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THE SENATE

13TH PARLIAMENT | 5TH SESSION

DIRECTORATE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION, AND
HOUSING

REPORT ON THE PETITION BY MR. DANIEL RAKORO AND OTHER
RESIDENTS OF HOMABAY COUNTY REGARDING PUBLIC
TRANSPORT BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL
SUB-COUNTY AND MBITA

PAPERS LAID	
DATE	16/9/2026
TABLED BY	Sen. Hamid S. MP.
COMMITTEE	Roads
CLERK AT THE TABLE	Kawata.

15/09/26

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The Senate,
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NAIROBI.

SEPTEMBER, 2026

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
KAA	Kenya Airports Authority
KCAA	Kenya Civil Aviation Authority
KeRRA	Kenya Rural Roads Authority
KFS	Kenya Ferry Services
KMA	Kenya Maritime Authority
KNHA	Kenya National Highways Authority
KPA	Kenya Ports Authority
KRB	Kenya Roads Board
KRC	Kenya Railways Corporation
KURA	Kenya Urban Roads Authority
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Government Agencies
MDF	Mfangano Development Forum
MFS	Mbita Ferry Services
NCA	National Construction Authority
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
NLC	National Land Commission
NTSA	National Transport Safety Authority
PPP	Public Private Partnership

LIST OF STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Constitution of Kenya (2010)
2. The Petitions to Parliament (Procedure) Act, (CAP 7E)
3. The Senate Standing Orders

PRELIMINARIES

A. Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

Article 124 (1) of the Constitution of Kenya provides that each House of Parliament may establish committees and shall make Standing Orders for the orderly conduct of its proceedings, including the proceedings of its committees.

The Senate Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation, and Housing is established under the Standing Order 228 (3) and the Fourth Schedule of the Senate Standing Orders. The Committee is mandated to consider all matters relating to Transport, Roads, public works, Housing, Construction and Maintenance of Roads, Rails and buildings, Air, Seaports and Communications¹.

B. Membership of the Committee

The Committee comprises the following member –

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Sen. Eddy Gicheru Oketch, MP | -Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. (Dr.) Steve Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP | -Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. Moses Otieno Kajwang', CBS, MP | -Member |
| 4. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua. CBS, MP | -Member |
| 5. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | -Member |
| 6. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP | -Member |
| 7. Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP | -Member |
| 8. Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP | -Member |
| 9. Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP | -Member |

¹ Senate Standing Order, (2023). The Government of Kenya

C. Functions of the Committee

Pursuant to Standing Order 228 (4), the Committee is mandated to –

- a) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, and operations of its assigned ministries and departments;
- b) Study the programme and policy objectives of its assigned ministries and departments, and the effectiveness of the implementation thereof;
- c) Study and review all legislation referred to it;
- d) Study, assess, and analyse the success of the ministries and departments assigned to it as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- e) Consider the Budget Policy Statement in line with the Committee's mandate;
- f) Report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Senate to approve;
- g) Make reports and recommendations to the Senate as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation;
- h) Consider reports of Commissions and Independent Offices submitted to the Senate pursuant to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution;
- i) Examine any statements raised by Senators on a matter within its mandate; and
- j) Follow up and report on the status of implementation of the resolution within their mandate.

D. Government Agencies and Departments under the purview of the Committee

In exercising its mandate, the the Committee oversees the County Governments, Ministries, departments, and various Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs), namely –

- 1) Ministry of Roads and Transport,
 - (i) State Department for Roads;
 - (ii) State Department for Transport; and
 - (iii) State Department for Aviation and Aerospace Development.
- 2) Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy, and Maritime Affairs – State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs,
- 3) Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development,
 - (i) State Department for Housing and Urban Development; and
 - (ii) State Departments for Public Works

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

Hon. Speaker,

At the sitting of the Senate held on Tuesday, 18th October, 2022, a Petition by Mr. Daniel Rakoro and other residents of Mfangano Island, regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano and Mbita Islands, in Homabay County was reported to the House by the Speaker of the Senate, pursuant to Standing Order 236 of the Senate Standing Orders.

Subsequently, the Petition was committed to the Standing committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing pursuant to Standing Order 238 (1) of the Senate Standing Order.

Hon. Speaker,

The Petition raises concerns over the lack of a public ferry service connecting Mfangano, Takawiri, Remba, Atego, Risi and Ringiti Islands with each other and the mainland. Consequently, over 30,000 residents who depend entirely on water transport are compelled to use expensive and unsafe private boats, increasing the cost of living and business while exposing passengers to serious safety risks following the suspension of the only private ferry in December 2021.

Further, the Petition highlights the disruption of access to essential services, including healthcare, education and trade, delays in the implementation of Government development projects due to transport constraints, and the lack of a lasting response despite previous appeals to the Ministry responsible for Transport and Infrastructure and the Kenya Ports Authority.

Hon. Speaker,

The Committee considered the Petition extensively through submissions received from the Petitioners, the Ministry of National Treasury and Economic Planning, the Ministry of Roads and Transport, the Kenya Ports Authority, and the Kenya Maritime Authority.

Arising from its deliberations, the Committee observes THAT –

- (i) Ferry transport remains the sole and critical link between Mbita, Mfangano and the mainland. The absence of a public ferry after the suspension of ferry operations disrupted access to essential services and forced residents to rely on costly, unsafe private transport.
- (ii) Although the Government initiated procurement of a public ferry, implementation has been significantly delayed, with delivery projected for July 2026, more than three years after the initial budgetary allocation in FY 2022/2023;
- (iii) The project cost increased substantially following its takeover by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), from an initial allocation of Kshs. 300 million to an estimated cost of Kshs. 1 billion, with the eventual contract signed at Kshs. 766 million, exclusive of VAT; and
- (iv) The proposed second ferry, for which Kshs. 300 million had been provided in FY 2023/2024 and procurement planned for the second quarter, was not procured due to budgetary constraints. Further, the ferry under construction is intended to serve multiple Lake Victoria routes rather than being dedicated to the Mbita–Mfangano route, and may therefore not adequately address the residents’ need for reliable connectivity.

Hon. Speaker,

Therefore, the Committee recommends THAT –

- (i) The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) and the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), within six (6) months of tabling of this report, operationalize the new public ferry currently under construction at the Kisumu Shipyard Limited and deploy the same to improve transport services between Mbita and Mfangano route;

- (ii) The National Treasury and Economic Planning ring-fence funding in the Financial Year 2026/2027 Budget to ensure completion of the Mbita and Sena piers as well as the rehabilitation of the associated ramps and jetties at Mbita and Mfangano; and that Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to ensure implementation works are completed and submit progress report is submitted to the Senate within six (6) months; and
- (iii) The County Government of Homabay in collaboration with the Ministry of Roads and the National Treasury and Economic Planning, provide adequate budgetary allocation and initiates the procurement of a second ferry in the Financial Year 2027/2028 to secure a reliable and sustainable mode of public transport between Mbita and Mfangano Islands.

Hon. Speaker,

I wish to thank the Members of the Committee for their dedication and commitment throughout the consideration of the Petition. My sincere appreciation to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Senate for the support accorded to the Committee in the discharge of its mandate. The Committee also extends its gratitude to the Petitioners and stakeholders who participated and made valuable submissions that facilitated the expeditious consideration of this Petition.

It is now my pleasant duty, pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 228, to present to this House the Report of the Committee on the Petition regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano and Mbita Islands, in Homabay County.

SIGNED



DATE Wednesday, 2nd September ,2026

CHAIRPERSON: EDDY GICHERU OKETCH, MP

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE PETITION

1. The Senate received a Petition from Mr. Daniel Rakoro and other residents of Mfangano Island, regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano and Mbita Islands, in Homabay County.
2. The Petition was reported to the House by the Speaker of the Senate, on Tuesday, 18th October 2022, pursuant to Standing Order 236 of the Senate Standing Orders. Consequently, the Petition was committed to the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing pursuant to Standing Order 238 (1) of the Senate Standing Order.
3. The Petition draws the attention of the Senate to the plight of residents of Mfangano, Takawiri, Remba, Atego, Risi and Ringiti Islands in Lake Victoria. These islands together host a population of over 30,000 people and rely entirely on water transport for inter-island movement and access to the mainland.
4. The said islands lack a public ferry service linking them to each other and to the mainland, forcing residents to rely on costly private transport and thereby increasing the cost of living and doing business. The residents have relied on a private ferry service since 2012, when the first vessel began operating along the Mbita–Takawiri–Mfangano Island route. However, the ferry was later grounded and its operations suspended on 21st December 2021, due to several safety deficiencies. These included the absence of a pre-service and maintenance schedule, lack of fire-fighting equipment and life-saving appliances, failure to address oil spillages, inadequate certification, and insufficient emergency response preparedness.
5. School-going children and other vulnerable groups have been disproportionately affected, as they are compelled to rely on overcrowded wooden boats that cannot safely accommodate high passenger volumes or heavy cargo, thus posing serious safety risks.

6. Further, although the Government has initiated development projects on the islands, including the construction of classrooms and installation of off-grid power generators, implementation has been delayed due to challenges in transporting fuel and construction materials on time.
7. Efforts to seek intervention from the Ministry responsible for Transport and Infrastructure and the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) had not yielded any immediate solutions.
8. Consequently, the Petitioners sought the intervention of the Senate, to address the transport challenges between Mfangano and Mbita Islands, as well as the mainland through restoration of ferry services, procurement of a public ferry, rehabilitation of the Mfangano Jetty or port at Sena, support for Public Private Partnership (PPP) investments, and an on-site assessment by the committee and other relevant officials.

1.2 THE PRAYERS

9. The Petitioners pray that the Senate, through the Standing Committee of Roads, Transportation, and Housing, investigates the matters raised in the Petition with a view to return normalcy in people and cargo transportation between the said Islands and the mainland, and THAT –
 - (i) The Government through the Ministry of Roads and Transport to support the current investors through Public-Private Partnership to ensure compliance with the safety Maritime regulation;
 - (ii) In the meantime, the Government through the Kenya Ferry Services now under the Kenya Ports Authority allocate and install a fully equipped public ferry to ply the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island and Mbita route free of charge and as a constitutional right for the people of Mfangano Island, ferry being a road extension;

- (iii) The Government through the National Treasury and the Ministry of Roads and Transport, through the Kenya Ferry Services, now under the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), to immediately procure a public ferry with the Kshs. 300 million allocated in FY 2022/2023 under vote head 020400, and purchase or construct a new free public ferry to ensure safe and secure lake transportation within and without the Island; and
- (iv) The Government, through the National Treasury and the Ministry of Roads and Transport, through the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), to rehabilitate the Mfangano Island Jetty and/or Port at Sena, with the financial resources already allocated in the FY 2022/2023 to ensure safety and secure landing zones for ferries plying the Mfangano and Rusinga Islands to Mbita Route;
- (v) The Committee of Roads, Transportation, and Housing, ministry officials and other relevant organisations visit the respective islands to assess the suffering and challenges experienced by the people.

1.3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.3.1 Geophysical Features

10. Suba Central Sub-county covers Mfangano, Remba, Takwiri and Ringiti Islands while Atego and Risi Islands are located in Mbita Sub-county.² Mfangano Island found at the eastern part of Lake Victoria rises to 1,694m at Mount Kwitutu with a rocky backbone and area coverage of approximately 65km². It is cloaked in variable green vegetation cover, with dominance of thick forest trees and shrubs at the lower slopes while patches of forest and grassland cover are found at the hilltop. Certain sections of the Island are seen as tall red cliffs, yet a characteristic stunted dry olive forest trees survive at the higher slopes. At the edge of the shores of the Island are

² <https://www.thefreelibrary.com/Lake+Victoria+islands+gets+a+new+sub-county.-a0723668003>

black rocks with hanging fig trees, black volcanic sandy soils and narrow reed beds along the beaches.³

11. Remba Island is covered with a rocky feature, located at the boundary of Kenya-Uganda while Takawiri Island located at the middle of Lake Victoria in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania rises to an elevation of 1,200m, is rich in unique white sandy beaches which are complemented by the tall palm trees. Despite the invasion of water hyacinth in Lake Victoria, the waters around this island are clear blue. It is home to the hippos and a wide range of bird species. The un-spoilt natural landscape has a common vegetation cover consisting of banana, papaya, fig and mango trees. Owing to the closeness of Remba Island, Ringiti Island has a relatively similar rocky feature but located 3km away from the Uganda-Kenya Border in Lake Victoria.

12. On the other hand, Risi Island rises to 1157m above sea level, located near Kiringiti and Wasamo Island, in Homabay County. It is also 3km away from Atego Island, commonly known as Mzenzi Island, based on the survey of Kenya map. It has an estimated terrain of 1187m above sea level.⁴

1.3.2 Population Dynamics

13. Generally, the population distribution within these Islands are small but densely populated with Mfangano island being home to 30,000 people, 5,000 in Takawiri, 20,000 in Remba while Ringiti has approximately 6,000 inhabitants. Mfangano Island is mainly inhabited by the Abasuba people whose origin mainly emanates from the Bantus of East Africa and culturally influenced by the Luo through their daily interactions and intermarriages.

³ Coulson D., Borona, G.K., and Wanga, G. N., (2018). Kenya's Lake Victoria and Mfangano Island Abasuba Natural and Cultural Heritage. Accessed at: <https://www.scribd.com/document/513325803/Suba-Gude-booklet-2018>

⁴ Kenny, M. G. (1977). The Powers of Lake Victoria. *Anthropos*, (H. 5./6), 717-733.

1.3.3 Modes of Transport

14. The residents of the Islands majorly rely on engine boats for transport. Mfangano Island is accessed by road, boat or air. The air charters from Nairobi, Kisumu and Masai mara are directly available for transport. Ferries and waterbuses are also offered for transport from Mbita to Mfangano Island, in case of heavy goods. This operates between Mbita to Luanda-Kotieno in Siaya county, making four trips per day. People from Remba and Ringiti Islands access the mainland by crossing over to Mfangano to board a ferry or motorboat depending on the urgency of the travelling.⁵

15. A regular motorboat ferry service is used to transport people from Mfangano to Mbita. Takawiri can be accessed by road or boats from any of the other islands on Lake Victoria. Being at the boundary of Kenya-Uganda, Remba Island is reached by wooden boats. Other means of transport that have been used to access the mainland from other Islands of Lake Victoria, have been canoes, dhows and speed boats. People also get around to the shore line by bicycles and motorcycle taxis.

1.3.4 Transport facilities available

16. Following the upgrade of Kabunde airstrips to 1.2km of airport standard, its operation commenced with nine flights per week, while the remaining four airstrips are pending upgrading. The water transport is mainly facilitated by either of the two waterbuses, two ferry services or motorboats. 151 underdeveloped landing beaches and only 6 jetties exist in Homabay county, to serve the rest of the Islands around.⁶

⁵ Omoro J. (2021, October 30). 'Shipping Logistics': The Life Saving Ferries of Mbita. Standard Media: <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/shipping-logistics/article/2001418890/the-life-saving-ferries-of-mbita>

⁶ Homabay County Annual Development (2021): https://www.homabayassembly.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ANNUAL_DEVELOPMENT_PLAN_2022_2023.pdf

1.3. 5 Trade/Business Undertaken

17. The main economic activity across these Islands is fishing. The other trading activities that are extensively being done are subsistence farming of some cash crops, industrial parks, and small trade retail businesses.

1.3.6 Roles and Functions of Kenya Ferry Services

18. The ferry services were operated by the Kenya Ferry Services Limited, as a State corporation, established under the Companies Act (CAP 486) of the Laws of Kenya and within the Ministry of Roads and Transport.

19. The core mandate of Kenya Ferry Services Limited (KFSL) involves acquiring, maintaining, operation and management of ferries, boats and other vessels used to facilitate the transportation of motorists, pedestrians, petroleum products and other cargo.

20. Other roles played by the KFSL are; organization of school excursions for ferry tours, safe transportation of delicate cargo and ensure security of customers, staff and other stakeholders.⁷

21. The Ferry services in Mbita work closely with the Kenya Maritime Authority in ensuring safety of the vessel being used. It is mainly involved in the transportation of goods and passengers connecting Mfangano and other surrounding Islands. The vessels also ferry tourists to beaches across the lake.

1.3.7 Impact of improvement of water transport facilities in the Islands

22. People of Remba and Ringiti islands bordering Uganda can easily cross to Mfangano to board a ferry to the mainland. If the water transport facilities are

⁷ Beja P. (2021, October 30). Standard Media. Kenya Ferry Services Dissolved:
<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/the-standard-insider/article/2001416479/kenya-ferry-services-dissolved>

improved there will be greater transport and communication connection between Homa Bay, Siaya, Kisumu and Migori counties.

23. With the introduction of private ferry services and water boat facilities, there has also been a great improvement in transportation timings, from three hours by Motorboat between Mfangano island and Mbita town to 35 minutes by ferry. The private vessels have completely supplemented and revolutionized lake transport; ensuring safety and comfort.

24. Construction of a Sh1.5 billion Mbita bridge has also enhanced operation of public ferries in the lake. The bridge constructed by the Kenya National Highway Authority (KeNHA) was completed in early 2017. Before construction of the bridge, there was a causeway, which unfortunately powered strong waves which made docking difficult. The bridge improved the flow of water from one part of the lake to another.

1.3.8 Current Situation

25. Improved electricity supply has supported economic activities within the island. The Government has maintained a reliable electricity supply through generators, enabling fishermen to preserve their catch while awaiting markets and, consequently, improving livelihoods and economic activity in the area.

26. Ferry transport has remained a key concern for local communities. In December 2021, the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) suspended the operations of two private ferries operated by Mbita Ferry Services Limited on safety grounds, leaving private water buses as the main alternative. The suspension adversely affected residents, particularly due to the ferries' role in transporting heavy cargo between the mainland and the islands. Residents therefore called for the resumption of ferry services.

27. Tourism has expanded through deliberate efforts to open up and promote the islands around Rusinga. Increased visitor numbers have contributed to the growth of hospitality facilities, including Mfangano Island Lodge, Rusinga Island Lodge, Wayando Beach Eco Lodge, Siambi Resort and Victoria Sands Lodge.
28. The Rusinga Cultural Festival has further promoted tourism and cultural awareness of the Suba community. Established in 2012 as an annual event, the festival has grown significantly and become a notable cultural tourism event in Kenya.

CHAPTER TWO: CONDUCT AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

2.1 COMMITTEE UNDERTAKINGS

29. Following committal of the Petition to the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing, the Committee proceeded to consider the Petition in accordance with the Petition to Parliament (Procedure) Act and the Senate Standing Orders. The minutes of the deliberations are attached as Appendix 1 to this Report, while a copy of the Petition is attached as Appendix 2.

