audit was conducted and a number of officers who were no longer working for the County Government were removed from the payroll.

The Governor further informed the Committee that the county Government had developed a policy guideline that guides recruitment and deployment of staff after reviewing its government structures. He clarified that the policy had been adopted by the County Assembly and had been used in the recruitment of staff.

The Committee observed that the County Government had a functional policy on staff recruitment and had undertaken a staff audit and job evaluation for its personnel.

(iii) Revenue collection

The Committee sought to know the revenue collection history of County Government particularly in comparison with what the defunct local authorities cumulatively collected before March, 2013.

The Governor informed the Committee that analysis of the revenue collection over the years revealed that there has been a general decline in revenue collection since the inception of the county government. The revenue collection for the financial year 2012/2013 was Kshs. 665 Million compared to an amount of Kshs. 766m collected by the defunct local authorities in the preceding financial year. In the financial year 2013/2014, the County revenue collection increased from Kshs. 665m to 778m. The County Government had initially projected to collect 1billion in the financial year 2015/2016 but the figure was reviewed downwards to Kshs. 890m. The Governor informed the Committee that the general decline in revenue collection was attributable to sabotage from the employees of the defunct local authorities who feared that they will lose their jobs. The other reason for the revenue decline was corrupt practices associated with unbanked collection and spending at the source. Similarly

the county government had not mapped out the cess collection points and this resulted in leakages in revenue through evasion of payment of levies/fees.

The Governor further informed the Committee that the County Government projects increased revenue collection after it automates its revenue collection system. He also pointed out that the County Government also anticipated that the role of the ward administrators will further enhance revenue collection and levies payment compliance.

In his briefing to the Committee the Governor also pointed out that many land owners had no title deeds for their land and where title deeds existed, poor land records were kept and this affected rates collection. Similarly a large number of corporate entities did not pay levies/fees. However, the County Government had gradually sealed the loopholes that encouraged non-payment of levies/fees.

The Governor also informed the Committee that the County Government had discovered that *rates waivers* did not result in defaulters paying levies/fees as anticipated by the County Government and the County Government was considering its position on the periodic rates waivers extended to the rates defaulters.

The Governor further informed the Committee that the County Government had devised innovative ways of increasing revenue collection and ensuring compliance through negotiating rates with the relevant stakeholders before introduction and requiring all matatus and motorcycles owners to belong to a registered Sacco.

The Governor also pointed out that the other factor that contributed to the low revenue collection was the lack of requisite tools and personnel in department of weights and measures.

The Committee observed that the County Government of Uasin Gishu was collecting way below its potential in revenue returns.

Although the Committee appreciated the efforts of the County Government in strengthening revenue collection systems, the Committee recommends that the County Government should take appropriate actions to seal revenue leakages, strengthen its revenue collection supervisory regimes and decisively deal with the issue of corruption and levies/fees payment evasion.

(iv) Assets and Liabilities.

The Committee sought to establish whether the County Government in conjunction with the Transition Authority had completed the verification and authentication of assets and liabilities registers.

The Governor informed the Committee that the County Assets and liabilities registers had been prepared by the County Government. However, the Transition Authority had not verified and authenticated the registers. In the interim, the County Assets had been secured and no assets had been lost.

The Committee observed that assets and liabilities registers had been prepared by the County Government. However, the verification and authentication by the Transition Authority had not been concluded and this continued to delay the handing over and taking over of assets and liabilities.

(v) Debt Collection Policy

The Committee sought to know if the County Government had a policy on debt collection because this has a direct impact on revenue collection and funds available for development.

The County Government confirmed that it had no written policy on debt collection but various innovative ways had been deployed to ensure

compliance in debt payment for example a negotiated installment payment plan among others.

The Committee recommends that the county government should expedite the development of the debt collection policy that will assist in timely payment of debts and ensure revenue collection projections are accurate.

(vi) Procurement rules and Regulations

The Committee sought to know whether the procurement unit of the County Government including the establishment of procurement committee, tender committee, tender opening committee, evaluation committee, tender processing Committee and inspection committee had been established by the County Government.

The Governor informed the Committee that the County Government had a functional tender committee, evaluation committee and procurement committee but pointed out that these Committee initially experienced a myriad of challenges during the nascent days of the constitution of the County Government and this impacted negatively on the processing of procurements requests and subsequently the audit queries that relate to procurement of goods and services in the report of the Auditor General for FY 2012/2013. He further clarified that the situation has since been rectified and the procurement unit was working optimally.

