PARLIAMENT OF KENYA LIBRARY

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON THE APPROVAL OF THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION (AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 36 OF 2015)

Honorable Senators,

I wish to report to the Senate that, pursuant to Standing Order 40 (3) and (4), I received the following Message from the Speaker of the National Assembly regarding the passage by the Assembly of the Access to Information (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 36 of 2015)-

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

WHEREAS, the Access to Information (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 36 of 2015) was published *vide* the Kenya *Gazette* Supplement No. 94 of 30th June, 2015 to give effect to the provisions of Article 35 of the Constitution, relating to the right to information, by facilitating access to information held by Government Ministries and other public authorities through proactive publication and dissemination of information;

AND WHEREAS, the National Assembly considered and passed the said Bill on Thursday, 28th April, 2016 **with amendments** in the form attached hereto;

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

Honourable Senators,

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

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

Honourable Senators,

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

I thank you.

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

31st May, 2016