30. The Committee recognized the need to verify the claims made by the Petitioners and resolved to conduct an inquiry into the matter. Subsequently, the Committee invited and received submissions from the following stakeholders –

- (i) The Petitioners, Mr. Daniel Rakoro and other residents of Mfangano Island
- (ii) The Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning
- (iii) The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Roads and Transport
- (iv) The Management, Kenya Maritime Authority
- (v) The Management, Kenya Ports Authority

2.2 STAKEHOLDERS' SUBMISSIONS

2.1.1 The Petitioner

31. The Petitioners first appeared before the Committee on 8th November, 2022 and submitted that Mfangano Island, located approximately 20 kilometers from Mbita, is home to over 30,000 residents who depend entirely on water transport to access essential services. The Island hosts several primary and secondary schools, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions, a Level Four hospital and other health facilities. However, access to emergency healthcare on the

mainland remains a significant challenge due to inadequate transport services (the submission from the Petitioners is attached as Appendix 3).

32. The Petitioners submitted that no public ferry service has operated on the Mbita–Mfangano route since 1963. Although residents have relied on private ferry services operating along the Mbita–Takawiri–Mfangano Island route since 2012, these operations were suspended on 21st December ,2021 due to safety deficiencies, leaving residents dependent on local boats, private ferries and water buses. While local boats have a combined capacity of forty-five (45) passengers and an estimated travel time of approximately five hours, private ferries and water buses have a larger capacity and provide faster transport but remain inadequate to meet the mobility needs of the island communities.

33. The Petitioners emphasised that transport costs remain high, averaging Kshs. 300 per passenger and Kshs. 3,000 for a saloon vehicle. Consequently, this raised the cost of construction materials including cement, which is estimated to be approximately 30% higher on the island. The Petitioners stated that despite these challenges, the County Government of Homa Bay has not provided subsidies or other support to alleviate transport-related difficulties.

34. During the visit to Mfangano Island the Petitioners and residents expressed concerns regarding the absence of a dedicated public ferry service to connect them to the mainland Mbita. They argue that this lack of reliable transport undermines their constitutional rights to access essential services. Specifically-

- (a) emergency medical care because delays in reaching hospitals on the mainland pose serious risks to life and health;
- (b) children face barriers in attending schools located on the mainland, limiting their right to education; and

(c) traders and workers are disadvantaged in conducting business, transporting goods, and accessing markets.

35. The residents further petitioned for the establishment of a dedicated public ferry service to connect the islands within and around Mbita Sub county (including Mfangano, Takawiri, Rusinga, Ngodhe, Remba and Ringiti), emphasizing that such a ferry should be treated as a vital piece of public infrastructure, a **“connecting road”** equivalent to the highways and bridges provided in other regions of the country. They argue that the absence of a government-sponsored ferry has created systemic barriers to accessing essential services such as emergency medical care, education, and economic opportunities, thereby undermining their constitutional rights to equality, non-discrimination, and social and economic inclusion. In their view, the lack of reliable transport is not merely an inconvenience but a structural inequity that isolates their community and denies them the same level of mobility and opportunity enjoyed in other parts of the country.

2.1.2 Ministry of National Treasury and Economic Planning

36. The Committee sought for responses on various issues regarding the procurement of a ferry for the Mbita–Mfangano route, including –

(i) Existence of budgetary allocation in FY 2022/2023;

(ii) Total amount allocated, government agency to expend the budgetary allocation;
and

(iii) Previous budgetary allocations for same activities and plans to ensure intended project is implemented within FY 2022/2023 (Appendix3).

37. In its response, the Ministry vide a letter Ref: 1092/21/01/A/ (29), dated 29th November 2022 (Appendix 4), submitted that the Approved Estimates for the Financial Year 2022/2023 included a budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million for

the acquisition of ferries for public transport on Lake Victoria. The Ministry informed the Committee that the project was initially under the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) through the National Treasury Vote. Following Executive Order No. 1 of 2022, responsibility for KPA and the project was transferred to the State Department for Transport, together with the budget allocation through Supplementary Estimates No. 1 of FY 2022/2023. Further, the Ministry emphasized that no prior budgetary allocation for the project before FY 2022/2023 had been done.

2.1.3 Ministry of Roads and Transport

38. In his formal submission on 3rd March, 2023 the Cabinet Secretary informed the Committee that the Ministry had committed to procuring a new public ferry at the earliest opportunity to provide reliable transport services between Mbita and Mfangano Islands. Further, the Ministry committed to implementing programmes and projects, including the development of a modern shipyard in Kisumu during the Financial Years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 and the Medium-Term Budget, in recognition of the economic potential of the islands. Additionally, the Ministry undertook to promote private sector participation in the development and operation of ports, while continuing to develop and maintain strategic jetties through Government investment.

39. Further, the Committee sought for a status update on the procurement of the ferry for which Kshs. 300 million was allocated in FY 2022/2023 and the second ferry for which a further Kshs. 300 million was allocated in FY 2023/2024 (Appendix 5)

40. In response, vide a letter Ref. No. MOT&I/C/ADM/034/7/2 Vol. I (46), dated 1st August, 2023 (Appendix 6), the Ministry informed the Committee that a budgetary provision of Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2022/2023 had been presented for purposes of acquiring a ferry for public transport to ply Lake Victoria between

Mfangano and Mbita Islands in Homabay County. The Ministry added that, as of June 2023, Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) had received disbursement of Kshs. 300 million to facilitate acquisition of the first ferry and commenced the procurement process promptly. This ferry was expected to be completed within 9 (nine) months.

41. Regarding the acquisition of the second ferry as proposed in the FY 2023/2024, the Ministry reported that a budget of Kshs. 300 million was in place and the planning of the procurement was put in place, which was expected to be undertaken during the second quarter of FY 2023/2024. The Ministry further indicated that the contractor would be engaged to fast-track construction and delivery of the second ferry within the fourth quarter of the financial year.
42. While deliberating on the response from the Ministry, the Committee also took note of the Presidential Directive issued on 2nd August 2023 (Appendix 7) requiring all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to procure marine vessels and maritime infrastructure through Kenya Shipyards Limited. The Committee observed that the directive provides an institutional framework for fast-tracking the procurement of the proposed public ferry and the development of supporting infrastructure.
43. Further, the Committee sought a response from the Ministry on the progress made with respect to the acquisition of public ferries to ply in Lake Victoria as well as the rehabilitation of Mfangano Island Jetty and/or the Sena Jetty to ensure safe landing of the ferries plying the Mfangano, Rusinga to Mbita Route (Appendix 8).
44. The Ministry, vide a letter, Ref. No. MOT&I/C/ADM/034/7/2 Vol. II (125) dated 13th November, 2025 (Appendix 9) submitted that at the time, the construction of a new ferry was ongoing at the Kenya Shipyard Limited in Kisumu and was projected to end by June 2026. The design capacity of the ferry is 74 seated passengers, 10

saloon vehicles, 7 trucks of up to 15 tons each. The Ministry reported that this ferry was intended to ply the Mita, Mfangano and Luanda K'Oteiono route.

45. In addition, the Ministry emphasized the need to procure more ferries, adding that the KPA had commenced a study on Integrated Maritime and Inland Water Transport System to assist in determining the operational framework for seamless cargo and passenger movement in the Lakes. It was expected that the determination and procurement of additional ferries would be undertaken in collaboration between National and County Governments.
46. On infrastructure development, the Ministry stated that KPA was developing piers at Homa Bay, Mbita, Sena and Kendu Bay. It noted that Phase One of the Homa Bay Pier Project had been completed, while Phase Two was underway and expected to be completed by August ,2026. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for Mbita Pier was pending approval by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and issuance of a reservation letter by the National Land Commission (NLC). The Ministry further stated that construction of the Sena Pier and Kendu Bay Jetty was awaiting budgetary allocation to facilitate the commencement of procurement.
47. Further, the Ministry drew the Committee's attention to Gazette Notice No. 16472 of 16th December 2024 (Appendix 10), which delineates the respective functions of the National and County Governments. The Ministry noted that the Gazette Notice assigns County Governments responsibility for county ferries and harbours, excluding the regulation of national and international shipping, which remains a function of the National Government.
48. Following its earlier submissions, the Committee sought a status update from the Ministry of Roads and Transport on a detailed breakdown of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million for acquisition of the first ferry under the Financial

Year 2022/2023 as well as status update on the acquisition of second ferry intended to operate on Lake Victoria as per budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million presented by Ministry in Financial Year 2023/2024 (Appendix 11).

49. In response (Appendix 12), the Ministry informed the Committee that the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) had initiated the procurement of one ferry in FY 2022/2023 at an estimated project cost of Kshs. 1000 million. On 15th March, 2024, KPA and Kenya Shipyards Limited (KSL) signed a contract for the supply and commissioning of one (1) new-built Kisumu Port Shallow Draught Ferry at a total tender cost of Kshs. 766 million, exclusive Value Added Tax (VAT).

50. The Ministry explained that a total of Kshs. 612 million had been spent towards the acquisition of the ferry, comprising Kshs. 560 million from the State Department for Roads and Kshs. 52 million from the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) through its internal resources. The State Department for Roads disbursed Kshs. 300 million in FY 2022/2023, Kshs. 150 million in FY 2023/2024, and Kshs. 110 million in FY 2025/2026. The Ministry further indicated that the ferry under construction at Kenya Shipyards Limited had attained approximately 85% completion and was expected to be delivered by July 2026.

51. Regarding the second ferry, the Ministry informed the Committee that although the procurement had been conceptualised, the process had not been initiated due to budgetary constraints. The Ministry indicated that procurement would be initiated once funding was secured. It further assured the Committee that, upon completion and commissioning of the first ferry, an assessment of its operational performance and demand patterns would be undertaken to inform future phases, including the potential acquisition of additional vessels.

52. The Committee made the following observations during the site visit, that -

- (a) The acquisition of a public ferry to serve the Mbita–Mfangano route has been marked by significant delays, with delivery now projected for July 2026 despite budgetary allocations commencing in FY 2022/2023;*
- (b) The project was initially allocated Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2022/2023 for the acquisition of a ferry to serve the Mfangano–Mbita route. Following the takeover of the project by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), the estimated project cost increased to Kshs. 1000 million, with the eventual contract signed at Kshs. 766 million, exclusive of VAT;*
- (c) Although the Ministry had initially reported that Kshs. 300 million had been provided in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and procurement of a second ferry was planned for the second quarter of the Financial Year 2023/2024, the procurement process was not initiated due to budgetary constraints. The Ministry indicated that procurement would be undertaken once adequate funding was secured; and*
- (d) Critical landing infrastructure at Mbita, Sena, and Kendu Bay remains incomplete, thereby delaying the operationalization of ferry services.*

2.1.4 The Management of Kenya Maritime Authority

53. In consideration to the issue raised in the Petition regarding the suspension of the only private ferry in December 2021, the Committee met with officials of the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) on 3rd March 2023 (Appendix 13), who informed the Committee that the Authority had directed the suspension of two ferry vessels due to non-compliance with prescribed maritime safety standards. The Authority stated that the vessels would only be permitted to resume operations upon full compliance with the safety requirements. To mitigate the disruption caused by the suspension, Mbita Ferry Services (MFS) introduced a private ferry to provide interim transport services while the affected vessels underwent the necessary upgrades to meet KMA safety standards.

54. *The Committee established that the suspension of ferry operations on safety grounds, without an alternative public ferry service, resulted in prolonged disruption of transport between Mbita and Mfangano Islands, compelling residents to rely on costly private transport and unsafe boats.*

2.1.5 Management of Kenya Ports Authority (KPA)

55. In the course of its inquiries on the Petition, the Committee raised concerns regarding the shipping Operations by Kenya Ports Authority in Lake Victoria and the rehabilitation of Mfangano Jetty. Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs (Appendix 14) informed the Committee that, notwithstanding its mandate to develop ports, jetties and other maritime infrastructure in collaboration with the State Department for Public Works and County governments, the National Government had undertaken improvement works at Mfangano Jetty and other port facilities along Lake Victoria, including the rehabilitation of the Port of Kisumu. KPA further submitted that plans were underway to improve piers in Siaya, Homa Bay and Migori Counties.

56. Additionally, the Authority informed the Committee that the Government, through the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, intended to allocate funds in the FY 2023/2024 Budget to support ferry services on Lake Victoria, including the procurement of a ferry and the improvement of piers to facilitate safe docking and efficient ferry operations.

57. On 23rd October 2025, during its fact-finding visit to Mfangano Island, the Committee met with the management of the KPA, who informed the Committee that a total of Kshs. 600 million had been allocated for the procurement of ferry components, with assembly of the ferry underway at Kenya Shipyards Limited in Kisumu County. The authority added that the ferry, designed to carry 74 passengers,

10 saloon vehicles and seven trucks of up to 15 tonnes, was at an advanced stage of construction and was expected to be launched before the end of 2025 (Appendix 16)

58. KPA further informed the Committee that the designs for the Mbita and Mfangano ramps had been completed, with construction works prioritised at Mbita. The Authority also submitted that the design for the Sena Pier had been finalised and its construction was scheduled to commence in the Financial Year 2025/2026, while construction of the associated ramp was already underway.

59. The Committee made the following observations from its interactions with KPA – that,

- (a) the ferry under construction was intended to serve multiple routes across Lake Victoria, including Kisumu, Kendu Bay, Homa Bay, Muhuru Bay, Mbita and Mfangano, rather than being dedicated to the Mbita–Mfangano route as prayed for by the Petitioners. The Committee was concerned that this deployment arrangement may not adequately address the persistent transport and safety challenges facing the affected island communities;*
- (b) access to the ferry landing sites on the mainland remained constrained by the poor condition of the connecting road to Mfangano Island, which, although commissioned in 2023, had not been upgraded to bitumen standard; and*
- (c) upgrading the proposed 54-kilometre Mfangano Island Ring Road and improving the connecting road network would complement ferry transport, enhance accessibility and support economic activities on the island.*

CHAPTER THREE: EMERGING ISSUES FROM THE PETITION

The following thematic issues emerged during the Committee deliberations.

3.1 DELAYS AND COST ESCALATION IN THE PROCUREMENT OF THE PUBLIC FERRY

60. The Committee observed that the procurement of a public ferry for the Mbita–Mfangano route has been characterised by protracted delays, notwithstanding budgetary allocations having commenced in the Financial Year 2022/2023. Although a contract for the supply of the ferry was signed on 15th March, 2024, actual delivery was, as at the time of finalising this Report, still projected for July 2026, representing a delay of more than three years from the initial budgetary provision.

61. The Committee further observed that the project was initially allocated Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2022/2023 for the acquisition of a ferry to serve the Mfangano–Mbita route. Following the takeover of the project by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), the estimated project cost increased to Kshs. 1000 million, with the eventual contract signed at Kshs. 766 million, exclusive of VAT and the total expenditure reported at Kshs. 612 million as at the time of the Committee's inquiries. The Committee was concerned that the scale of this cost escalation and the resultant delay may undermine the timely realization of the transport relief sought by the Petitioners

3.2 SUSPENSION OF FERRY OPERATIONS AND ABSENCE OF AN ALTERNATIVE PUBLIC SERVICE

62. The Committee observed that the suspension of the only private ferry serving the Mbita–Mfangano route in December 2021, occasioned by non-compliance with prescribed maritime safety standards, left the affected island communities without

any alternative public ferry service. In the absence of a timely Government intervention to provide interim public transport, residents were compelled to rely on costly private ferries, water buses and, in some instances, overcrowded and unsafe wooden boats, thereby heightening safety risks particularly for school-going children and other vulnerable groups.

63. The Committee noted that this gap between regulatory enforcement action, on the one hand, and the provision of alternative public transport, on the other, constitutes a recurring pattern with a direct bearing on the safety and welfare of residents of Mfangano, Takawiri, Remba, Atego, Risi and Ringiti Islands.

3.3 SCOPE AND ADEQUACY OF THE FERRY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

64. The Committee observed that the ferry under construction at Kenya Shipyards Limited is designed to serve multiple routes across Lake Victoria, including Kisumu, Kendu Bay, Homa Bay, Muhuru Bay, Mbita and Mfangano, rather than being dedicated exclusively to the Mbita–Mfangano route as per the pray of the Petitioners. The Committee was concerned that this multi-route deployment arrangement may not adequately address the specific and persistent transport and safety challenges facing the affected island communities, notwithstanding the anticipated improvement in overall connectivity within the Lake Victoria region.

3.4 INCOMPLETE LANDING AND SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

65. The Committee observed that critical landing infrastructure necessary for the safe and effective operationalization of ferry services, including the piers at Mbita, Sena and Kendu Bay, remained incomplete at the time of completion of the Committees consideration of the matter. The Committee further noted that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the Mbita Pier was pending approval by the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), alongside outstanding issuance of a

reservation letter by the National Land Commission (NLC), while construction of the Sena Pier and Kendu Bay Jetty awaited budgetary allocation.

66. The Committee also observed that access to the ferry landing sites on the mainland remains constrained by the poor condition of the connecting road network to Mfangano Island, including the proposed 54-kilometre Mfangano Island Ring Road which, although commissioned, has not been upgraded to bitumen standard.

3.5 COORDINATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

67. The Committee observed that Gazette Notice No. 16472 of 16th December 2024 delineates the respective functions of the National and County Governments with respect to maritime transport, assigning County Governments responsibility for county ferries and harbours while reserving regulation of national and international shipping to the National Government. The Committee noted that effective resolution of the transport challenges facing Mfangano Island and the surrounding islands will require close coordination between the two levels of government, particularly with respect to infrastructure development and ferry service planning.

3.6 SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ISLAND COMMUNITIES

68. The Committee observed that the prolonged absence of a public ferry service has had far-reaching socio-economic consequences for the over 30,000 residents of Mfangano Island and the surrounding islands, including elevated transport costs averaging Kshs. 300 per passenger and Kshs. 3,000 per saloon vehicle, an estimated 30% increase in the cost of construction materials, delays in the implementation of Government development projects and constrained access to healthcare, education and markets.