The Governor further informed the Committee that the citizens have not familiarized themselves with the procurement rules and regulations and will in many instances not understand why a Kenyan from another county will qualify for a tender to supply goods or services in their county.

The Committee urged the County Government to sensitize the local populace on the rules governing the procurement of goods and services in the county including the affirmative action requirement for the youth in the tender awards.

The Committee further urged the County Government to explore the possibility of training youth on the entrepreneurial skills and procurement management processes as a way of empowering the locals to participate in the supply of goods and services in their respective localities.

(vii) Defunct local authority.

The Committee sought to know whether there were any pending issues relating to the defunct local authorities.

The Governor informed the Committee that there were no pending issues relating to the defunct local authorities apart from the pending verification of assets and liabilities registers and court cases that existed before the inception of the County Government .

The Committee observed that no major issues relating to accountability were pending between the defunct local authorities and the County Government.

(vii) Accounting for the funds disbursed to the County Government by Transition Authority for construction/refurbishment and furnishing of non-residential office premises and purchase of Hansard equipment for the County Assembly of county headquarters and county assembly chambers (Kshs. 61,592,200).

The Committee sought to know why the County Government had not accounted for funds disbursed to it by the Transition Authority. The Transition Authority was unable to close its books owing to the failure by the County Government to account for funds.

The Governor informed the Committee that his County Government had utilized the funds for the intended purposes and accounted for it and the Transition Authority had cleared the County Government on the matter. The Governor tabled a letter from the Transition Authority as evidence to corroborate that claim.

The Committee having heard the submissions from the Governor and the contents of the letter from the Transition Authority noted that the County Government had accounted for the funds.

The Committee was satisfied with the submissions from the County Government and the matter was cleared and no further action was recommended.

(viii) Incidences of reported corruption in the county

The Committee sought to know whether there were incidences of corruption reported in the county government and what actions were taken against those culpable.

The Governor informed the Committee that the County Government was keen to ensure that those found culpable of corruption were dealt with within the framework provided in the law. He further pointed out that the County Government relied on the investigation conducted by other agencies to determine certain cases and sometimes the investigations took longer thereby delaying any action that the County Government was expected to take. He further reported that in instances where the internal controls confirmed that an individual misappropriated funds, the County Government had taken the appropriate disciplinary actions including interdictions. The Governor further added that internal controls had been instituted to safeguard against corruption for instance the establishment of the audit department for early detection of any malpractices.

The Committee observed that although the County Government alleged that it did not condone corruption, there was no single case provided to substantiate the claims of actions taken against those who misappropriated funds. The Committee therefore noted with concern the inaction of the County Government on the matter despite glaring lapses pointed out in the report of the Auditor General for the financial year 2012/2013.

The Committee recommends that the County Government should ensure strict observance of the rules governing the management of public resources and where corruption was detected or reported, investigations must be launched immediately and appropriate action taken against those found culpable including suspension pending the outcome of the investigations.

2.5 Project visited

Audit Query 2.6 Recurrent and Development Expenditure: Irregular Payment for Fencing of Plot at Kapsoya

A payment of Kshs.3, 540,378.00 was made to M/s Damco International Ltd on 28 June 2013 for fencing of a public utility plot at Kapsoya. However, as at the time of audit in August 2013, the contractor had not fenced the plot. Further, no Bills of Quantities were prepared for the works to be done. In addition no contract signed between the contractor and the County Government stipulating the obligation of each party was provided for audit review.

The Committee had resolved to visit this project to ascertain its status because its completion had remained controversial.

The Committee visited the project site and ascertained that the fencing of the plot was done and the project was completed as per the bills of quantities.

The Committee was satisfied with the fencing of the plot and cleared the matter but directed the County Government to submit all the necessary documents on the project including bills of quantities to the office of the Auditor General for verification and authentication.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Meeting with the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts

3.1 Issues raised by the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts

- i. The County Executive remains reluctant to account for public funds and attempts by the County Assembly to interrogate corruption allegations have been met with resistance including the Executive Committee Members seeking court orders to restrain the County Assembly from impeaching them.
- ii. The County Assembly relied on the executive in the disbursement of funds to carry out its activities including the oversight role. This had greatly negatively impacted on the performance of the County Assembly and its Committees.
- iii. There was an instance where an officer employed the County Executive was interdicted on corruption allegation and reinstated under unclear circumstances. This perpetuated corruption and impunity.
- iv. The Committee works well but lacked capacity to make strong recommendations due to party affiliation and political interference from party caucuses.
- v. The County Executive had in the recent past cooperated with the County Assembly and the Public Accounts Committee.
- vi. The Speaker of the County Assembly was constantly under threat of impeachment and this had impacted on the decision making process due to fear of removal from office. The Senate should come up with a law that ensures security of tenure for the Speaker.

3.2 Issues underscored by the Committee

- i. The need for a bi-partisan approach in the performance of the oversight role of the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts.
- ii. Dedication to duty and avoiding conflict of interest at all time through observance of guidelines provided under Chapter six of the Constitution.
- iii. Observing due diligence in the investigations and affording every person the opportunity to be heard as stipulated in the constitution.
- iv. Budget autonomy is key and will ensure independence of the County Assembly and the Senate will consider the matter and make appropriate resolution.
- v. The importance of the Public Accounts Committee in determining whether corruption was entrenched or dealt with in the county government.
- vi. The need for the County Assembly Public Accounts Committee to work closely with the Senate Committee on Public Accounts and Investments on matters of oversight.
- vii. Petitioning the Senate to take up issues that the county executive has failed to respond to or ignored.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS

The Committee Observed that:

- i. The business persons who traverse various counties in search of market for their produce and services including the small scale traders who sell sukuma wiki, taxi operators and Boda Boda operators among others end up paying more levies due to lack of harmonized inter-county levies.
- ii. The County Government had introduced innovative ways of ensuring compliance in levies and other fees payment by the local corporations and business individuals. One of those innovative ways was negotiating with the levies/fees payers on the appropriate rates before actual introduction of the fees.
- iii. The County Government revenue Collection was lower than the projected revenue returns and remained lower than what the defunct local authorities collected in the preceding years. Although the County Government had introduced robust measures to increase revenue collection, the projections remained below its ideal potential.
- iv. The delayed disbursement of funds by the National Treasury impacted negatively on the development programmes, operational matters and funds absorption rates.
- v. The County Government experienced a lot of difficulties in the recruitment of Kenyans from other counties due to political pressure from the county residents who expected only the locals to be recruited without regard to expertise and equitable distribution of job opportunities to all Kenyans.
- vi. The transitional issues relating to IFMIS and G-Pay had been substantially resolved and the Central Bank and the National Treasury

continued to support the County Government through continuous training of designated officers managing the IFMIS and G-Pay systems.

- vii. The County Government had a written and functional policy on staff recruitment and a staff audit and a job evaluation had been undertaken.
- viii. The assets and liabilities registers had been prepared by the County Government. However, the verification and authentication by the Transition Authority had not been concluded. This continued to delay the official handing over and taking over of assets and liabilities.
- ix. The executive arm of the County Government did not report any specific cases of corruption despite the irregularities pointed out in the report of the Auditor General the financial year 2012/2013(1st January, to 30th June, 2013).
- x. The Legislative Assembly relied on the County Executive for disbursement of funds to finance its operations and therefore lacked the requisite autonomy to manage and finance its activities.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee Recommends that:-

- i. The County Government should take appropriate actions to seal revenue leakage avenues, strengthen its revenue collection supervisory regimes and decisively deal with corruption cases in order to boost its revenue collection. Similarly, the County Government should expedite the development of debt collection policy that will assist in timely settlement of debts and accurate projection of revenue targets.
- ii. The County Government should ensure prudent management of public resources and where incidences of corruption are detected or reported, investigation should be launched immediately and appropriate action taken against those found culpable including suspension pending the outcome of the investigations.
- iii. The Senate should urgently initiate the process of introducing legislation that provide a general framework on (1) Inter-County levies/fees, (2) recruitment of personnel at the Counties and (3) debt collection and management policy for the Counties.
- iv. The Salaries and Remuneration Commission should advise the County Governments on how to harmonize salaries of County employees and similarly provide a general framework on how the issue of salary differences amongst officers who worked with the defunct local authorities and the National Government can be resolved without jeopardizing the chances of counties to attract competent personnel due to salary capping.
- v. The County Public Service Boards should observe the provisions of the County Government Act, 2012 particularly the sections relating to the recruitment of personnel at the County level.