CHAPTER FOUR: OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

69. Having considered the submissions from the Petitioners, other stakeholders, and the findings from its fact-finding visit, the Committee observes, THAT –

- (i) At the time of the site visit by the Committee, ferry transport constituted the primary link between Mbita, Mfangano Island and the mainland, effectively serving as an extension of the road network and directly influencing mobility, trade, and access to essential services for the island communities;
- (ii) The suspension of ferry operations by the Kenya Maritime Authority on safety grounds, in the absence of an alternative public ferry service between Mbita, Mfangano Island and the mainland has constrained access to education, healthcare and markets, forcing residents to rely on costly private ferry services and unsafe boats, thereby increasing the cost of goods and exposing vulnerable groups to significant safety risks;
- (iii) The absence of a public ferry connecting Mbita and the surrounding islands interrupts the continuity of national infrastructure, leaving island residents disconnected from the rest of the country. A ferry should be treated as a connecting road across water, just as highways and bridges serve other regions. Denying this link entrenches inequality and denies the community equal opportunity to thrive.
- (iv) Without a public ferry, Mfangano residents face serious barriers in reaching schools, hospitals, and markets undermining their constitutional rights. Article 43 of the Constitution guarantees access to education, health care and economic opportunity, yet these rights remain hollow without reliable transport. The lack of connectivity has effectively denied them equal footing with other communities, reinforcing discrimination and exclusion;

- (v) Although the Ministry had initially reported that Kshs. 300 million had been provided in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and procurement of a second ferry was planned for the second quarter of the Financial Year 2023/2024, the procurement process was not initiated due to budgetary constraints. The Ministry indicated that procurement would be undertaken once adequate funding was secured;
- (vi) Although the Government had initiated the procurement of a public ferry, implementation had been significantly delayed, with delivery of the ferry projected for July 2026, more than three years after the initial budgetary allocation in FY 2022/2023;
- (vii) The ferry under construction is intended to serve multiple routes across Lake Victoria, including Kisumu, Kendu Bay, Homa Bay, Muhuru Bay, Mbita and Mfangano, rather than being dedicated to the Mbita–Mfangano route. The ferry under construction to serve multiple routes will not fully address the residents' concerns of having dedicated routes to serve them;
- (viii) The project was initially allocated Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2022/2023 for the acquisition of a ferry to serve the Mfangano–Mbita route. Following the takeover of the project by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), the estimated project cost increased to Kshs. 1 billion, with the eventual contract signed at Kshs. 766 million, exclusive of VAT;
- (ix) The critical supporting infrastructure, including the Mbita, Sena and Kendu Bay piers, remained incomplete, while access to the ferry landing sites continued to be constrained by the poor condition of the connecting road to Mfangano Island. The Committee noted that completion of the ferry infrastructure and upgrading of the proposed 54-kilometre Mfangano Island Ring Road would enhance connectivity and improve the operational efficiency of ferry services; and

- (x) Maritime transport is a shared function between the National Government and the County Government of Homa Bay, therefore the effective resolution of the transport challenges facing Mfangano Island and the surrounding islands will require close coordination between the two levels of government, particularly with respect to infrastructure development and ferry service planning.

4.2 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

70. The Committee having investigated the matter in accordance with its mandate, recommends, THAT: -

- (i) The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) and the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), within six (6) months of tabling of this report, operationalize the new public ferry currently under construction at the Kisumu Shipyard Limited and deploy the same to improve transport services between Mbita, Mfangano and Rusinga route;
- (ii) The National Treasury and Economic Planning ring-fence funding in the Financial Year 2026/2027 Budget to ensure completion of the Mbita and Sena piers as well as the rehabilitation of the associated ramps and jetties at Mbita and Mfangano; and that Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to ensure implementation works are completed and submit progress report to the Senate within six (6) months;
- (iii) The County Government of Homabay in collaboration with the Ministry of Roads and the National Treasury and Economic Planning, provide adequate budgetary allocation and initiates the procurement of a second ferry in the Financial Year 2027/2028 to secure a reliable and sustainable mode of public transport between Mbita, Mfangano and Rusinga Islands;
- (iv) The Government, through the Ministry of Roads and Transport and the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), within six (6) months of tabling of this report, put in

place interim operational support or targeted subsidies for licensed private ferry operators to ensure continuous, safe and affordable transport of passengers and goods between Mbita, Mfangano and the mainland, pending the full deployment of the public ferry; and

- (v) The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Homa Bay County Government, within six months, prioritise the upgrading of the proposed fifty-four (54) kilometre Mfangano Island Ring Road to bitumen standard, and the establishment of a modern market, to complement ferry transport, support trade and economic activity on the islands.

LIST OF APPENDICES

- Appendix 1: Minutes of the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing in considering the Petition
- Appendix 2: Copy of the Petition
- Appendix 3: Submissions by the Petitioner(s)
- Appendix 4: Response from the National Treasury and Economic Planning dated 29th November, 2022
- Appendix 5: Committee letter seeking status update on procurement of ferry
- Appendix 6: Response from the CS, Roads & Transport dated 1st August, 2023
- Appendix 7: Presidential Directive
- Appendix 8: Committee Letter on progress of public ferries
- Appendix 9: Response from CS, Roads & Transport dated 13th November, 2025
- Appendix 10: Gazette Notice No. 16472 dated 16th November, 2024
- Appendix 11: Committee letter seeking status update
- Appendix 12: Response from CS Roads & Transportation
- Appendix 13: Response from Kenya Maritime Authority
- Appendix 14: Response from Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs



Appendix 1: Minutes of the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing
in considering the Petition



**MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1ST
NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 9.30 AM. IN FIRST FLOOR BOARDROOM, RED CROSS
BUILDING.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. Paul Karungo Thangwa, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP | - Member |
| 7. Sen. Edwine Watanya Sifuna, MP | - Member |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Sen. (Rtd.) Justice Stewart Madzayo, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 2. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP | - Member |

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Charles Ngatia | - Clerk Assistant II |
| 2. Ms. Sombe Toona | - Legal Counsel I |
| 3. Mr. Said Osman | - Senior Research Officer |
| 4. Mr. Abdirahman Gorod | - Fiscal Analyst |
| 5. Ms. Zainab Jirma | - Legal Counsel II |
| 6. Mr. Ian Otieno | -Audio Recording Officer |

MIN/SEN/RTH/09/2022

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at forty-five minutes past nine o'clock.

The meeting commenced with a word of prayer by the chairperson followed by introductions of the Members and the Secretariat.

MIN/SEN/RTH/10/2022

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was proposed by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP, and seconded by Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua, MP as follows -

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Remarks by the Chairperson;
4. Confirmation of minutes of the 1st meeting;
5. Matters Arising from minutes of the 1st meeting;
6. Briefing of the mandate of the Committee (*Committee Paper No. 2*);
7. Consideration of a Petition regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub County and Mbita, Homabay County (*Committee Paper No. 3*);
8. Any Other Business; and
9. Adjournment and Date of the Next Meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/11/2022

REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/12/2022

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE
1ST SITTING HELD ON 19TH OCTOBER
2022**

Minutes of the 1st Sitting that was held on 19th October, 2022 were confirmed as a true record of the meeting after they were proposed and seconded by Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP and Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP respectively.

MIN/SEN/RTH/13/2022

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF
THE 1ST SITTING**

(a) Ex .MIN/SEN/RTH/06/2022

The Committee resolved to review the standards and cost effectiveness of roads construction noting that the current cost of road construction by KeRRA was high.

MIN/SEN/RTH/14/2022

**BRIEFING OF THE MANDATE OF THE
COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE PAPER NO. 2)**

The Committee was briefed on the mandate of the Committee (*Committee Paper No. 2*) which highlighted on the scope of the Committee and the institutions in the Executive Arm of Government that fall under the oversight role of the Committee.

The Committee resolved to-

1. Engage directly with the Semi-Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs) under the oversight of the Committee on their mandate and operations; and
2. Engage the Ministry of Roads and Transportation on clarity on the management of the Kisumu Shipyard particularly on whether it is under civilian or military management.

MIN/SEN/RTH/15/2022

CONSIDERATION OF A PETITION REGARDING
PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA
BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA
CENTRAL SUB COUNTY AND MBITA,
HOMABAY COUNTY (COMMITTEE PAPER NO.
3)

The Committee was taken through Committee Paper No.3 on a Petition regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub County and Mbita, Homabay County.

The Committee was informed that-

1. The residents of the Islands within Lake Victoria have suffered from lack of a public ferry that ensures safe and secure access of the islands and the mainland by the residents.
2. On 21st December, 2021, the Kenya Maritime Safety suspended the only private ferry that operated in the Island for non-compliance with the regulations.
3. The petitioner's prayer is that the Senate through the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing intervenes to have the Kenya Ferry Services (KFS) allocate and install a fully equipped public ferry to ply the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island and Mbita route free of charge for the Petitioners and the residents of the Islands.

The Committee noted that-

1. The high cost of transport by private water buses/ferries had resulted in high cost of goods in the islands resulting to high cost of living for the residents;
2. There was a budget of Ksh. 300 million in the FY 2022/2023 for purchase of a ferry to ply the Mfangano-Rusinga-Mbita route;
3. The manner of regulation of safety rules for water transport in Lake Victoria by Kenya Maritime Authority was hindrance to business rather than facilitative for compliance;

4. The construction and rehabilitation of jetties and landing zones for ferries and boats was a function of County Governments.

The Committee resolved to-

1. Undertake a County to visit to Mfangano and Mbita Islands in February, 2023 to acquaint themselves with the transport challenges faced by the Petitioners; and
2. Invite the Petitioners to deliberate on the Petition on Tuesday, 8th November, 2022.

MIN/SEN/RTH/16/2022

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee proposed to consider the Committee Work Plan in the next meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/17/2022

ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at five minutes past eleven o'clock. The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 8th November, 2022.

SIGNED.....

DATE 10th November, 2022

(CHAIRPERSON: SEN. PAUL KARUNGO THANGWA, MP.)



**MINUTES OF THE THIRD SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON TUESDAY, 8TH
NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 10.00 AM. IN RED CROSS BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR
BOARDROOM.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. Paul Karungo Thangwa, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. (Rtd.) Justice Stewart Madzayo, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP | - Member |
| 7. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP | - Member |
| 8. Sen. Edwine Watenya Sifuna, MP | - Member |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP | - Member |
|----------------------------|----------|

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Veronica Kibati | - Principal Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. Mr. Charles Ngatia | - Clerk Assistant II |
| 3. Ms. Getrude Nthiiri | - Clerk Assistant II |
| 4. Ms. Sombe Toona | - Legal Counsel I |
| 5. Mr. Abdirahman Gorod | - Fiscal Analyst |
| 6. Ms. Zainab Jirma | - Legal Counsel II |
| 7. Mr. Ian Otieno | - Audio Recording Officer |

PETITIONERS

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Daniel Rakoro | - Chairperson of the Petitioners |
| 2. Mr. Felix Owuor | |
| 3. Mr. Falconery A. Jim | |
| 4. Mr. Caleb Ginarah | |
| 5. Ms. Josphine Mbei | |
| 6. Mr. Keneddy Onyonyi | |
| 7. Ms. Elizabeth C. Mbeo | |
| 8. Mr. Alphonse O. Muomboh | |

9. Mr. Danie A. Nyadenda
10. Ms. Beatrice A. Okuta
11. Mr. Kennedy Agwaro

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

1. Ms. Annie Ng'ang'a
2. Mr. Okoth Pritt Owino

MIN/SEN/RTH/18/2022

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at twenty-seven minutes past ten o'clock.

The meeting commenced with a word of prayer by the Chairperson followed by introductions of the Members, the Secretariat and the petitioners.

MIN/SEN/RTH/19/2022

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was proposed by Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, MP, and seconded by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP, as follows -

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Remarks by the Chairperson;
4. Confirmation of minutes of the 2nd meeting;
5. Matters Arising from minutes of the 2nd meeting;
6. Meeting with Petitioners on the Petition regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub County and Mbita in Homa Bay County;
7. Any Other Business; and
8. Adjournment and Date of the Next Meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/20/2022

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirmation of minutes of the 2nd Sitting held on 1st November, 2022 were deferred to the next meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/21/2022

MEETING WITH PETITIONERS ON THE PETITION REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT

**IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO
ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL SUB COUNTY AND
MBITA IN HOMA BAY COUNTY**

The Committee invited Mr. Daniel Rakoro, the Chairperson of the Petitioners to make a presentation to the Committee. He informed the Committee as follows -

1. The Island has had no public ferry since independence
2. The management of Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) had visited Mfangano Island to inspect infrastructure available for landing a ferry in anticipation of operating ferry services along the route.

Additionally, Mr. Kennedy Agwaro one of the petitioners, informed the Committee that -

1. The distance from Mbita to the Mfangano Island is approximately 20 km;
2. The population of Mbita Island is 26, 000 people;
3. The Island has the following -
 - (a) Thirty-five (35) primary school with a total of 9000 students;
 - (b) Thirteen (13) secondary schools with 1500 students;
 - (c) Two (2) Technical and Vocational Education and Training Institutions with 200 students;
 - (d) One (1) Level -4 hospital and seven (7) Health Centers;
4. The water transport facilities that ply the routes along Mbita- Mfangano, Lake Victoria are -
 - (a) Six (6) traditional boats with a combined capacity of forty-five (45) Passengers and which take approximately five (5) hours; and
 - (b) One (1) water bus with a capacity of 200 Passengers and which takes approximately 2 hours.
5. Access to emergency health facilities in the mainland was a challenge;
6. The cost of transport for passengers from Mbita to Mfangano is Ksh.300.00 and for saloon cars is Ksh.3,000.00;
7. The cost of construction material such as cement is 30% higher in the Island due to the high cost of transport;
8. There was a loss of the tourism potential of the area due to poor accessibility challenges;
9. There is only a murram road in island that was constructed by Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA) when a private ferry started plying the route because that was the only means of transport to get the construction equipment into the Mfangano Island;
10. The County Government of Homabay had not offered any assistance on the transport challenges; and
11. Mfangano Island is powered by two generators which are not reliable because there are frequent power outages.

Mr. Kennedy Onyonyi, a petitioner, informed the Committee that the private ferry that was suspended from operating was due to non-adherence of the following safety regulations -

- i. Lack of a pre-service and maintenance schedule of the ferry;
- ii. Lack of firefighting equipment and appliances;
- iii. Not addressing oil spillages;
- iv. Lack of adequate certification;
- v. Lack of emergency response preparedness; and
- vi. Lack of life saving appliances.

The Committee noted the prayers of the petitioners including an invitation to visit the islands to ascertain the challenges experienced by the residents of the area.

The Committee resolved as follows -

1. To hold meetings on the Petition with the following key stakeholders-
 - (i) Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Roads & Transport
 - (ii) Kenya Ports Authority
 - (iii) Kenya Ferry Services
 - (iv) Kenya Maritime Authority
 - (v) County Government of Homabay
2. Undertake a visit to Lake Victoria-Mbita - Mfangano Islands to apprise itself on the facts of the Petition

MIN/SEN/RTH/22/2022

ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at eight minutes past noon. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, 10th November, 2022.

SIGNED.....

(CHAIRPERSON: SEN. PAUL KARUNGO THANGWA, MP.)

DATE 10th November ,2022



**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON THURSDAY, 10TH
NOVEMBER, 2022 AT 9.30 AM. IN THE GROUND FLOOR BOARDROOM, RED
CROSS BUILDING.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. Paul Karungo Thangwa, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Edwine Watanya Sifuna, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. (Rtd.) Justice Stewart Madzayo, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 7. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua, MP | - Member |
| 8. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP | - Member |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP | - Member |
|----------------------------|----------|

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Charles Ngatia | - Clerk Assistant II |
| 2. Ms. Getrude Nthiiri | - Clerk Assistant II |
| 3. Ms. Zainab Jirma | - Legal Counsel II |
| 4. Mr. Ian Otieno | - Audio Recording Officer |

MIN/SEN/RTH/23/2022

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at half past ten o'clock and commenced with a word of prayer by the Chairperson.

MIN/SEN/RTH/24/2022

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was proposed by Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, MP and seconded by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP, as follows -

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;

3. Remarks by the Chairperson;
4. Confirmation of minutes of the previous meetings:
 - a) Minutes of the 2nd meeting held on Tuesday, 1st November, 2022
 - b) Minutes of the 3rd meeting held on Tuesday, 8th November, 2022
5. Matters Arising from minutes of the 2nd and 3rd meetings;
6. Consideration of the Committee's Exit Report of the 12th Parliament and the Proposed Work Plan for the 2nd and 3rd Quarter (*Committee Paper No.4*);
7. Any Other Business; and
8. Adjournment and Date of the Next Meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/25/2022

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2ND SITTING HELD ON 1ST NOVEMBER, 2022

Minutes of the 2nd Sitting held on 19th October, 2022 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings after being proposed by Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP.

Minutes of the 3rd Sitting held on 8th November, 2022 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings after being proposed by Sen. Edwine Watanya Sifuna, MP and seconded by and Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/26/2022

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE 2ND SITTING

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2nd Sitting that was held on 1st November, 2022.

MIN/SEN/RTH/27/2022

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE 3RD SITTING

Ex-MIN/SEN/RTH/21/2022

MEETING WITH THE PETITIONERS

The Committee observed that it was important to establish the facts as presented by the Petitioners on the matter of budgetary allocation for purchase of a ferry to ply the Mfangano-Mbita route in Lake Victoria and resolved as follows-

1. That a letter be written to the Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning seeking clarification as to whether there was a budgetary provision in the Financial Year 2022/2023 for the purchase of a ferry to ply the Mfangano-Mbita route in Lake Victoria;
2. To identify a date to meet with the following stakeholders in regard to the Petition -
 - a) Cabinet Secretary, Roads and Transport;

- b) Kenya Ports Authority;
- c) Kenya Ferry Services; and
- d) County Government of Homabay.

MIN/SEN/RTH/28/2022

**CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMITTEE'S
EXIT REPORT OF THE 12TH PARLIAMENT AND
THE PROPOSED WORK PLAN FOR THE 2ND
AND 3RD QUARTER (COMMITTEE PAPER NO.4)**

The Committee was taken through the contents of Committee Paper No. 4 on the Exit Report of the Committee of the 12th Parliament and a proposed work plan for Quarter 2 and 3 for the FY 2022/2023.

The Committee was informed that in the ideal situation, the Committee induction should have been the first business so as to engage the key stakeholders from the agencies that the Committee oversees but the secretariat was yet to get guidance on the dates for the Committee's induction from the Liaison Committee.

The Committee considered the contents of Committee Paper No. 4 and made the following amendments for inclusion in the work plan-

1. Statement by Sen. Edwine Sifuna, MP, on the strike by Kenya Airways Pilots; and
2. Follow up on the status of compensation of project affected persons (PAPs) and construction of Kibwezi-Athi-Mutomo road in Kitui County;

The Committee resolved as follows -

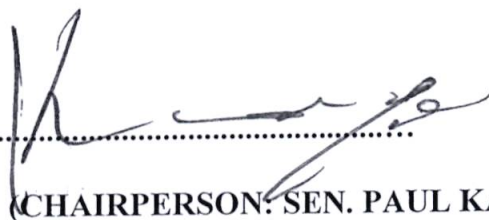
1. To engage various agencies under the Committee's oversight on the policies and programmes during the Committee induction retreat;
2. To engage the State Department of Housing and Urban development on affordable housing specifically on the engagement of residents' associations of the estates that have been identified for redevelopment;
3. Invite for a meeting, the Governors of the nine counties identified not to have met the fiduciary requirements for implementation of the World Bank Grant on the Kenya Urban Support Programme;

MIN/SEN/RTH/29/2022

ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at six minutes past noon.

SIGNED.....



DATE 15th November, 2022.

(CHAIRPERSON: SEN. PAUL KARUNGO THANGWA, MP.)