- vi. Whereas the National Treasury should disburse funds to counties within the timelines stipulated in law, the County Governments should also utilize the IFMIS system efficiently in the management of funds.
- vii. In the bid to make citizens appreciate the relationship between payment of levies/fees and service delivery, the County Government should prioritize implementation of projects that address the immediate needs of the local population for example water supply, electricity supply and connection, sewerage systems, motorable roads, decent housing, market stalls, health facilities and parking spaces among others.
- viii. The Senate should consider developing the appropriate legislation that would guarantee the financial autonomy of the County Assemblies and further ensure the separation of powers between the Legislative Assembly and the County Executive.

APPENDICES

Minutes of the Committee

**MINUTES OF THE 15TH SITTING OF THE SENATE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE
ON COUNTY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS HELD AT THE
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE UASIN GISHU COUNTY ON FRIDAY, 22ND MAY,
2015 AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT

Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale	- Chairman
Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan	- Vice Chairman
Sen. Wamatangi Kimani	

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

Sen. Khaniri George
Sen. Kennedy Mong'are
Sen. Murkomen Kipchumba
Sen. (Prof.) Anyang' Nyong'o
Sen. Martha Wangari
Sen. Sitswila Wako Amos
Sen. (Eng.) Karue Muriuki
Sen. (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo

IN ATTENDANCE.

(I) UASIN GISHU COUNTY EXCEUTIVE:

Hon. Jackson Mandago	- Governor
Mr. Daniel Kipngatich	- Deputy Governor
Mr. Peter Leley	- County Secretary
Mr. Shadrack Sambai	- CEC Finance & Planning
Ms. Margaret Chepkwony	- ECE Public Service
Mr. Simon Cheplel	- CFO
Ms. Mary Nogu	- CEC Land & Environment

(II) OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Justus Ole Kimiri	- OAG-Parliamentary Liaison Officer
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(III) THE SENATE SECRETARIAT

Mr. Derrick Koli	- Clerk Assistant
Ms. Gloria Wawira	- Clerk Assistant
Mr. Victor Bett	- Clerk Assistant
Mr. Joseph Tiyan	- Research Officer

MIN.77/2015: PRELIMINARIES

The Chairman called the meeting order at 10.00am and the meeting started with a word of prayer. The Chairman thereafter invited the Governor to lead the introductions.

MIN.78/2015: MEETING WITH UASIN GISHU COUNTY EXCEUTIVE

On arrival the Committee was received by the Governor, Deputy Governor, the County Secretary and the Executive Committee member in charge of Finance and economic planning among others. After a round of introductions, the Chairman briefly explained to the Governor and his team why the Committee was visiting and invited the governor to give a general briefing to the Committee on the experiences and challenges faced by his Government since its inception.

Governor's briefing

The Governor in his briefing welcomed the Committee to the County and appreciated the role the Committee and the Senate continues to play at the national level. He started by stating that the local population has embraced devolution with a lot of enthusiasm.

He outlined the main achievements of the County Government to include:

- (i) The initiation of many development programmes in various sectors particularly health and early childhood development.
- (ii) Putting in place the necessary infrastructure for the County to continue devolving services and facilities to the lowest units of the County Government in its bid to deepen and entrench devolution.
- (iii) the County Government paying its personnel in good time and this had ensured that the officers remain motivated and productive.
- (iv) The County Government had also embarked on strengthening the internal audit systems by employing more staff in audit and procurement department and absorbing experienced officers from the Transition Authority and the defunct local authorities to improve the efficiency of the procurement depart.
- (v) In order to streamline and ensure efficiency in the management of IFMIS and G-Pay systems, the County Government had requested the Ministry of Devolution to second officers who will continuously train the county officers on the management of the two systems.

The Governor further informed the Committee that the County Government faced a number of challenges including:-

- (i) The delayed disbursement of funds by the National Treasury which impacts on the implementation of the development projects as well as operational activities of the County Government.
- (ii) Low revenue collection due to sabotage from the employees of the defunct local authorities who did not disclose all the revenue sources to the incoming County Government.

- (iii) The Transition Authority had also not concluded the verification and authentication of assets and liabilities registers. This had delayed the processes of official handing over of assets and liabilities.
- (iv) The recruitment processes where the locals would not want Kenyans from other counties to be employed in the county; this remains a key challenge in attracting the required expertise.
- (v) The County Government continues to pay officers doing similar jobs different salaries because the County Government inherited staff from the national Government and the defunct local authorities who earned different salaries. This remains a challenge for the county Government despite the guidelines issued by Salaries and Remuneration Commission.
- (vi) Pending court cases including a case where an individual moved to court to claim ownership of Langas Estate which houses schools and hospitals for the residents of the area and
- (vii) Pending and unconcluded disciplinary cases for the County employees who were employees of the National Government and defunct local authorities. These cases were taking too long to be resolved. Under the circumstances, the County Government continued to pay officers who remained suspended and could not recruit replacements.

Chairman's remarks

The chairman in his remarks:-

- (i) Thanked the Governor and his team for their cooperation during the consideration of the report of the Auditor General under review and commended them for the submissions they made to the Committee when they appeared before it.
- (ii) Informed the Governor and his team that the Committee had considered but not concluded its consideration of all the audit queries raised in the report of the Auditor General under review on Uasin Gishu County.
- (iii) Pointed out that the Committee had been constrained by the injunctions of the High court which bared it from summoning the Governors.
- (iv) Reported that despite the challenges the Committee had prepared and tabled an interim report on the consideration of the report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of County Governments for Financial year 2012/2013(1st January to 30th June, 2013).
- (v) Clarified that the Committee was visiting as follow up mechanism to share its findings with the County Government and seek responses from the County Government on specific policy related issues that it considered critical in deepening and streamlining prudent management of public finances.
- (vi) Reiterated the Commitment of the Committee to ensure devolution is a success through prudent management of public funds.
- (vii) Underscored the need for the County Government to fastrack the development agenda and hasten the completion of projects because

Kenyans wanted devolution so that they can see faster implementation of policies and projects.

- (viii) Pointed out that the locals including 'mama mboga' and 'boda boda' riders paid fees or other related levies with expectation that the County Government will play a role in alleviating their suffering. The locals therefore expected to relate the fees and levies they paid to the services they received from the County Government especially on basic services and facilities like roads and market places.
- (ix) Emphasized the need for the Governors to cooperate with the Senate on matters of accountability in order to safeguard public resources and ensure devolution works and
- (x) Informed the Governor that the Committee would meet the Uasin Gishu County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts later in the day and thereafter visit the project identified as outlined in the programme of the visit.

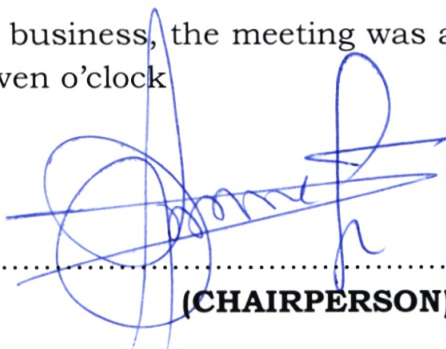
MIN.79/2015: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was to be held at the Uasin Gishu County Assembly on the same day at 12:00 noon

MIN.80/2015: ADJOURNMENT

The being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at forty five minutes after eleven o'clock

SIGNED:



(CHAIRPERSON)

DATE:

9-07-15

MINUTES OF THE 16TH SITTING OF THE SENATE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS HELD AT UASIN GISHU COUNTY ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY, 22ND MAY, 2015 AT 12.00 NOON.

PRESENT

Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale	- Chairman
Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan	- Vice Chairman
Sen. Wamatangi Kimani	

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

Sen. George Khaniri
Sen. Kennedy Mong'are
Sen. Murkomen Kipchumba
Sen. (Prof.) Anyang' Nyong'o
Sen. Martha Wangari
Sen. Amos Sitswila Wako
Sen. (Eng.) Muriuki Karue
Sen. (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo

IN ATTENDANCE.

(I) UASIN GISHU COUNTY ASSEMBLY:

Hon. Issac Keter	- Speaker
Mr. R. T Chepkonga	- Clerk of the County Assembly
Mr. Ramadhan Ali	- Chairperson PAC
Mr. Pius Kigen	- MCA & Member PAC

(II) OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Justus Ole Kimiri	- OAG-Parliamentary Liaison Officer
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(III) THE SENATE SECRETARIAT

Mr. Derrick Koli	- First Clerk Assistant
Ms. Gloria Wawira	- Third Clerk Assistant
Mr. Victor Bett	- Third Clerk Assistant
Mr. Joseph Tiyan	- Research Officer III

MIN.81/2015: PRELIMINARIES

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 12.00 noon and the meeting started with a word of prayer.