**MINUTES OF THE THIRTY SIXTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON THURSDAY, 29TH
JUNE, 2023 AT 10.30 A.M. AT AMPHITHEATRE, KICC BUILDING.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. Paul Karungo Thangwa, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |

APOLOGIES

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP | - Member |
| 2. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua, MP | - Member |
| 3. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. (Rtd.) Justice Stewart Madzayo, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. Edwine Watanya Sifuna, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP | - Member |

IN ATTENDANCE

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sen. Johnes Mwaruma, MP | -Senator, Taita Taveta County |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Charles Ngatia | - Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. Ms. Peris Mukuria | - Clerk Assistant III |
| 3. Mr. Jeremy Chabari | - Legal Counsel II |
| 4. Ms. Christine Isemeck | - Research Officer III |
| 5. Mr. Peter Kaparo | - Assistant Sergeant- at- Arms |
| 6. Mr. Ian Otieno | - Audio Recording Officer |

MIN/SEN/RTH/209/2023

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at fifty-eight minutes to Eleven O'clock and commenced with a word of prayer by Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/210/2023**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda of the meeting was adopted after it was proposed by Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, and seconded by Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP as follows -

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Confirmation of minutes of the 35th meeting;
4. Matters Arising from minutes of the 35th meeting;
5. Brief on Status of Petitions before the Committee (Committee Paper No. 27);
6. Consideration of Committee Paper No. 20 on responses to the following Statements-
 - a) Statement by Sen. Shakila Abdalla, MP regarding delay in compensation by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to fishermen in Lamu County affected by the LAPPSET Corridor project;
 - b) Statement by Sen. Johnes Mwaruma, MP regarding the status of the Bura-Mghange-Werugha-Wundanyi-Mbale-Mto Mwangoti and Chala-Njukini-Illasit roads in Taita Taveta County;
 - c) Statement by Sen. James Kamau Murango, MP regarding the status of the project to upgrade the Kutus-Kimbimbi-Kanjini- Piai Road in Kirinyaga County to bitumen standard;
7. Any Other Business; and
8. Adjournment and Date of the Next Meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/211/2023**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the Thirty Fifth (35th) meeting held on 27th June, 2023 were confirmed with amendments as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP, and seconded by Sen. Peris Pesi Tobiko, CBS, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/212/2023**MATTERS ARISING****EX. MIN/SEN/RTH/207/2023****MEETING WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF KINGDOM BANK TO CONSIDER THE PETITION CONCERNING ACCESS TO TITLE DEEDS FOR PROPERTIES BOUGHT AT JAMII BORA ESTATE, KISAJU, KAJIADO COUNTY.**

The Committee noted that the roadmap provided by Kingdom Bank was for purposes of discharging the title deeds to undertake subdivision of the land into the required parcels of land so as to provide title deeds to owners of properties who had fully paid up their loans with the bank.

However, the bank was not aware of the persons who had paid for housing units with Jamii Bora Charitable Trust.

The Committee resolved to seek information on the list of property owners and status of payment for housing units from the various entities that were involved in financing of Jamii Bora Estate.

MIN/SEN/RTH/213/2023: **CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE PAPER NO. 27 -BRIEF ON STATUS OF PETITIONS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee was briefed on the status of Petitions before the Committee and made the following observations and resolutions-

1. The Public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub County and Mbita, Homabay.

The Committee observed that conclusion of the Petition had been withheld pending a visit to Homabay. Due to uncertainty on when the visit would be undertaken, the Committee resolved to seek a status on the acquisition of a Public Ferry to ply the Mbita-Mfangano route in Lake Victoria from the State Department of Transport and write a report on the Petition.

2. Eviction and demolition of the Buxton Estate, Mvita Constituency, Mombasa County.

The Committee was informed that a report writing retreat on the Petition that was scheduled for 1st -2nd July, 2023 has been postponed due to financial challenges. The Committee resolved to schedule another date for the report writing in the FY 2023/2024.

3. Access to title deeds for properties bought at Jamii Bora Estate, Kisaju, Kajiado County.

The Committee resolved to invite the Governor, Kajiado County for a meeting on 4th July, 2023.

4. Construction of a Pedestrian Bridge at Chiromo

The Committee was informed that the Ministry of Roads and Transport was yet to issue a response to the Petition.

MIN/SEN/RTH/214/2023: **CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE PAPER NO. 20 ON RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS**

- a) Statement by Sen. Shakila Abdalla, MP regarding delay in compensation by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to fishermen in Lamu County affected by the LAPPSET Corridor project;

Members were informed that the Committee was in receipt of response to a Statement by Sen. Shakila Abdalla, MP regarding delay in compensation by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to fishermen in Lamu County affected by the LAPPSET Corridor Project.

The Committee considered a response from the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Roads and Transport on the Statement and noted the contents of the response. The Committee resolved to issue a report on the conclusion of the Statement in the Senate.

b) Statement by Sen. Johnes Mwaruma, MP regarding the status of the Bura-Mghange-Werugha-Wundanyi-Mbale-Mto Mwagoti and Chala-Njukini-Illasit roads in Taita Taveta County;

Members were informed that the Committee was in receipt of a response to the Statement by Sen. Johnes Mwaruma, MP regarding the status of the Bura-Mghange-Werugha-Wundanyi-Mbale-Mto Mwagoti and Chala-Njukini-Illasit roads in Taita Taveta County

The Committee considered a response from the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Roads and Transport on the Statement and made the following observations and resolutions-

i. Bura –Mghange-Werugha-Wundanyi-Mbale-Mto Mwagoti Road

The Committee resolved to seek the following supplementary information-

1. Whether KeRRA had remitted the Ksh. 89,400,000.00 that it had budgeted for in the Financial Year 2022/2023 for the partial payment of IPC NO.1 that was due for payment and which had caused financial constraints and subsequent abandoning of site by the contractor;
2. Whether the contractor had since resumed construction;
3. The amount of money that KeRRA had budgeted for the project in the Financial Year 2023/2024; and
4. A copy of the letter instructing the contractor to resume works and fulfil his obligations.

The Committee further resolved to write to the contractor, M/s Stecol Corporation to confirm whether payment for works done had been made.

ii. Chala-Njukini-Illasit Road

The Committee resolved to seek the following supplementary information-

1. The budget allocation for the project in the FY 2023/2024;

2. Explanation as to whether the design of the road would require acquisition of private land; and,
3. The status of compensation of the affected persons if any.

c) Statement by Sen. James Kamau Murango, MP regarding the status of the project to upgrade the Kutus-Kimbimbi-Kanjini- Piai Road in Kirinyaga County to bitumen standard;

Members were informed that the Committee was in receipt of a response to the Statement by Sen. James Kamau MP regarding the status of the project to upgrade the Kutus-Kimbimbi-Kanjini- Piai Road in Kirinyaga County to bitumen standards.

The Committee considered a response from the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Roads and Transport on the Statement and noted the contents of the response. The Committee resolved to issue a report on the conclusion of the Statement in the Senate.

MIN/SEN/RTH/215/2023

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members informed that the inspection visit to the Ihithe-Aberdare Forest-Kahuruko - Ndunyu Njeru road jointly with the Standing Committee on Lands, Environment and Natural Resources would take place as scheduled on Friday 30th June 2023.

MIN/SEN/RTH/216/2023

ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at twenty minutes past Twelve O'clock. The next meeting was set for Tuesday 4th July, 2023.

SIGNED.....

(CHAIRPERSON: SEN. PAUL KARUNGO THANGWA, MP)

DATE 18th July, 2023



**MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTY FIRST SITTING OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING
HELD ON FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 2025 AT SIAMBI RESORT, HOMA-BAY
COUNTY AT 11.00 A.M.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP | -Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 3. Sen. Enoch Wambua, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, MP | - Member |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
| 3. Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Crystal Asige, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. Moses Otieno Kajwang', CBS, MP | - Member |

IN ATTENDANCE

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Daniel Rakoro | -Chair MDF |
| 2. Mr. Charles Kiter | - Principal Operations Officer KPA |
| 3. Mr. William Teney | - MIO KPA |
| 4. Mr. Henry Mwasaru | - Reginal Assistant Director KMA |
| 5. Mr. Andrew Alunga | -PLO SD Transport |
| 6. Mr. Samwel Nasibo | - Manager Sen. Moses Kajwang' |
| 7. Mr. James Obongo | - Member MDF |
| 8. Mr. Joshua Onyango | -Member MDF |
| 9. Mr. Wilson Ogutu | - Member MDF |
| 10. Ms. Yvonne Atieno | - Member MDF |

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Stephen Gikonyo | - Principal Clerk Assistant |
| 2. Ms. Peris Mukuria | - Clerk Assistant III |

3. Mr. Washington Otiato
4. Mr. Christine Isemeck
5. Mr. Elijah Ichwara
6. Ms. Regina Munyao
7. Mr. David Barasa

- Media Relations Officer
- Research Officer III
- Audio Recording Officer
- Legal Counsel
- Sergeant at Arms

MIN/SEN/RTH/770/2025

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at thirteen minutes past one O'clock with a word of prayer by Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/771/2025

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was adopted after it was proposed by Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP seconded by Sen. Enoch Wambua, CBS, MP as follows-

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Introductions;
4. Meeting with petitioners in regards to a Petition on public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub-County and Mbita, Homa Bay County;
5. Any Other Business; and
6. Date of the Next Meeting and Adjournment.

MIN/SEN/RTH/772/2025

**CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT PETITION ON
PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA
BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA
CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY AND MBITA, HOMA
BAY COUNTY**

Members observed a moment of silence in honor of the late Prime Minister Hon. Raila Odinga and proceeded to introductions from them members and petitioners.

Consequently, the committee received submissions from the stake holders as follows-

1. That the absence of a reliable ferry service on the island has severely hampered mobility, thereby limiting access to essential services such as education and healthcare, particularly for expectant mothers requiring referral services for delivery;
2. That the Government allocated Ksh. 800 million towards the construction of a ferry to ply the Mfangano-Mbita route on Lake Victoria, with the allocation made on 25th June, 2025;

3. That the ferry under construction will have a capacity of seventy-four (74) sitting passengers, ten (10) salon cars, and seven (7) trucks of fifteen (15) tonne capacity each;
4. That the construction of the ferry is being undertaken by the Kenya Shipyard Limited at the Port of Kisumu and that the vessel is expected to be launched at Mfangano Island in December 2025;
5. That there is need for the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) to engage and support private operators currently plying the route to ensure full compliance with maritime safety regulations and to promote safe water transport on Lake Victoria;
6. That the design for the construction of a pier at Sena has been completed, and procurement for its construction has commenced, while the design for the Mbita pier is still ongoing;
7. That the Committee to intervene for the construction of a 54-kilometre ring road around Mfangano Island to bitumen standard, as well as the establishment of a modern market to complement the ferry service and promote local trade;
8. That petitioners raised concerns that the ferry, occasionally referred to as the “Lake Victoria Ferry,” could be diverted to serve broader routes beyond the Mbita–Mfangano corridor.

Members noted the submissions of the stakeholders and made the following observations and resolutions-

1. The Committee reaffirmed that its oversight will ensure the ferry primarily serves the community’s direct transport needs, in alignment with the original petition;
2. That there was need for the ferry to offer reliable, daily service, and not be deployed on multi-route or rotational operations;
3. That the ferry is expected to significantly improve; —
 - a. Education access, benefiting students and teachers from the island’s eight secondary schools who currently endure unsafe and costly travel;
 - b. Health services, by providing faster and safer transport for patients requiring urgent referrals, particularly expectant mothers;
 - c. Local commerce, by linking producers to mainland markets and promoting economic growth and resilience.
4. That the Committee remains committed to maintaining close oversight and ensuring full transparency in the use of project funds by; -
 - a. Ensuring KPA submits written confirmation on the ferry’s operation schedule and name within one week;
 - b. Monitoring ramp construction progress at Sena and Mbita;
 - c. Coordinating the preparation of a public progress report to update petitioners and stakeholders; and

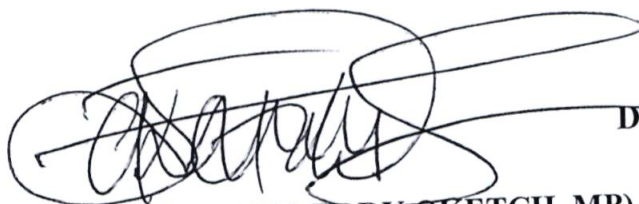
- d. Continuing advocacy for road and market development as part of the island's integrated growth plan;
5. That the Ministry of Roads and Transport submits a written letter indicating the progress of the construction of the ferry and further commit that the ferry was to serve Mfangano Island and not the entire Lake Victoria within seven days.

MIN/SEN/RTH/773/2025

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND
ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned twenty-five minutes past three o'clock.

SIGNED



DATE 2nd December, 2025

1

(CHAIRPERSON: SEN. EDDY OKETCH, MP)



**MINUTES OF THE 149TH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH
FEBRUARY, 2026 AT COMMITTEE ROOM 5, FIRST FLOOR, BUNGE
TOWER AT 11.00 A.M.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP | -Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. Moses Otieno Kajwang', CBS, MP | - Member |
| 3. Sen. Enoch Wambua CBS, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP | - Member |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
| 3. Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Crystal Asige, MP | - Member |

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Stephen Gikonyo | - Principal Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. Ms. Mwanate Shaban | - Principal Clerk Assistant II |
| 3. Ms. Peris Mukuria | - Clerk Assistant III |
| 4. Ms. Regina Munyao | - Legal Counsel I |
| 5. Mr. Patrick Murindo | - Sergeant at Arms |
| 6. Ms. Christine Isemeck | - Research Officer III |
| 7. Mr. Elijah Ichwara | - Audio Recording Officer |
| 8. Ms. Hariet Kerubo | - Intern |

MIN/SEN/RTH/812/2026

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at 11.30 am with a word of prayer from Sen. Enoch Wambua CBS, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/813/2026

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was adopted after it was proposed by Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP, and seconded by Sen. Enoch Wambua CBS, MP as follows-

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Introductions;
4. Confirmation of Minutes of the 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th and 148th of the Sittings meetings;
5. Matters arising from the Minutes;
6. Consideration of the Legislative Proposal on the National Transport and Safety Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025;
7. Any Other Business; and
8. Date of the Next Meeting and Adjournment.

MIN/SEN/RTH/814/2026

CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Minutes of the 144th meeting held on Thursday, 20th November, 2025 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. Enoch Wambua CBS, MP;
2. Minutes of the 145th meeting held on Thursday, 20th November, 2025 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. Enoch Wambua CBS, MP;
3. Minutes of the 146th meeting held on Thursday, 27th November, 2025 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP; and
4. Minutes of the 147th meeting held on Tuesday, 28th November, 2025 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP and seconded by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP.
5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 148th meeting held on Tuesday, 2nd December 2025 was deferred to the next sitting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/815/2026

MATTERS ARISING

The following matters arose from the Minutes –

a. Ex-Min/SEN/RTH/790/2025- Meeting with the Cabinet Secretary of Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing & Urban Development regarding housing projects being undertaken by the Ministry

The committee resolved to re-invite the Cabinet Secretary of Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development and CEO of the Kenya Sports, Arts and Social Development Fund in the subsequent Committee meetings to address issues as per the invites.

b. Ex -Min/SEN/RTH/800/2025- Any Other Business

Members resolved to further seek the further information on utilization of money budgeted for construction of the ferry in regards to the Petition on public transport services on Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island and Mbita, Homa Bay County-

c. Ex-Min/SEN/RTH/804/2025-Meeting with stakeholders in regards to a Petition by residents of Jamii Bora concerning access to title deeds for properties bought at Jamii Bora Estate, Kisaju, Kajiado County.

The Committee had previously resolved that Kingdom Bank and the developer, Jamii Bora, execute the requisite instruments to affect the conversion of the title for Plot No. L.R. 58 from freehold to leasehold tenure and thereafter submit a copy of the duly executed documents to the Committee by Friday, 12th December, 2025.

The Committee was informed that the developer had requested that the original unencumbered title deed be presented before the Committee to facilitate the immediate execution of the final surrender instruments and thereby ensure compliance with the Committee's resolution.

Having deliberated on the matter, the Committee resolved to invite the two parties to appear before it on Thursday, 26th February, for purposes of facilitating the execution of the surrender instruments in the presence of the Director Committee Services and Director Legal Services.

MIN/SEN/RTH/816/2026

CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATIVE
PROPOSAL ON THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT
AND SAFETY AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT)
Bill, 2025

1. Members were taken through the Legislative Proposal on the National Transport and Safety Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2025 and noted its contents; and

2. The Committee resolve to invite the sponsor of the proposal to clarify on proposed Committee amendments to the Bill and, therefore, resolved to invite him to a subsequent meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/817/2026

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Committee resolved to hold a retreat to formulate and adopt its Work Plan for the next quarter of the Legislative Period;
2. The Committee further resolved to invite the relevant road agencies to appear before it to respond to issues raised by Sen. Mohamed Chute, CBS, MP, in his various Statements referred to the Committee; and
3. Members were reminded that the Budget Policy Statement had been scheduled for consideration on Thursday, 19th February, 2026, and that various stakeholders had been invited to submit memoranda thereon. They were therefore urged to attend the sittings, as their input would be invaluable to the Committee's consideration of the Budget Policy Statement.

MIN/SEN/RTH/818/2025:

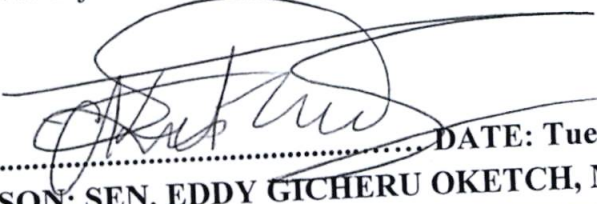
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

MIN/SEN/RTH/819/2025

ADJOURNMENT & DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 1.00 pm, with the next meeting being on notice.

SIGNED:  DATE: Tuesday, 31st March, 2026
CHAIRPERSON: SEN. EDDY GICHERU OKETCH, MP
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING



**MINUTES OF THE 164TH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON TUESDAY, 5TH MAY,
2026 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 5, FIRST FLOOR, BUNGE TOWER AT 11.00 A.M.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP | - Vice-Chairperson (Virtual) |
| 3. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member (Virtual) |
| 4. Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP | - Member (Virtual) |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Sen. Enoch Wambua CBS, MP | - Member |
| 2. Sen. Moses Otieno Kajwang', CBS, MP | - Member |
| 3. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 4. Sen. Crystal Asige, MP | - Member |

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Mwanate Shaban | - Principal Clerk Assistant II |
| 2. Mr. Washington Otiato | - Media Relations Officer |
| 3. Ms. Christine Isamek | - Research Officer |
| 4. Mr. Elijah Ichwara | - Audio Officer |
| 5. Mr. Patrick Murindo | - Sergeant At Arms |

MIN/SEN/RTH/904/2026

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at 11.26 a.m. with a prayer. This was followed by introductions from all present.

MIN/SEN/RTH/905/2026

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda of the meeting was adopted after being proposed by Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP and seconded by Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP as follows-

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. **Confirmation of Minutes of the 161st, 162nd and 163rd Sitting of the Committee:**
4. **Consideration of Pending legislative business before the Committee (Committee Paper 119);**
 - Statements;
 - Petitions; and
 - Inquiries.
5. Any Other Business; and
6. Adjournment & Date of the Next Meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/906/2026

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 161ST, 162ND AND 163RD SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE:

1. Minutes of the 161st Sitting held on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations, having been proposed by Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP and seconded by Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP;
2. Minutes of the 162nd Sitting held on Tuesday, 21st April, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations, having been proposed by Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP; and seconded by Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP; and
3. Minutes of the 163rd Sitting held on Thursday, 30th April, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations, having been proposed by Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/907/2026

CONSIDERATION OF PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS (BILLS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS & INQUIRIES) BEFORE THE COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE PAPER 119);

The Committee considered the Pending legislative business as follows –

A. Bills -The Kenya Roads (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 34 of 2025))

1. The Committee noted that it will be meeting the Ministry of Roads and Transport – the State Department of Roads on the Kenya Roads (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 34 of 2025) to receive their revised proposal on the bill on 8th May, 2026, after which it will consider them for incorporation into the Committee amendments; and
2. The Committee resolved to hold a report writing retreat on the Bill in June, 2026.

B. Statements

3. The Committee noted that the following Statements sought in the year 2025 -2026 are yet to be responded to. Follow up has been made and responses are expected -

- a) Statement by Sen. Betty Montet, MP regarding Renovation of stadiums identified to host the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) tournament;
- b) Statement by Sen. Samson Cherarkey, MP regarding Financial accountability in the construction and approval for occupation of Bunge Tower;
- c) Statement by Sen. Mohamed Chute, CBS, MP Regarding Status of projects under the Parliamentary Service Commission;
- d) Statement by Se. Gloria Orwoba, MP regarding ongoing renovations of government buildings across the country;
- e) Statement by Sen. Andrew Omtatah, MP regarding deplorable state of infrastructure, drainage and sanitation in the City of Nairobi
- f) Statement by Sen. Mohamed Chute, CBS, MP regarding Management and disbursement of retention funds arising from construction contracts executed by the County Government of Marsabit;
- g) Statement by Sen. Agnes Kavindu, MP regarding the State of stadia facilities in Machakos County;
- h) Statement by Sen. Beth Syengo, MP regarding non-functioning of vehicle scanners at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA);
- i) Statement by Sen. Mohamed Chute CBS, MP regarding the state of flooding and structural safety concerns at JKIA;
- j) Statement by Sen. Tabitha Keroche, MP regarding an inquiry into the handover of the Afraha Stadium project;
- k) Statement by Sen. Mohamed Chute, CBS, MP regarding Stalled affordable housing project in Ngara (Park Road Project);
- l) Statement by Sen. Samson Cherarkey, MP regarding suspension of flights by Kenya Airways to Eldoret International Airport;
- m) Statement by Sen. (Prof.) Tom Ojienda SC, MP regarding enhancement and performance of Kisumu International Airport;
- n) Sen. Alexander Mundigi, MP regarding Upgrading of Ngandi Road in Embu County to bitumen standards;
- o) Statement by Edwin Sifuna, MP regarding Safety standards at Kisumu International Airport; and
- p) Statement by Sen. Godfrey Osotsi, CBS, MP regarding the deteriorating infrastructure at Wilson Airport in Nairobi City County.

4. The Committee intended to conclude on some of the above statements during its scheduled retreats with the respective state departments, noting that the retreat with the State Department for Aviation and Aerospace Development scheduled for early June, after the recess.

C. Petitions

a) Public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Suba County and Mbita, Homabay County

5. The Committee had written to the State Department for Transport seeking further clarifications on the following information to enable the Committee conclude on the petition-
 - I. Detailed breakdown of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million for acquisition of the first ferry under the Financial Year 2022/2023; and
 - II. Status update on the acquisition of the second ferry intended to operate on Lake Victoria, as presented by the Ministry, including details of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2023/2024.
6. The State Department was to respond on the matters during the retreat scheduled for Friday, 15th May, 2026.

b) Titles for properties bought in Jami Bora Estate Kisaju, Kajiado County

7. The Committee is in receipt of responses from Kingdom Bank and Jami Bora Charitable Trust following a meeting with the Committee on Thursday, 26th February, 2026 which has been scheduled for consideration.
8. The Committee deliberated on the matter and noted that the major impediment was the holding of the title by the lawyers of the bank. The Committee then resolved to write to the Scandinavian bank to invite them to a meeting to plead with them to write off the loan. The lawyers of the Bank, developer and petitioners should also be part of the meeting.

c) Compensation of residents affected by the construction of Kamwosor Nyaru road

9. The Committee had requested for a status update from the Ministry of Roads and Transport as outlined in the Ministry's earlier response received on 17th September, 2025 in regards to the Petition, which the Ministry shall be submitting on 8th May, 2026 during the retreat.
10. The Committee will then pay a visit to Elgeyo Marakwet county between June and August, 2026, subject to availability of funds, to meet with the petitioners, before concluding on the petition.

D. INQUIRIES

11. The Committee noted its scheduled meeting on the three inquiries it is currently undertaking as follows -

a) Status of Wilson Airport - A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 7th May, 2026

- b) Status of Talanta Sports Stadium – Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 14th May, 2026; and
- c) Status of Bomas International Conference Centre (BICC) redevelopment project – Meeting tentatively scheduled for May/June 2026.

MIN/SEN/RTH/908/2026

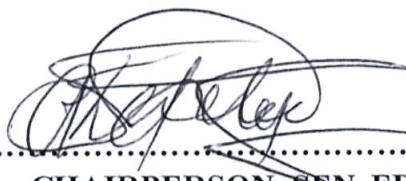
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

MIN/SEN/RTH/909/2026

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND
ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12.35 pm, with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, 7th May, 2026.

SIGNED:  DATE: Tuesday, 2nd June, 2026

CHAIRPERSON: SEN. EDDY GICHERU OKETCH, MP
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING



**MINUTES OF THE 187TH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2ND
SEPTEMBER, 2026 AT FOUR POINTS HOTEL BY SHERATON, MACHAKOS
COUNTY AT 11.00 AM**

PRESENT

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP | - Chairperson |
| 2. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP | - Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua CBS, MP | - Member (Virtual) |
| 4. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
| 5. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 7. Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP | - Member |

APOLOGIES

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP | - Member |
| 2. Sen. Moses Otieno Kajwang', CBS, MP | - Member |

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Mwanate Shaban | - Principal Clerk Assistant II |
| 2. Ms. Peris Mukuria | - Clerk Assistant Clerk III |
| 3. Ms. Regina Munyao | - Legal Counsel I |
| 4. Ms. Christine Isemeck | - Research Officer III |
| 5. Mr. Victor Onyango | - Media Relations Officer |
| 6. Mr. Elijah Ichwara | - Audio Officer |
| 7. Mr. Patrick Murindo | - Sergeant at Arms |

MIN/SEN/RTH/1040/2026

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at 11.01 a.m. with a prayer.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1041/2026

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda of the meeting was adopted after being proposed by Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP as follows –

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;

3. Consideration of the report on the Petition regarding the re-introduction of the Landlord and Tenant Bill, 2021 (Committee Paper No. 126);
4. Consideration of the Report on the Petition by Mr. Daniel Rakoro and other residents of Mfangano Island, regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano and Mbita Islands, in Homabay County (Committee Paper 127);
5. Any Other Business; and
6. Adjournment & Date of the Next Meeting

MIN/SEN/RTH/1042/2026

**CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT ON THE
PETITION REGARDING THE RE-
INTRODUCTION OF THE LANDLORD AND
TENANT BILL, 2021**

The Committee noted the Petitioners prayers, that the Bill be re-introduced published and considered with a view to having it dealt with in accordance with the Constitution and the laws of Kenya, and disposed of appropriately and expeditiously.

Having considered the submissions from the Petitioner, the Committee observed that the enactment of the Act will-

1. Balance the landlord's right to a reasonable return on investment with the tenant's right to protection from arbitrary evictions and unfair practices; and
2. Consolidate and strengthen the legal framework for rental relationships in Kenya, providing clearer rights and obligations for both landlords and tenants.

Based on the foregoing, the Committee resolved to publish the Landlord and Tenant Bill as a Bill sponsored by the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation & Housing.

The Report was consequently adopted, having been proposed by Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP and seconded by Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1043/2026

**CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT ON THE
PETITION BY MR. DANIEL RAKORO AND
OTHER RESIDENTS OF MFANGANO ISLAND,
REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE
VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO AND
MBITA ISLANDS, IN HOMABAY COUNTY**

Members considered the above Report and made the following observations-

1. At the time of the site visit, ferry transport constituted the primary link between Mbita, Mfangano and the mainland, effectively serving as an extension of the road network and directly influencing mobility, trade, and access to essential services for the island communities;
2. The suspension of ferry operations by the Kenya Maritime Authority on safety grounds, in the absence of an alternative public ferry service between Mbita, Mfangano and the mainland has constrained access to education, healthcare and

markets, forcing residents to rely on costly private ferry services and unsafe boats, thereby increasing the cost of goods and exposing vulnerable groups to significant safety risks;

3. The absence of a public ferry connecting Mbita and the surrounding islands interrupts the continuity of national infrastructure, leaving island residents disconnected from the rest of the country. A ferry should be treated as a connecting road across water, just as highways and bridges serve other regions. Denying this link entrenches inequality and denies the community equal opportunity to thrive.
4. Without a public ferry, Mfangano residents face serious barriers in reaching schools, hospitals, and markets, undermining their constitutional rights. Article 43 of the Constitution guarantees access to education, health care, and economic opportunity, yet these rights remain hollow without reliable transport. The lack of connectivity has effectively denied them equal footing with other communities, reinforcing discrimination and exclusion;
5. Although the Ministry had initially reported that Kshs. 300 million had been provided in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and procurement of a second ferry was planned for the second quarter of the Financial Year 2023/2024, the procurement process was not initiated due to budgetary constraints. The Ministry indicated that procurement would be undertaken once adequate funding was secured;
6. Although the Government had initiated the procurement of a public ferry, implementation had been significantly delayed, with delivery of the ferry projected for July 2026, more than three years after the initial budgetary allocation in FY 2022/2023;
7. The ferry under construction is intended to serve multiple routes across Lake Victoria, including Kisumu, Kendu Bay, Homa Bay, Muhuru Bay, Mbita and Mfangano, rather than being dedicated to the Mbita–Mfangano route. This proposed deployment will not address the residents' concerns;
8. The project was initially allocated Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2022/2023 for the acquisition of a ferry to serve the Mfangano–Mbita route. Following the takeover of the project by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), the estimated project cost increased to Kshs. 1 billion, with the eventual contract signed at Kshs. 766 million, exclusive of VAT;
9. The critical supporting infrastructure, including the Mbita, Sena and Kendu Bay piers, remained incomplete, while access to the ferry landing sites continued to be constrained by the poor condition of the connecting road to Mfangano Island. The Committee noted that completion of the ferry infrastructure and upgrading of the proposed 54-kilometre Mfangano Island Ring Road would enhance connectivity and improve the operational efficiency of ferry services; and
10. Maritime transport is a shared function between both levels of government, therefore the effective resolution of the transport challenges facing Mfangano Island and the surrounding islands will require close coordination between the two levels of government, particularly with respect to infrastructure development and ferry service planning.

Following deliberations, members made the following recommendations-

1. The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) and the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), within six (6) months of tabling of this report, operationalize the new public ferry currently under construction at the Kisumu Shipyard Limited and deploy the same to improve transport services between Mbita and Mfangano route;
2. The National Treasury and Economic Planning ring-fence funding in the Financial Year 2026/2027 Budget to ensure completion of the Mbita and Sena piers as well as the rehabilitation of the associated ramps and jetties at Mbita and Mfangano; and that Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to ensure implementation works are completed and submit progress report is submitted to the Senate within six (6) months;
3. The County Government of Homabay in collaboration with the Ministry of Roads and the National Treasury and Economic Planning, provide adequate budgetary allocation and initiates the procurement of a second ferry in the Financial Year 2027/2028 to secure a reliable and sustainable mode of public transport between Mbita and Mfangano Islands;
4. The Government, through the Ministry of Roads and Transport and the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), within six (6) months of tabling of this report, put in place interim operational support or targeted subsidies for licensed private ferry operators to ensure continuous, safe and affordable transport of passengers and goods between Mbita, Mfangano and the mainland, pending the full deployment of the public ferry; and
5. The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Homa Bay County Government, prioritise the upgrading of the proposed fifty-four (54) kilometre Mfangano Island Ring Road to bitumen standard, and the establishment of a modern market, to complement ferry transport, support trade and economic activity on the islands;

Consequently, the Report was adopted after having been proposed by Sen. Mohammed Chute, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1044/2026

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND
ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1.45 p.m.

SIGNED



DATE 8th September 8, 2026

**CHAIRPERSON: SEN. EDDY GICHERU OKETCH, MP
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING**



**MINUTES OF THE 189TH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING HELD ON TUESDAY, 8th
SEPTEMBER, 2026 AT COMMITTEE ROOM 5, FIRST FLOOR, BUNGE
TOWER AT 11.00 A.M.**

PRESENT

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP | - Chairperson (Virtual) |
| 2. Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP | - Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Sen. Moses Otieno Kajwang', CBS, MP | - Member (Virtual) |
| 4. Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua CBS, MP | - Member (Virtual) |
| 5. Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 6. Sen. Peris Tobiko, CBS, MP | - Member |
| 7. Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP | - Member |
| 8. Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP | - Member |

APOLOGIES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Sen. John Kinyua Nderitu, MP | - Member |
|---------------------------------|----------|

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Mwanate Shaban | - Principal Clerk Assistant II |
| 2. Ms. Peris Mukuria | - Clerk Assistant Clerk III |
| 3. Ms. Regina Munyao | - Legal Counsel I |
| 4. Mr. Victor Onyango | - Media Relations Officer |
| 5. Mr. Elijah Ichwara | - Audio Officer |
| 6. Mr. John Barasa | - Sergeant at Arms |

MIN/SEN/RTH/1051/2026

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at 11.12 pm. with a prayer.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1052/2026

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda of the meeting was adopted after being proposed by Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP and seconded by Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP as follows –

1. Prayer;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Consideration of Minutes of the 186th to 188th Sittings;

4. Matters Arising;
5. Consideration of the report on the Inquiry on the status of construction of the Bomas International Convention Complex;
6. Any Other Business; and
7. Adjournment & Date of the Next Meeting.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1053/2026

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 186TH TO 188TH SITTINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Minutes of the 186th sitting held on 2nd September, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP and confirmed by Sen. Enoch Kiio Wambua CBS, MP;
2. Minutes of the 187th sitting held on 2nd September, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP and seconded by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP; and
3. Minutes of the 188th sitting held on 2nd September, 2026 were confirmed as a true record of the deliberations having been proposed by Sen. Mohamed Said Chute, CBS, MP and seconded by Sen. (Dr.) Lelegwe Ltumbesi, CBS, MP.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1054/2026

CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT ON THE INQUIRY ON THE STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE BOMAS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION COMPLEX

Members considered the status of the Report on the Inquiry into the status of construction of the Bomas International Convention Complex and observed that the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, had failed to appear before the Committee pursuant to the previous summons and had also failed to submit the information sought by the Committee.

Following deliberations, Members resolved that the Cabinet Secretary be issued with a fresh summons to appear before the Committee on Thursday, 17th September 2026, to respond to the issues raised by the Committee.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1055/2026

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members deliberated on foreign travel and possible destinations for the proposed international benchmarking visit. Following deliberations, Members resolved to undertake an international benchmarking visit to Türkiye in October 2026.

MIN/SEN/RTH/1056/2026

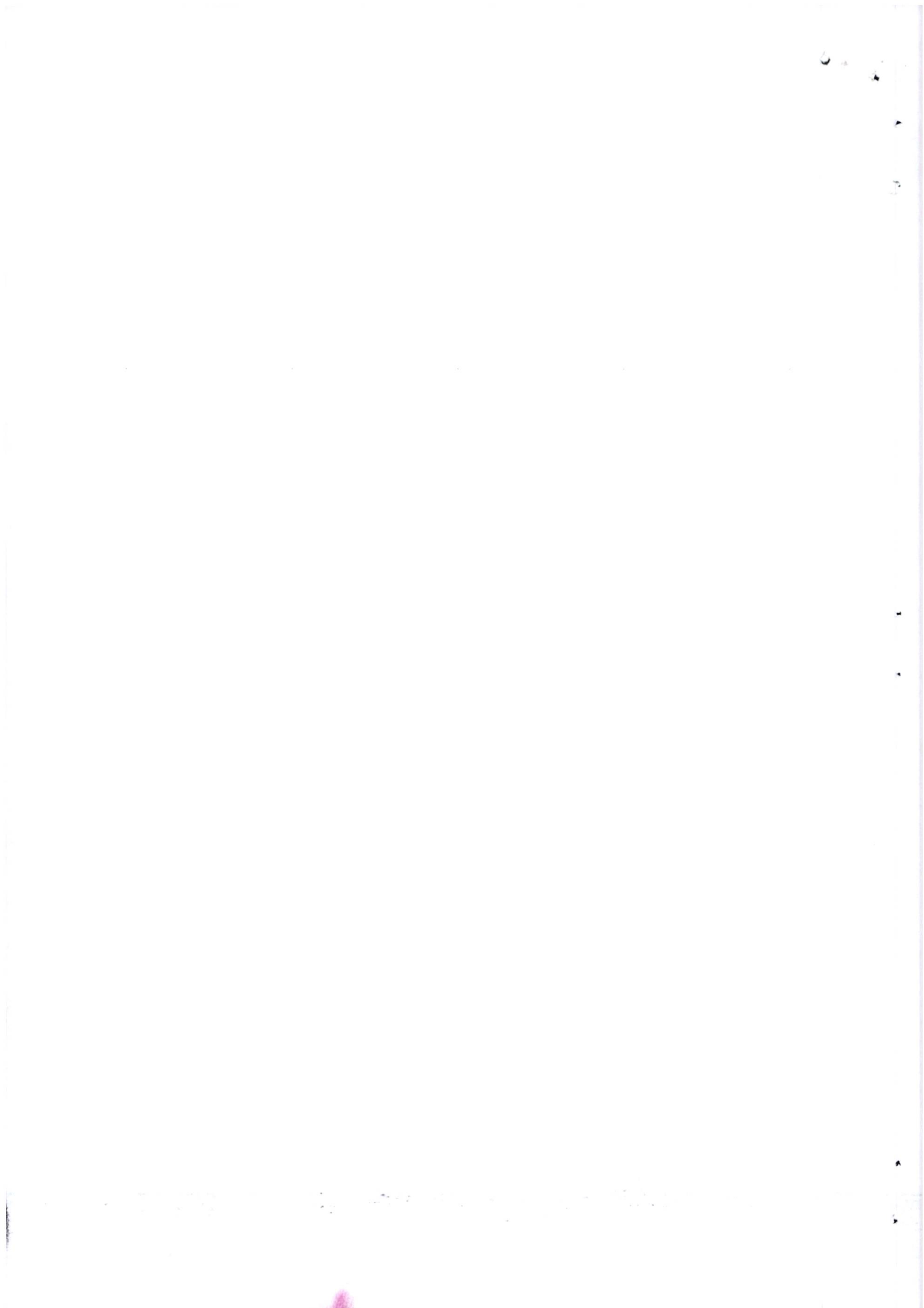
DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12.20 p.m.

SIGNED..... DATE.....