MIN.82/2015: MEETING WITH UASIN GISHU COUNTY ASSEMBLY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

On arrival the Committee was received by the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Uasin Gishu County Assembly Public Accounts Committee. After a round of

introductions, the Chairman briefly explained to the Speaker and his team why the Committee was visiting and invited the Speaker to give a general briefing to the Committee on the experiences and challenges faced by the County Assembly since its inception.

Remarks by the Speaker of UASIN Gishu County Assembly

The Speaker in his remarks:-

- (i) Thanked the Committee for finding time to visit the County Government of Uasin Gishu
- (ii) Expressed his support for the role the Senate continues to play at the National Level particularly in championing the interests of the Counties.
- (iii) Reported that the County Assembly had made great strides in executing its oversight role.
- (iv) Pointed out that at the beginning of the County executive was reluctant to cooperate with the County Assembly on matters of accountability. However, the situation had since changed and the County Government was cooperating.

The Chairman of the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts remarks:

The Chairman in his remarks informed the Committee that:-

- i. The Committee lacked the capacity to make assertive or strong recommendations on matters under its consideration owing to the political interference from party caucuses.
- ii. The County Executive remains reluctant to account for public funds and attempts by the County Assembly to interrogate reported cases of corruption had been met with resistance including the Executive Committee members seeking court orders to restrain the County Assembly from impeaching them.
- iii. The County Assembly relied on the County Executive arm of County Government in the disbursement of funds to carry out its activities including the oversight role. This had greatly impacted on the performance of the County Assembly and its Committees due to deliberate delay in disbursement of funds.
- iv. The County Assembly has only one MCA who represents the opposition. This weakens the position of the County Assembly to interrogate the County Executive due to one party control of the Assembly.

Remarks by the Chairman

The Chairman in his remarks:-

- i. Emphasizing the need for a bi-partisan approach in the performance of the oversight role of the County Assembly Committee on Public Accounts.
- ii. The importance of dedication to duty and avoiding conflict of interest at all time through observance of guidelines provided under Chapter six of the Constitution
- iii. Supported the need for budget autonomy as a key factor to ensure independence of the County Assembly and assured the Assembly that the Senate is considering the matter and will make an appropriate resolution.
- iv. Underscored the need for the County Assembly Public Accounts Committee to work closely with the Senate Committee on Public Accounts and Investments on matters of oversight and encouraged the committee to take advantage of avenue available for seeking the intervention of the Senate like Petitions.
- v. Reiterated the commitment of the Committee to ensure devolution works.

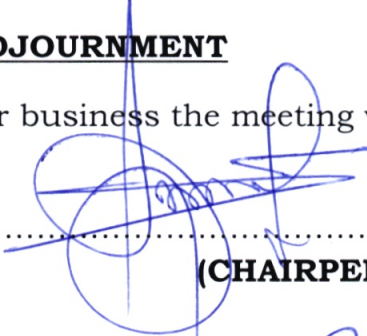
MIN.83/2015: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was to be held at Kapsoya, Eldoret on the same day at 4:00 pm

MIN.84/2015: ADJOURNMENT

The being no other business the meeting was adjourned at one o'clock.

SIGNED:


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(CHAIRPERSON)

DATE:

9-07-15

MINUTES OF THE 17TH SITTING OF THE SENATE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS HELD AT KAPSOYA, UASIN GISHU COUNTY ON FRIDAY, 22ND MAY, 2015 AT 4.00 PM.

PRESENT

Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale	- Chairman
Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan	- Vice Chairman
Sen. Wamatangi Kimani	

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

Sen. Khaniri George
Sen. Kennedy Mong'are
Sen. Murkomen Kipchumba
Sen. (Prof.) Anyang' Nyong'o
Sen. Martha Wangari
Sen. Sitswila Wako Amos
Sen. (Eng.) Karue Muriuki
Sen. (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo

IN ATTENDANCE.

(I) UASIN GISHU COUNTY GIOVERNEMENT:

Hon. Jackson Mandago	- Governor
Mr. Daniel Kipngatich	- Deputy Governor
Mr. Peter Leley	- County Secretary
Mr. Shadrack Sambai	- CEC Finance & Planning
Ms. Margaret Chepkwony	- ECE Public Service
Mr. Simon Cheplel	- CFO
Ms. Mary Nogu	- CEC Land & Environment
Hon. Issac Keter	- Speaker
Mr. R. T Chepkonga	- Clerk
Mr. Ramadhan Ali	- Chairperson PAC
Mr. Pius Kigen	- MCA

(II) OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Justus Ole Kimiri	- OAG-Parliamentary Liaison Officer
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(III) THE SENATE SECRETARIAT

Mr. Derrick Koli	- First Clerk Assistant
Ms. Gloria Wawira	- Third Clerk Assistant
Mr. Victor Bett	- Third Clerk Assistant
Mr. Joseph Tiyen	- Research Officer III

MIN.85/2015: PRELIMINARIES

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4.00 pm upon the arrival at the site of project highlighted in the Auditor General's report under review.