CHAIRPERSON: SEN. EDDY GICHERU OKETCH, MP

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING



Appendix 2: Copy of the Petition

13TH PARLIAMENT | 4TH SENATE

INTERNAL MEMO

From: Director, Legislative and Procedural Services

To: Director, Committee Services

Date: 21st October, 2022

RE: PETITION

At the Sitting of the Senate held on Tuesday, 18th October, 2022, the following Petition was presented to the Senate pursuant to Standing Order 236; and referred to the relevant standing committees pursuant to Standing Order 238 (1), as tabulated below-

SUBJECT OF THE PETITION	PRESENTED/ REPORTED BY	COMMITTEE REFERRED TO	REPORTING DATE
Public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub-County and Mbita.	Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP	Roads, Transportation and Housing	17/12/2022

Pursuant to Standing Order 238(2), the Standing Committee is required to consider the Petitions within sixty (60) calendar days from the time of reading the prayers and respond to the petitioner(s) by way of a report addressed to the petitioner(s) and tabled in the Senate. Kindly bring this matter to the attention of the said Standing Committee.

Z. MOGERE,
For: MR. S. N. RUGE.

Copy to:

Deputy Clerk (MA)
Deputy Clerk (EG)

① DDSEC
✓ ② Clerk Assistant
Roads Committee

Kindly deal

24/10/2022

PETITION TO THE SENATE BY MR. DANIEL RAKORO AND OTHER RESIDENTS OF MFANGANO ISLAND ON LAKE VICTORIA IN HOMABAY REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY AND MBITA

[After the Order for Petitions is read, Sen. Moses Kajwang', MP, will rise and present the petition before the House, pursuant to Standing Order 236(2)(a).]

1. Honourable Senators, pursuant to standing order 237, I shall now allow comments, observations or clarifications in relation to the petition for not more than thirty minutes.

[after comments by Senators]

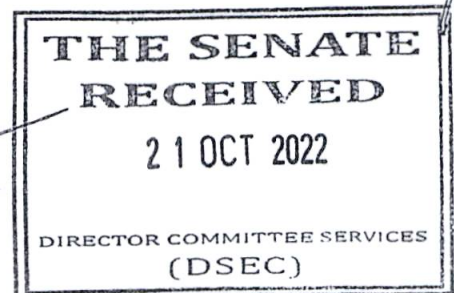
2. Honourable Senators, pursuant to standing order 238(1), the Petition should be committed to the relevant standing committee for its consideration. In this case, I direct that the Petition be committed to the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing.
3. In terms of standing order 238(2), the Committee is required, in not more than sixty calendar days from the time of reading the Prayer, to respond to the Petitioner by way of a Report addressed to the Petitioner, and laid on the Table of the Senate.
4. I thank you.

DDSEC - Bl.
Clerk Assistant Roads
Committee
kindly deal
24/10/2022

(2) Hon. Speaker
Recommended for your
approval.

Approved.
12/10/2022
DSS.

(1) Clerk
for your approval &
forwarded to Hon. Speaker
11/10/2022



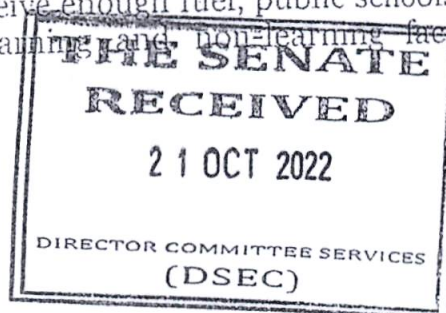
PETITION

**REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN
SUBA CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY AND MBITA**

We the **UNDERSIGNED**, citizens of the Republic of Kenya on behalf of concerned stakeholders, shareholders and residents of Mfangano Island on Lake Victoria in Homabay County.

DRAW the attention of the Senate of the Republic of Kenya to the following, pursuant to Article 35,119 of the Constitution of Kenya and 225 of the Senate Standing Orders: -

1. **THAT**, Maritime transport is an essential component of sustainable development in Kenya today. This has been and will continue to be a major back bone of the blue economy and a support system for fishermen and other business institutions within the lake region and more importantly, the only transport medium for thousands of Kenyan Citizens who live on Mfangano Island;
2. **NOTING**; That there are a number of Islands on Lake Victoria namely Mfangano, Takawiri, Remba, Atego, Risi and Ringiti, inhabited by over Thirty thousand people who purely depend on water transport inter islands and the only way to connect to the mainland, and whom fishing is a source of income and support for livelihood.
3. **THAT**, the said islands on Lake Victoria have since time ^{immemorial} ~~memorial~~ suffered from the lack of a public ferry to ensure safe and secure access of the islands and the mainland by the residents which has led to an increased cost of transportation of goods and services to and from the island, thus affecting the cost of living in the island and the cost of doing business between the islands and the mainland, and more importantly loss of lives in the use of unsafe water transport methods.
4. **THAT**, due to lack of a reliable public ferry even the operations of the only private ferry that operated within the islands was suspended on 21st December 2021 following non-compliance with ~~to~~ the Kenya Maritime Safety regulation rules;
5. **THAT**, this has adversely and negatively affected movements between the islands, and the mainland, leaving the residents and school going children to rely on other forms of transport including the wooden boat, which are not only insufficient to ferry high volume and heavy cargo from one island to another, and to and from the mainland; but are also highly risky and dangerous to life and property.
6. **THAT**, the Government initiated a number of public projects on the said Islands, like construction of classrooms to promote CBC, and other public installations including Kenya power off grid generators which ^{are} ~~is~~ likely not to receive enough fuel, public schools that have experienced delayed acquisition of essential learning ^{and non-learning} facilities and materials;



growth of the said Islands considering that the islands have a good potential to contribute to the GDP of the country through Blue Economy, lake transport, tourism, cage fishing, livestock farming and other forms of business;

8. **THAT;** We the petitioners wish to confirm that as per Standing Order ²³⁵~~229~~ of the Senate, this matter is not pending in any court of law or any other constitutional or legal body;
9. **THAT;** The efforts to have this matter resolved urgently through the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure and the Kenya Ports Authority, though ongoing, has not yielded any immediate solutions.

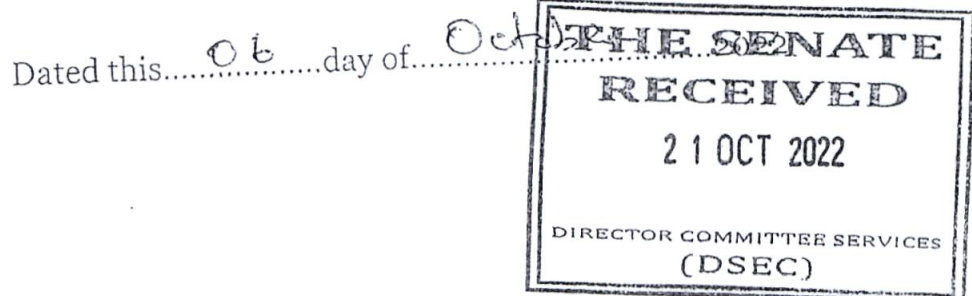
THEREFORE, your humble Petitioners pray that the Senate through the Committee on Transport and Infrastructure consider the following;

1. With a view to return normalcy in people and cargo transportation between the said Islands and the mainland, the Government through the Ministry of Transport and infrastructure support the current private investors through Public Private Partnership to ensure compliance with the safety Maritime regulation.
2. That in the meantime the Government through the Kenya Ferry Services now under the Kenya Ports Authority allocate and install a fully equipped public ferry to ply the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island to Mbita route free of charge and as a constitutional right for the people of Mfangano Island, ferry being a road extension.
3. The Government through the National Treasury and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure through the Kenya Ferry Services, now under the Kenya Ports Authority, to immediately procure a public ferry with the Ksh.300Million allocated for the same, in the current FY 2022/2023 under vote 0204000, and purchase or Construct a new free public ferry with a view to ensure safe and secure lake transport within and without the island.
4. The Government through the National Treasury and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure through the Kenya Ports Authority, to rehabilitate the Mfangano Island Jetty and or Port at Sena, with the financial resources already allocated for the same in the current FY 2022/2023 to ensure safe and secure landing zone for the Ferries plying the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island to Mbita route.
5. The Committee on Transport and infrastructure, Ministry officials and any other relevant organization visits the respective island to ascertain the suffering and the challenges experienced by the people.

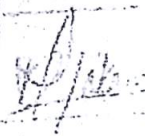
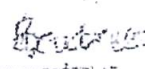
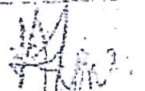
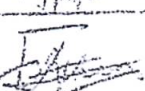
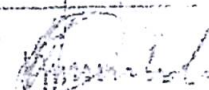
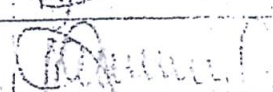
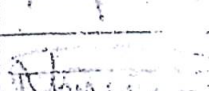
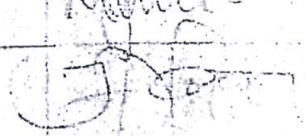
And your **PETITIONERS** will ever pray.

PRESENTED BY,

HON. MOSES OTIENO KAJWANG'
SENATOR - HOMABAY COUNTY



THE PETITIONERS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 229J

No	NAME	ADDRESS	I.D. No.	SIGNATURE
1.	DANIEL O. RAKORO	9225-00200 NBI	896	
2.	BEATRICE A. OKUTA	9225 - 00200 "	236	
3.	KENNEDY O. AGWARO	3977-00506 NBI	215	
4.	FALCONERY A. JIM	24 MFANGANO	29	
5.	CALEB GINARAH	18749-00100 NBI	22	
6.	WILSON O. OGWENO	44884 -00100 GPO NBI	240	
7.	ALPHONCE O. MUOMBAH	60107-00200 NBI	201	
8.	NICHOLAS O. WALAGA	41842 - 00100 NBI	208	
9.	LAWRENCE O. MAGWARE	263 MBITA	2455	
10.	ADOYO DANIEL NYADENDA	68806-00510 NBI	2398	

**THE SENATE
RECEIVED**

21 OCT 2022

DIRECTOR-COMMITTEE SERVICES
(DSEC)

Appendix 3: Submissions by the Petitioner(s)

The Clerk of the Senate
Parliament Buildings
P.O. Box 41842 – 00100
NAIROBI
Email:csenate@parliament.go.ke

**ADDENDUM TO THE PETITION TO THE SANATE COMMITTEE ON ROADS,
TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING
AT THE SIAMBI RESORT MFANGANO ISLAND ON 23/10/2025**

We the citizens of the Republic of Kenya on behalf of concerned stakeholders, shareholders, and residents of Mfangano Island, Suba West Sub County, Homabay County.

It is our pleasure to have the honour to meet the members of the Senate committee on Roads ,Transportation and Housing again, this time in Mfangano Island, Petitioners and members of **Mfangano Development Forum (MDF)**, as a consequence of the Petition presented to the Senate on 8/11/2022 and prayer 5 therein, that;

"The Committee on Transport and infrastructure, Ministry officials and any other relevant organization visits the respective island to ascertain the suffering and the challenges experienced by the people"

THAT: Years ago, we came together to form this community-based organization , in pursuit of one voice where we engage amongst ourselves and with others, public or private, on Socio economic development for the benefit of Mfangano Island, Suba West Sub-County. Acknowledging the need to improve on our living standards, noting significance of defending and preserving our rich cultural heritage passed down generations, committed to assimilating the galaxy of diverse Kenyan cultures, concerned over slow pace of progress in key thematic areas (education, environment, sports, transport, health etc.) and appreciating the positive difference than can be made through proactive leadership, the people of Mfangano "Awivuagano" formed and registered MDF, to promote our interest and welfare, by coming up with initiatives to develop ourselves, thus transforming , enhancing, conserving, Preserving and uplifting every facet of lives of the residents of the Sub County through our rallying call of **"Olugendo Lwifu"** Olusuba for **"our journey"**.

THAT : MDF was registered on 30/8/2021 and at the apex of its leadership structure is the Advisory Council (Council of Elders) whose core responsibility is advice and conciliation , then the Management Committee ,composed of the elected office Bearers, and Convenors of the Sub Committees , with the primary role of policy, and supervision , and the sectorial Sub committees, which are charged with the running of the thematic areas of MDF, in its pursuit to fulfill the noble mandate bestowed upon it by its membership and sundry, through which it lobbies and implements its agenda.

THAT: The development agenda and vision for the Island is on thematic areas, along which line, we formed the MDF Sub-Committees, including Transport and Infrastructure.

As we once more **DRAW** the attention of the Senate of the Republic of Kenya to the following, pursuant to Article 35,119 of the Constitution of Kenya and 225 of the Senate Standing Orders and that Your humble Petitioners prayed, then, that the Senate through the Committee on Transport and Infrastructure consider the following;

1. With a view to return normalcy in people and cargo transportation between the said Islands and the mainland, the Government through the Ministry of Transport and infrastructure support the current private investors through Public Private Partnership to ensure compliance with the safety Maritime regulation.
2. That in the meantime the Government through the Kenya Ferry Services now under the Kenya Ports Authority allocate and install a fully equipped public ferry to ply the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island to Mbita route free of charge and as a constitutional right for the people of Mfangano Island, ferry being a road extension.
3. The Government through the National Treasury and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure through the Kenya Ferry Services, now under the Kenya Ports Authority, to immediately procure a public ferry with the Ksh.300Million allocated for the same, in the current FY 2022/2023 under vote 0204000, and purchase or Construct a new free public ferry with a view to ensure safe and secure lake transport within and without the island.
4. The Government through the National Treasury and the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure through the Kenya Ports Authority, to rehabilitate the Mfangano Island Jetty and or Port at Sena, with the financial resources already allocated for the same in the current FY 2022/2023 to ensure safe and secure landing zone for the Ferries plying the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island to Mbita route.
5. The Committee on Transport and infrastructure, Ministry officials and any other relevant organization visits the respective island to ascertain the suffering and the challenges experienced by the people.

WE FURTHER STATE THAT:

- 1) A ferry is an extension of a road, and for our Sub County Mfangano, it is the extension of the C29=KITITO-KENDU BAY-HOMA BAY-MBITA-MFANGANO RING ROAD. This Ferry is therefore our Constitutional right.

- 2) On 24/3/2022, the MDF Lobby & Advocacy Team we met the then Homa-Bay County Woman Representative, and Chair of the Committee of Finance, Planning and Trade of the National Assembly, and current Governor of Homa Bay County Her Excellency Gladys Wanga in Nairobi and discussed the issue of the Public Ferry, since the private ferry had been grounded with effect from 23/12/2021.
- 3) On 20/6/2022, her excellency wrote to MDF and indicated that the said Committee had managed to have the budget committee of the National Assembly allocate Kshs. 300 million towards the acquisition of the Public ferry.
- 4) After her election the Governor led the MDF Lobby & Advocacy Team to a meeting with the then acting Managing Director Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), Amb. John Mwangemi at the KPA offices in Mombasa on 15/9/2022, to discuss the Kshs. 300 million budgetary allocations for the Mfangano Government ferry and KPA agreed to follow up the cash from Treasury and to build a ferry at the KPA shipyard at Kisumu, with a capacity to carry and ferry about 20 vehicles and 200 passengers. This was to have been done in the next 12 months, that is, by October 2023.
- 5) The KPA team led by the then Chairman General Joseph Kibwana in the company of the Governor, visited Sena Port – Mfangano Island on 20/9/2022 to inspect it for purposes of upgrading the same whose work was to start within 6 months.
- 6) As said in December 2021, the operations of the private Ferry plying Mfangano-Mbita route was suspended due to compliance issues, by the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) and MDF prepared a petition on the Public Ferry and presented it on 8/11/2022. Indeed this Committee was to visit the Island on 17/3/2023, but the visit was postponed to a date to be communicated later.
- 7) In these meetings MDF lobbied Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) for the rehabilitation of the Pier in Sena; in conjunction with piers at Kendu Bay; Homa Bay, and Mbita at a cost of **1.2 billion/-**. Public participation for the same was done in Jul 2023 at Sena.
- 8) His Excellency President William Ruto, visited Mfangano Island on 8/10/2023 (the first by a sitting president), and promised construction and Launch of the Public Ferry in 2024.

- 9) On 19th January, 2024 MDF Met with her Excellency the Governor, at the SDA LMS Hall- Nairobi and the on the issue of the ferry it was indicated by then the budget allocation was Ks 600M , that is, Kshs 300M FY 2022/2023 and ,Ks 300M in the FY 2023/2024 . Right now it is Kshs 800M as Ks 200M was added in the FY 2024/2025.
- 10) MDF met with the **CS National Treasury & Planning Hon. John Mbadi N'gon'go** on 8/5/2025; at Nairobi, and the issue of the Public Ferry came up and the CS stated that he had confirmed with the Kisumu Shipyard Finance Officer, that resources had been allocated, Ferry Parts purchased and assembling of the ferry as from 1/5/2025 was on going.
- 11) We are aware that the laying of the Keel for the 29m Ferry was done on 18/6/2025, at the Kisumu Shipyard by the CS Mining, Blue Economy & Maritime Affairs –Hon. Ali Hassan Joho, CS Defence Hon. Soipan Tuya, KPA MD, Cpt William Rutto and the Kenya Shipyard Limited MD, Rtg.General Peter Otieno..
- 12) This Lake Victoria Ferry will ply Magunga-Sena-Mbita-Homa Bay-Kendu - Bay-Kisumu. Possible launch: November 2025. We are grateful for the same.

THEREFORE, your humble Petitioners, the residents of Suba West Sub-County, through Mfangano Development Forum (MDF) , wish to draw the kind attention of the Kenya Senate standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing, to the urgent need for integrated investment in ferry services, roads and modern market infrastructure to promote trade and sustainable economic development on Mfangano Island, Suba West Sub County and consider the following;

1. **Ferry as an Extension of the Road Network :**
The ferry service due to link the Island to the mainland forms an integral extension of the national road network. However, this connectivity will remain incomplete and economically unviable if the internal roads on the Island, especially the 54Km Mfangano Ring Road, are not motorable.
2. **State of Roads Determines Ferry Utilization:**
The condition of Island roads directly determines the volume of vehicles and goods crossing over via the ferry. Poor roads discourage transportation of produce, limit mobility and stifle trade between the Island and the mainland.
3. **Roads Connect Markets, Beaches and Tourist Sites:**
The Island roads are the vital arteries connecting markets, beaches, fish landing sites and local institutions. Their improvement will directly boost trade, agricultural production, fisheries and tourism, the mainstay sectors of Mfangano's economy.

4. Interdependence of Infrastructure:

The full circuit of positive economic impact is only achieved when the ferry is available and reliable, roads are motorable and market infrastructure is modernised and conducive for traders and customers alike. Each component reinforces the other for maximum trade efficiency and inclusive development.

WE REQUEST TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE:

In view of the above, we humbly petition the Senate Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing to:

a) Lobby for and facilitate the inclusion of modern market development on Mfangano Island under the National Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP).

There are available market sites for development as the following centres have designated land parcels ready for modern market development:

1. Wakula
2. Mulundu (Wasamo)
3. Ugina
4. Kitawi
5. Yokia
6. Nyakweri
7. Sena

Major market centres: Sena and Wakula.

b) Support the upgrading of the 54km Mfangano Island Ring to bitumen standards to complement the ongoing and proposed ferry services.

c) Encourage an integrated infrastructure approach that links ferry transport, road improvement and market development as a unified trade facilitation strategy.

d) Mfangano ring road is the highway in Suba west sub-county and being an Island, we need a bridge to connect us to the mainland and the bridge is the ferry and for that reason, we did request for a cargo ferry which will open the Ward to the outside market, and request your assistance for the people of Mfangano to get what they initiated & requested and was tabled it in the 12th parliament, that is, in addition to the Lake Victoria Ferry that will be launched, a Cargo ferry plying between Mbita and Mfangano Island on a daily basis, and a landing ramp to help in reducing transport and business costs and make it easier to other parties in doing business with us .

e) Sena Pier:-upgrade and Rehabilitation already approved for work to commence as land for the same is not an issue. Public participation by KPA already done and this is being done at a cost of ks 1.2 Billion, together with the Piers at Kendu Bay, Homa Bay and Mbita.

We remain confident that with the Senate's intervention, the integration of ferry, roads and market infrastructure will unlock the immense trade, agricultural, fisheries and tourism potential of Suba West Sub County for sustainable growth and prosperity.

And your **PETITIONERS** will ever pray.

PRESENTED BY,

HON. MOSES OTIENO KAJWANG'

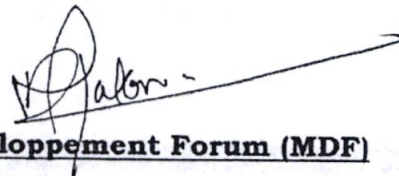
SENATOR - HOMABAY COUNTY

Dated this.....22nd day of.....October.....2025

THE PETITIONERS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 229J

Through.

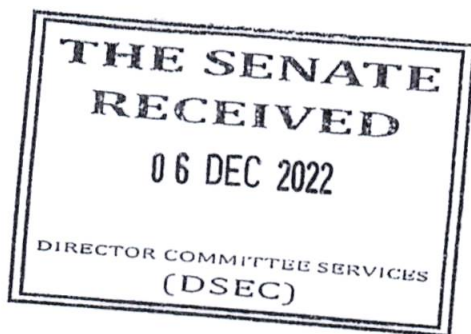
Daniel Ouma Rakoro



Chair- Mfangano Développement Forum (MDF)



Appendix 4: Response from the National Treasury and Economic Planning dated 29th
November, 2022



Treasury



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

THE NATIONAL TREASURY

P.O. Box 30007-00100

NAIROBI

KENYA

Telegraphic Address: 22921

FINANCE - NAIROBI

Telephone: 2252299

When replying please quote

RES 1092/21/01/A/ (29)

Mr. J. M Nyegenye, CBS

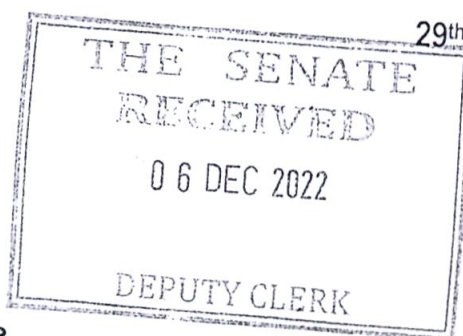
Clerk of the Senate

Office of the Clerk of the Senate

P.O. Box 41842-00100

NAIROBI

29th November, 2022



DSFC

Kindly deal.

06/12/2022

Dear Bw. Nyegenye,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR PURCHASE OF A FERRY TO PLY MBITA-MFANGANO ROUTE IN LAKE VICTORIA

This is in reference to your letter Ref. No. SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2022/003 dated 18th November 2022 on the above subject.

The National Treasury has reviewed your request for information on budgetary allocation for the purchase of a ferry to ply Mbita-Mfangano route in Lake Victoria. From your request, it is noted that the information sought by the Senate Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing Committee pertains the following issues:

1. Whether there was a budgetary allocation in the FY 2022/23 for the purchase of a ferry to ply the Mbita-Mfangano route in Lake Victoria;
2. If so, the amount of funds allocated for the purchase of the ferry;
3. Which Government agency will expend the budgetary allocation for the purchase of the ferry;
4. Whether there were budgetary allocations for the same activities in previous financial years; and
5. The plans, if any, to ensure the intended project is implemented within the current financial year.

↓
22/23

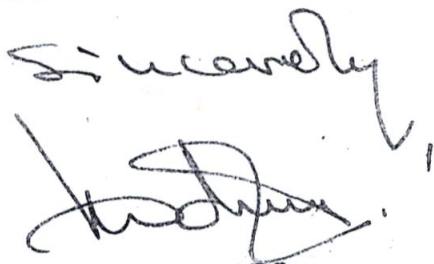
π. Roads
lead

In response to the above issues, the National Treasury wishes to state as follows:

1. In the approved Estimates for the FY 2022/23, the project (Acquisition of Ferries for Lake Victoria) has a budgetary allocation of **KSh.300million**. It is important to note that the allocation of funds to the project was done by the National Assembly during the approval of the FY 2022/23 Budget Estimates;
2. The project is being implemented by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) which was previously domiciled under the National Treasury Vote. However, with the reorganization of the functions of Government through the Executive Order No.1 of 2022, KPA and the associated functions have now been transferred to the State Department of Transport. Effectively, the process of transferring the project together with its budgetary allocation to the new State Department through Supplementary Estimates No.1 for the FY 2022/23 is underway;
3. We further wish to note that previously, the project has had no budgetary allocation in the printed book; and
4. Regarding plans for implementation of the project in the current financial year, we wish to state that the implementing agency may be in a better position to provide more information based on their work plan and subject to availability of resources.

Please take necessary action.

Yours


NJUGUNA NDUNG'U, CBS
CABINET SECRETARY

Appendix 5: Committee letter seeking status update on procurement of ferry

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Telegraphic Address
'Bunge', Nairobi
Telephone 2848000
Fax: 2243694
E-mail: clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke



The Senate
Clerk's Chambers
Parliament Buildings
P. O. Box 41842 -00100
NAIROBI, Kenya

**PARLIAMENT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SENATE**

Ref. SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2023/080

Date: 5th July, 2023

Sen. Kipchumba Murkomen, EGH,
Cabinet Secretary,
Ministry of Roads and Transport,
P.O. Box 52692-00200,
NAIROBI.

Dear Sir,

**RE: STATUS UPDATE ON PETITION REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT
IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA
CENTRAL SUB COUNTY AND MBITA, HOMABAY**

The Senate Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing is established under standing order 228(3) of the Senate Standing Orders and is mandated to, inter alia- consider all matters relating to transport, roads, public works, housing, construction and maintenance of roads, rails and buildings, seaports and communication.

The Committee is presently considering the Petition on public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba central sub-county and Mbita, Homabay County following its presentation in the Senate on Tuesday, 18th October, 2022, whereupon the Petition was committed to the Committee for consideration.

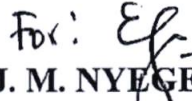
At its meeting held on Friday, 3rd March, 2023, you informed the Committee that Kenya Ports Authority had made a budgetary provision of Ksh. 300 million in the FY 2022/2023 for acquisition of a ferry to ply in Lake Victoria and another Ksh.300 million in the FY 2023/2024 for acquisition of a second ferry.

At its meeting held on Thursday, 29th June, 2023, the Committee resolved to seek a status update on the acquisition of the two ferries.

The purpose of this letter is to request you to submit the aforementioned information on or before **Wednesday, 19th July, 2023, by email,** on the address: clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke and roadstranshousingcomm.senate@parliament.go.ke.

Mr. Charles Ngatia, Clerk Assistant (Cell Number – +254 722106970 Email=charles.ngatia@parliament.go.ke), is the Clerk to the Committee and is responsible for all arrangements relating to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

For: 
J. M. NYEGENYE, CBS,
CLERK OF THE SENATE.

Copy to:

Mr. Mohammed A. Daghar,
Principal Secretary,
State Department for Transport,
Transcom Building, Ngong Road,
P.O. Box 52592-00100,
NAIROBI.

Appendix 6: Response from the CS, Roads & Transport dated 1st August, 2023

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT

**RESPONSE TO A STATEMENT ON THE STATUS UPDATE ON PETITION
REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO
ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL, SUBA SUB COUNTY AND MBITA, HOMABAY.**

Hon. Chairman, I am pleased to apprise this Honourable Committee in regard to information requested on the status update of Public Transport in Lake Vitoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central, Suba County and Mbita, Homabay County as communicated vide letter Ref. No: SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2023/080 dated 5th July 2023 seeking information on the following;

- i.) *The status update on the acquisition of a ferry to ply in Lake Vitoria as presented during the Ministry's 2022/2023 budget submission, where Ksh.300m had been allocation for the acquisition; and*
 - ii.) *The status update of the acquisition of second ferry to ply Lake Victoria as also presented by the Ministry for the Financial Year 2023/2024 with the same allocation of Ksh.300m.*
-
- i) **The status update of the acquisition of a ferry to ply in Lake Vitoria as presented during the Ministry's 2022/2023 budget submission, where Ksh 300m had been allocation for the acquisition**

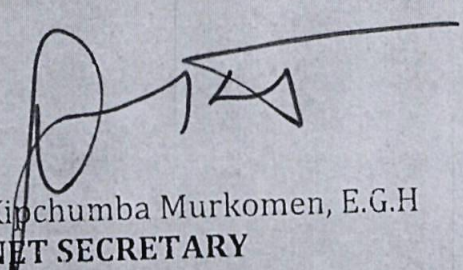
Hon. Chairman, I beg to respond as follows;

Indeed the Ministry presented budgetary provision of Ksh. 300 million in the FY 2022/2023 for the purposes of acquiring a ferry for Public Transport to ply Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island and Mbita in Homabay. I wish to state that as of June 2023, Kenya Ports Authority had received the disbursement of Ksh. 300m to facilitate acquisition of the ferry. Promptly, the Authority commenced the procurement process of the first ferry. As soon as this process is complete, the construction of the Ferry will commence, and it is expected to be completed within 9 (nine) months. In the meantime, we shall keep the Senate updated on the progress.

- ii) **The status update of the acquisition of second ferry to ply Lake Victory as also presented by the Ministry for the Financial Year 2023/2024 with the same allocation of Ksh300m.**

Hon. Chairman, with regards to the acquisition of the second ferry as proposed in this FY 2023/2024, a budget of Kshs 300m is in place and the planning of the procurement has been put in place where it is expected to be undertaken during the second quarter of 2023/24 Financial Year. The Authority will engage the contractor to fast-track its construction and delivery within the fourth quarter of this financial year.

Hon. Chairman, as I submit, I wish to reaffirm the Ministry's commitment in ensuring smooth running of Public Transportation System in Marine Sector that is efficient, reliable, comfortable, accessible, affordable and safe for all passengers.



Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen, E.G.H
CABINET SECRETARY



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT
Office of the Principal Secretary

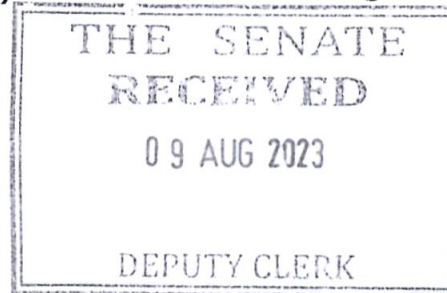
Telephone: (020) 2729200
Fax: (020) 2726362
Email: ps@transport.go.ke
Website: www.transport.go.ke

TRANSCOM BUILDING
NGONG ROAD
P.O. Box 52592 - 00100
NAIROBI

Our ref: MOT&I/C/ADM/034/7/2 VOL.1 (46)

1st August, 2023

Mr. Jeremiah M. Nyengenyne, CBS
Clerk of the Senate
Parliament Buildings
NAIROBI



Dear Sir

RE: RESPONSE TO A STATEMENT ON THE STATUS UPDATE ON PETITION
REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN
MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL, SUBA COUNTY AND MBITA,
HOMABAY

Reference is made to a letter Ref. No. SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2023/080 dated
5th July, 2023 from the Senate on the above captioned subject.

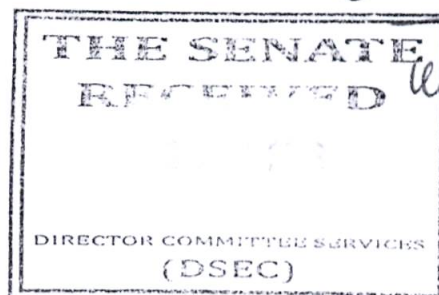
Enclosed herewith, Please find signed response by the Cabinet Secretary,
Ministry of Roads and Transport as requested by the Senate Standing
Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing with regards to the status
update on the acquisition of two ferries plying in Lake Victoria.

Yours Sincerely

Mohamed Daghar
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

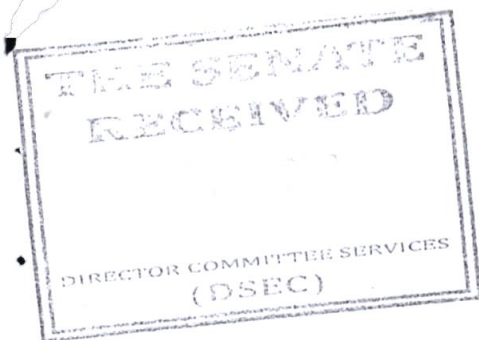
Encl.

Mr. Ngatia
Kindly deal
Koban
11/08/23



DDSEC
Kindly deal
10/08/2023
DDSEC
Kindly deal
09/08/22

Appendix 7: Presidential directive



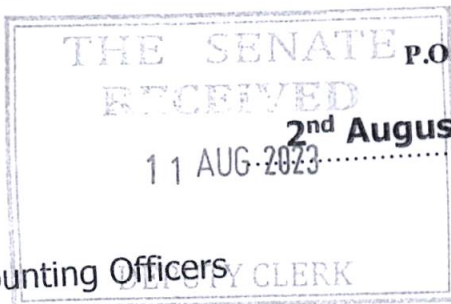
① DC (EG)
Please note/deal
11 AUG 2023
14/08/23

② DSFC
Kindly deal
EG

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
CHIEF OF STAFF AND HEAD OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Telegraphic Address
Telephone: +254-20-2227436
When replying please quote

Ref. No. **OP/CAB 26/1/3A**
and date



STATE HOUSE
P.O. Box 40530-00100
Nairobi, Kenya

14/08/23

To: All Principal Secretaries/ Accounting Officers

RE: PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES: THE KENYA SHIPYARDS LIMITED

While addressing various stakeholders on 29th July 2023 in Mombasa County, during the relaunch of the Kenya Navy KNS Shupavu Ship which underwent a midlife refit by the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) at the Mombasa Shipyard, His Excellency the President was informed that the refitting of the Ship in Kenya, the first to be undertaken locally, had saved Kenya an estimated Kshs. 400 million, in addition to providing employment to over 150 technical and 200 unskilled personnel.

Consequently, in recognition of Kenya Shipyards Limited's capabilities for repairing various types of marine vessels, His Excellency the President directed as follows:

1. All Ministries, Departments and Government Agencies (MDAs) are to source their repair, maintenance and acquisition of maritime vessels, heavy engineering services and other related services from Kenya Shipyards Limited.
2. All MDAs are to source the design and development of maritime civil and modular infrastructure such as ports, jetties, docks and piers and other related services from Kenya Shipyards Limited.

This is therefore to bring these directives to your attention and request that you take the necessary steps to effect implementation.

K. K. Koskei
For: **FELIX K. KOSKEI**

CHIEF OF STAFF & HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. Ngatia
Kindly deal/not
17/08/23

Copy To: All Cabinet Secretaries

Dr. Raymond Omollo, PhD
Principal Secretary
State Department for Internal Security
& National Administration
NAIROBI

Hon. Josphat K. Nanok, EGH
Deputy Chief of Staff
State House
NAIROBI

Mr. Arthur Osiya, EBS
Principal Administrative Secretary
Executive Office of the President
NAIROBI

Appendix 8: Committee Letter on progress of public ferries

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Telegraphic Address
'Bunge', Nairobi
Telephone 2848000
Fax: 2243694
E-mail: clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke



The Senate
Clerk's Chambers
Parliament Buildings
P. O. Box 41842 -00100
NAIROBI, Kenya

PARLIAMENT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SENATE

Ref. SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2025/144

13th October, 2025

Mr. Davis Chirchir, EGH,
Cabinet Secretary,
Ministry of Roads and Transport,
P.O. Box 52692-00200,
NAIROBI.

Dear *Sir,*

**RE: VISIT TO MFANGANO ISLAND, MBITA, HOMABAY COUNTY BY THE
SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION
AND HOUSING**

The Senate Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing is established under standing order 228(3) of the Senate Standing Orders and is mandated to consider all matters relating to transport, roads, public works, housing, construction and maintenance of roads, rails and buildings, seaports and communication.

The Committee is presently considering a Petition on public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub-County and Mbita, Homabay County.

At its meeting held on Thursday, 11th September, 2025, the Committee resolved to undertake a visit to Mbita, Mfangano Island to familiarize itself with the transport challenges faced by the petitioners in accessing the islands in Lake Victoria from Mbita.

The Committee has scheduled to undertake the visit to Mfangano Island from **23rd – 26th October, 2025** where it will meet with the residents of Mfangano Island on **Friday, 24th October, 2025** at a venue to be communicated.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to accompany the Committee during the visit and to apprise the Committee and petitioners on the progress made by the Ministry, through the Kenya Ports Authority, regarding the acquisition of public ferries to ply in Lake Victoria.

Mr. Stephen Gikonyo, Principal Clerk Assistant (Cell Number – +254 726868936 Email–sgikonyo@parliament.go.ke), is the Clerk to the Committee and is responsible for all arrangements relating to this matter.

Yours *Sincerely,*

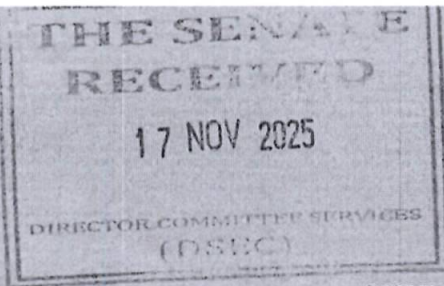
[Signature]
J. M. NYEGENYE, CBS,
CLERK OF THE SENATE.

Copy to-

Mr. Mohammed A. Daghar, CBS,
Principal Secretary,
State Department for Transport,
Transcom Building, Ngong Road,
P.O. Box 52592-00100,
NAIROBI.

Capt. William K. Ruto, AFNI,
Managing Director,
Kenya Ports Authority,
P.O. Box 95009-80104
MOMBASA.