MIN.86/2015: VISIT TO THE SELECTED PROJECT HIGHLIGHTED IN THE REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

On arrival the Chairman clarified the purpose of the visit to the project selected and pointed out that the Committee was interested in ascertaining the completion status of the project.

Audit Query 2.6 Recurrent and Development Expenditure: Irregular Payment for Fencing of Plot at Kapsoya

A payment of Kshs.3, 540,378.00 was made to M/s Damco International Ltd on 28 June 2013 for fencing of a public utility plot at Kapsoya. However, as at the time of audit in August 2013, the contractor had not fenced the plot. Further, no Bills of Quantities were prepared for the works to be done. In addition no contract signed between the contractor and the County Government stipulating the obligation of each party was provided for audit review.

The Committee had resolved to visit this project to ascertain its status because its completion had remained controversial.

Resolution of the Committee:-

The Committee upon inspection of the site ascertained that the fencing of the plot had been done and the project was completed as per the bills of quantities. Having been satisfied with the completion status of the project, the Committee cleared the audit query but directed the County Government to submit all the necessary documents on the project including bills of quantities to the office of the Auditor General for verification and ascertainment of the value for money component.

Chairman's concluding remarks

The Chairman thereafter thanked the County Government for hosting the Committee and urged the Governor to prioritize projects that have direct impact to the lives of the residents in the bid to make the locals appreciate the fruits of devolution. The Chairman further requested the Governor to cooperate with the Committee in consideration of similar reports in the future.

MIN.87/2015: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was to be called by notice

MIN.88/2015: ADJOURNMENT

The being no other business the meeting was adjourned at five o'clock.

SIGNED:

(CHAIRPERSON)

DATE: 9-07-15'

MINUTES OF THE 25TH SITTING OF THE SENATE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS HELD IN THE SENATE COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 4, 1ST FLOOR, MAIN PARLIAMENT BUILDING, ON THURSDAY, 9TH JULY, 2015 AT 10.00AM

PRESENT

Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale	- Chairman
Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan	- Vice Chairman
Sen. George Khaniri	
Sen. Kennedy Mong'are	
Sen. (Eng.) Muriuki Karue	
Sen. Martha Wangari	
Sen. Wamatangi Kimani	
Sen. Murkomen Kipchumba	
Sen. Amos Sitswila Wako	
Sen. (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo	

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

Sen. (Prof.) Anyang' Nyong'o

IN ATTENDANCE

THE SENATE SECRETARIAT

Mr. Derick Koli	- First Clerk Assistant
Ms. Gloria Wawira	- Third Clerk Assistant
Mr. Joseph Tiyan	- Research Officer III

MIN.130/2015: PRELIMINARIES

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10.10am and the meeting started with a word of prayer .The Chairman thereafter welcomed members to the meeting.

MIN.131/2015: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was adopted after having been proposed by Sen. (Eng.) Muriuki Karue and seconded by Sen. Kennedy Mong'are.

MIN.132/2015: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE COUNTY VISIT TO UASIN GISHU COUNTY FROM 21ST - 23RD MAY, 2015.

The Committee considered and unanimously adopted the report of the Committee on the County visit to Uasin Gishu County from 21st – 22nd May, 2015.

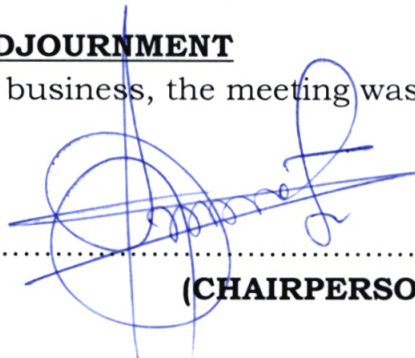
MIN. 133/2015: DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was to be called by notice

MIN.134/2015: ADJOURNMENT

The being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at eleven o'clock.

SIGNED:



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(CHAIRPERSON)

DATE:

9-07-15
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