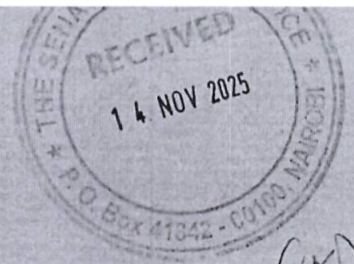
Appendix 9: Response from CS, Roads & Transport dated 13th November, 2025



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT
Office of the Principal Secretary

Telegram: "TRANSCOMS", Nairobi
Telephone: (020) 2729200
Email: ps@transport.go.ke
Website: www.transport.go.ke
When replying please quote



TRANSCOM BUILDING
NGONG ROAD
P.O. Box 52692 - 00200
NAIROBI

MOT&I/C/ADM/034/7/2 VOL.II (125)

Mr. Jeremiah M. Nyegenye, CBS

The Clerk of the Senate

Parliament Buildings

NAIROBI

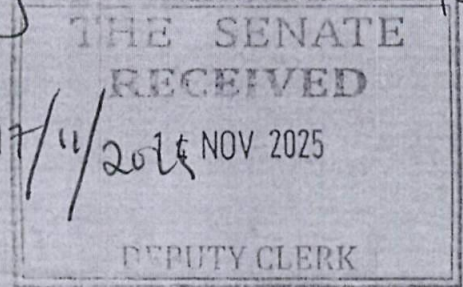
Dear

Mr. Jeremiah

① DSEC

Kindly deal

13th November 2025



③ Mr. Gilon
Kindly
17/11/2025

RESPONSE TO SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING REGARDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND AND MBITA, HOMA BAY COUNTY.

Hon. Chairman, I wish to apprise this Honourable Committee on the progress made in respect of acquisition of public ferries to ply in Lake Victoria as communicated vide letter of *Ref. No. SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2025/144* dated 13th October 2025 following a Petition dated 6th October 2022 regarding public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub County and Mbita, currently under the consideration by the Committee.

Hon Chairman, in the said Petition, the Government is urged through the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) to procure public ferries to ensure safe and secure lake transport. The petitioners also request that the Ministry, through its implementing agency KPA to rehabilitate the Mfangano Island Jetty and/or the Sena Jetty to ensure safe landing of the ferries plying the Mfangano Island, Rusinga Island to Mbita Route.

In view of the foregoing, the Ministry hereby provides the following update in respect of salient issues raised in the Petition;

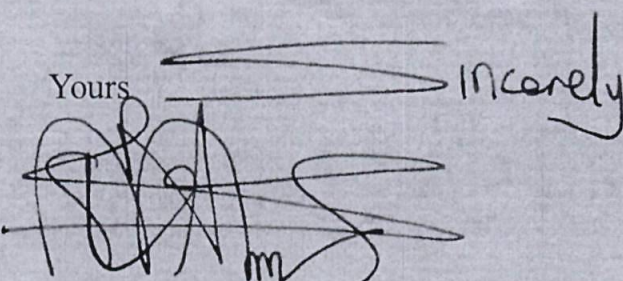
1. It is noted that the petitioners decry that the only private ferry that operated within the islands was suspended in December 2022 for non-compliance with Kenya Maritime Safety Regulations rules. Whereas the Kenya Maritime Authority is mandated to ensure safety of sea-going vessels, we confirm that the Ports Authority also plays a key role in enhancing the safety of water transport in Lake Victoria through provision of sound infrastructure development and implementation of *Safety of Life At Sea* (SOLAS) convention in its operations.
2. Currently, the construction of a new ferry is ongoing at the Kenya Shipyard Ltd. in Kisumu where the keel-laying has been completed and attested by the American Bureau of Shipping. This is a key milestone and the target completion is projected at June 2026. Upon its construction, the ferry shall be of 83.5m Length Overall and 13m Breadth. Its design capacity is 74 seated passengers, 10 saloon vehicles and 7 trucks of up to 15 tons each. It is intended for the ferry to ply the Mbita, Mfangano, and Luanda Kótieno route.
3. It is noteworthy that to adequately serve the public, more ferries will ultimately need to be procured in order to enhance connectivity of the islands to the mainland in each of the counties. The Kenya Ports Authority has commenced a study on Integrated Maritime and Inland Water Transport System which shall assist in determination of the operational framework for seamless cargo and passenger movement in the Lakes. It is expected that the determination and procurement of additional ferries will be undertaken in collaboration between the National and the County Governments.
4. With respect to the infrastructure, the Authority is undertaking various investments in Lake Vicotria, geared towards improvement of transport and maritime trade. These include the development of piers, jetties and ferry ramps in Kisumu, Siaya, Busia, Migori and Homa Bay counties.
5. In Homa Bay County which is the subject of the Petition, the Authority is undertaking the development of Homa Bay, Mbita, Sena and Kendu Bay piers.
6. Phase I of the Homa Bay pier project being construction of a jetty with 23Metres jetty head has been completed. The Authority is currently undertaking the second phase which entails land reclamation, rehabilitation, construction of a ferry ramp, terminal buildings and attendant amenities. Phase II is currently at 28% and its projected to be completed in August 2026.
7. With respect to Mbita Pier, the Authority has undertaken the Environmental Impact Assessment whose report has been finalized and is awaiting

consideration by the National Environment Management Authority. The project also awaits the issuance of a letter of reservation from the National Land Commission (NLC). It is intended that once constructed, the Mbita Pier will be a key terminal for the new ferry that is currently under construction.

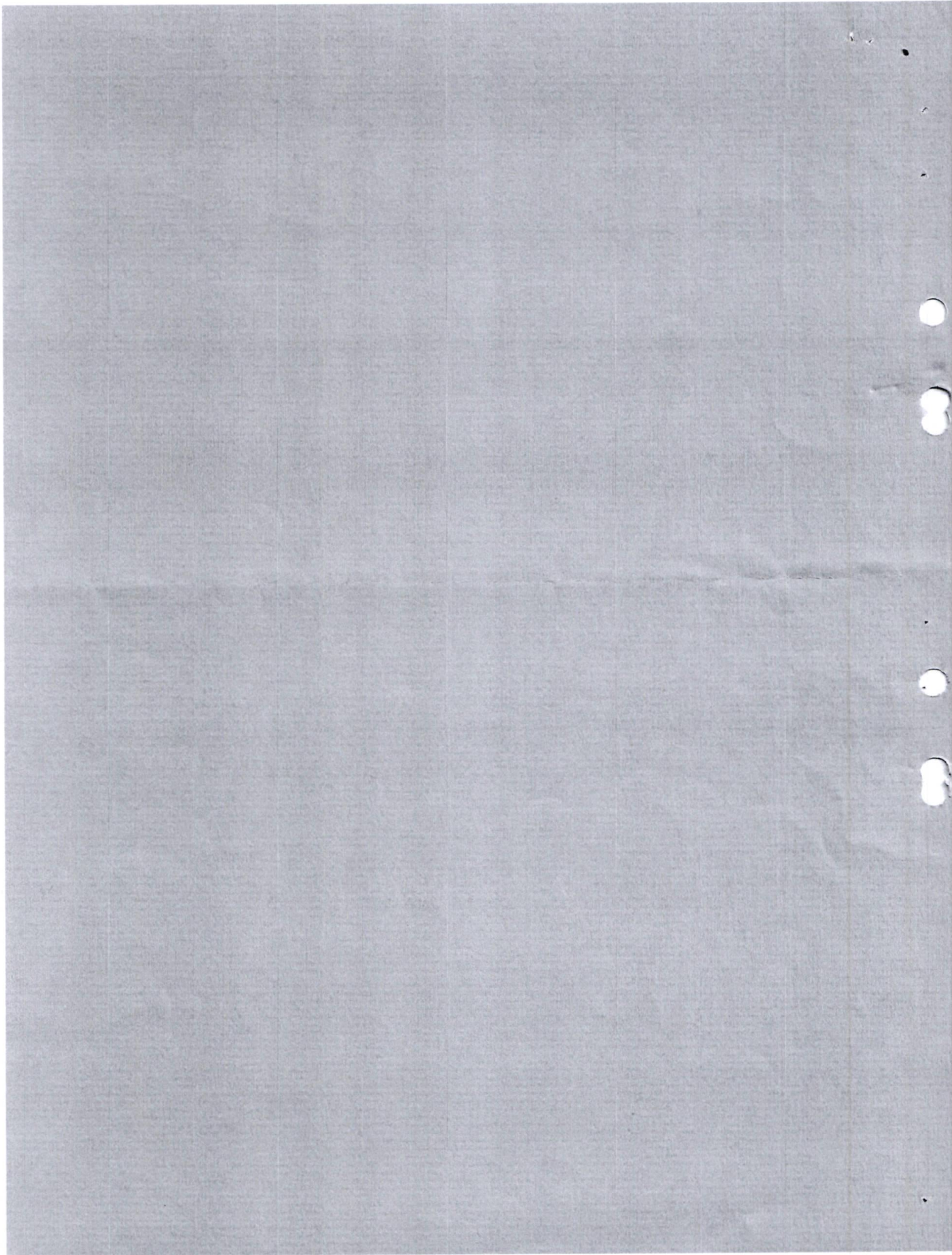
8. For Sena pier, the detailed designs for Jetty head, causeway, passenger terminal, warehouse, offices, roads, ablution block, drainage facilities, lighting and perimeter fence are complete. This project is currently awaiting budget allocation to enable commencement of procurement processes towards construction. Similarly, the detailed designs for the Kendu Bay jetty and related terminal infrastructure are complete, and the procurement process will commence accordingly upon budgetary allocation. We also confirm that the National Land Commission has provided a letter of reservation of the land required for this project.
9. Further, Gazette Notice No. 16472 dated 16th December 2024 delineates the functions of the National and County Governments in respect to the mandate of the County Government over county ferries and harbours excluding the regulation of international and national shipping.

Hon. Chairman, the Ministry remains steadfast in enhancing the safety of water transport in Lake Victoria through sound infrastructure development and remains available for further clarification that may be required regarding the Petition.

Yours

incerely

Mohamed Daghar, C.B.S
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY



Appendix 10: Gazette Notice No. 16472 dated 16th November, 2024

	car park standards on approved number of vehicle spaces.
	(g) Levy congestion charges on controlled areas.

4. Public road transport

National Government	County Government
(a) Develop national policies, legislation, norms and standards on roads safety.	(a) Implement national policies, legislation, norms and standards on roads safety.
(b) Manage and regulate transport safety within the country.	(b) Develop and implement county transport legislation, regulations and policies.
(c) Formulate and review national transport laws, policies and regulations.	(c) Manage transport safety within the county.
(d) Develop standards for vehicle fabrication and assembly.	(d) Issue permits to commercial and public service vehicles operating within the county.
(e) Register motorised transport units.	(e) Designate public service vehicles terminals.
(f) Inspect commercial, public service vehicles and accident vehicles.	(f) Develop and regulate a network plan for public service vehicles.
(g) Develop and review curriculum for driver training, testing and accreditation.	(g) Regulate operations of commercial motorcycles including designating operation routes and picking points.
(h) Regulation of training, testing and accreditation of drivers.	(h) Assign picking and dropping points for public service vehicles.
(i) Co-ordinate road safety programs.	(i) Develop public transport facilities within counties.
(j) Provide non-motorised transport facilities on national trunk roads.	(j) Provide non-motorized transport facilities on county roads.

5. Ferries and harbours, excluding the regulation of international and national shipping and matters related thereto.

National Government	County Government
(a) Develop national policies, legislation, norms and standards.	(a) Develop and implement county harbours policies and legislation, within the framework of national policies and legislation.
(b) Operate and maintain ferries operating in national and international water ways.	(b) Implement national policies and legislation in relation to county harbours.
(c) Enforce safety of ferries, including compliance with construction regulations, maintenance of safety standards and safety navigation rules.	(c) Develop, maintain and operate ferries and harbours in inland lakes and waters.
(d) Conduct regular inspection of ferries to ensure maritime safety and prevention of marine pollution.	(d) Develop, manage and maintain county harbours.
(e) Provide and maintain ferries to operate in international waterways.	(e) Rehabilitate and maintain county harbours.
(f) Provide and maintain ferries to operate in international waterways.	(f) Control pollution within the harbours.

National Government	County Government
(g) Registration and licensing of all ferries.	(g) Collect and maintain county harbours data.
(h) Licensing of pilots (captains) and shipping operators.	(h) Provide and maintain ferries to operate in inland lakes and waters.
(i) Carry out marine casualty investigations.	

Notes

1. The two levels of Government shall consult and co-operate in the process of the transfer of resources to support the implementation of the functions.

2. In performance of their functions, the two levels of Government shall be guided by the national values and principles under Articles 10, 175, 189 and 232.

3. County governments shall, in the implementation of functions specified in paragraphs 1 to 13 of Part B of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, ensure and co-ordinate the participation of communities and locations in governance at the local level and assist communities and locations to develop the administrative capacity for effective participation in governance at the local level.

Dated the 16th December, 2024.

KITHINJI KIRAGU
Chairperson,
Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee.

GAZETTE NOTICE NO. 16477

THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS ACT (Cap. 265F)

DELINEATION OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC NATIONAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

IT IS notified for the general information of the public that the Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee has delineated the functions relating to implementation of specific national government policies on natural resources and environmental conservation between the national government and county governments in the manner set out in the Schedule.

SCHEDULE

Functions of the national government and county governments relating to the implementation of specific national government policies on natural resources and environmental conservation

1. Soil and water conservation

National Government	County Governments
(a) Develop national policies, legislation, norms, standards and guidelines for regulation, management and use of international water resources.	(a) Implement national policies, standards, guidelines and norms on soil and water conservation.
(b) Develop national policies, legislation, norms, standards and guidelines for regulation, management and use of national water resources.	(b) Develop and implement county specific soil and water conservation policies, legislation and plans in line with the national policies and legislation.
(c) Enforce standards, procedures and Regulations for the management and use of water resources.	(c) Conserve water springs in private land, community land, public land and protected areas in accordance with the national policies and legislation.

Appendix 11: Committee letter seeking status update

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Telegraphic Address
'Bunge', Nairobi
Telephone 2848000
Fax: 2243694
E-mail: clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke



The Senate
Clerk's Chambers
Parliament Buildings
P. O. Box 41842 -00100
NAIROBI, Kenya

**PARLIAMENT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SENATE**

Ref. SEN/DSEC/DISSC/RTH/2026/44

2nd April, 2026

Mr. Davis Chirchir, EGH,
Cabinet Secretary,
Ministry of Roads and Transport,
P.O. Box 52692-00200,
NAIROBI.

Dear Sir,

**RE: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE PETITION ON
PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO
ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY AND MBITA, HOMABAY
COUNTY**

Reference is made to your letter, Ref. MOT &I/C/ADM/034/7/2 VOL.1(46), dated 1st August, 2023 responding to our letter on the above-captioned matter.

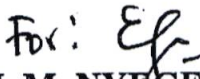
At its meeting held on Tuesday, 31st March, 2026, the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation & Housing considered the matter and resolved to seek the following supplementary information-

1. A detailed breakdown of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million for acquisition of the first ferry under the Financial Year 2022/2023; and
2. A status update on the acquisition of the second ferry intended to operate on Lake Victoria, as presented by the Ministry, including details of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2023/2024.

This is therefore to request your office to provide a comprehensive response to the issues raised above on or before, **Thursday, 16th April, 2026**. The response may be sent, **by email**, on the address clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke and copied to roadstranshousingcomm.senate@parliament.go.ke.

Ms. Mwanate Shaban, Principal Clerk Assistant II (Cell Number- 0726 257;
Email: mwanate.shaban@parliament.go.ke), is the Clerk to the Committee and is responsible for all arrangements relating to this matter.

Yours faithfully,


J. M. NYEGENYE, CBS,
CLERK OF THE SENATE.

Copy to:

Mr. Mohammed A. Daghar, CBS,
Principal Secretary,
State Department for Transport,
Transcom Building, Ngong Road,
P.O. Box 52592-00100,

NAIROBI.

CPA (Dr.) Aurelia Rono, CBS,
Principal Secretary,
State Department for Parliamentary Affairs,
Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary and
Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs,
Railway Building, Haile Selassie Avenue,
P.O. Box 8448- 00200,

NAIROBI.

Appendix 12: Response from CS Roads & Transportation



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT

Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, CBS

Clerk of the Senate

Parliament Buildings

NAIROBI

RESPONSE TO SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ROADS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING REGARDING THE PETITION ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN LAKE VICTORIA BETWEEN MFANGANO ISLAND IN SUBA CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY AND MBITA, HOMABAY

Hon. Chairman, it is my pleasure to submit to this Honourable Committee information sought regarding the petition on public transport in Lake Victoria between Mfangano Island in Suba Central Sub-County and Mbita Homabay as communicated vide letter of Ref. SEN/DSEC/DISSC/RTH/2026/44 dated 2nd April 2026.

In regard to the requested information, the Ministry would like to respond as follows;

- 1. A detailed breakdown of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million for acquisition of the first ferry under the Financial Year 2022/2023;*

Hon. Chairman, the Kenya Ports Authority initiated the procurement of one (1) ferry in FY 2022/23 at a total cost of **Kshs.1,000 million**. On 15th March 2024, the Kenya Ports Authority and Kenya Shipyards Limited signed a contract for the supply and commissioning of one (1) new-built Kisumu Port Shallow Draught Ferry at a total tender cost of **Kshs.766 million**, exclusive of VAT.

The Kenya Ports Authority has so far spent **Kshs. 613 million** on the acquisition of the ferry; of this, **Kshs. 560 million** was received from the State Department and **Kshs. 52 million** from KPA internal resources. The funds were disbursed as follows: **Kshs. 300 million** in FY 2022/23, **Kshs. 150 million** in FY 2023/24 and **Kshs. 110 million** in FY 2025/26.

The ferry is under construction in Kisumu by Kenya Shipyards Limited, with an 85% completion rate. Significant progress has been made, with steelworks completed (hull, deck plating, bulkheads, superstructure); electrical works ongoing (cable trays at 85%); piping systems 90% complete (bilge, ballast, fuel, freshwater, firefighting); and engine and propulsion installation ongoing. The expected delivery is in July 2026.

2. A status update on the acquisition of the second ferry intended to operate on Lake Victoria, as presented by the Ministry, including details of the budgetary allocation of Kshs. 300 million in the Financial Year 2023/2024

Hon. Chairman, the status update on the second ferry is that, although the procurement has been conceptualised, it has not yet been initiated due to budgetary constraints. The Ministry, however, is committed to ensuring that the procurement of the second ferry is initiated once the funds are secured.

Hon. Chairman, the Government of Kenya, through this Ministry, is committed to expanding the requisite infrastructure within the Lake Victoria region to facilitate trade, enhance connectivity, and drive socio-economic transformation. In line with this objective, the Ministry's implementing agency, KPA, is implementing strategic maritime projects, including the procurement of a 29-metre cargo and passenger ferry with a capacity for 74 passengers and approximately 7–10 trucks/cars.

The Ministry remains committed to supporting safe, reliable, and efficient water transport services on Lake Victoria. Upon completion and commissioning of the first ferry, the Ministry will assess operational performance and demand dynamics to inform subsequent phases, including the potential acquisition of additional vessels.

Hon. Chairman, I submit.



Davis Chirchir, E.G.H
CABINET SECRETARY

Appendix 13: Response from Kenya Maritime Authority



"For safe and efficient water transport"

Mombasa, Kenya.

Phones: +254 (0) 41 231 8398/9 + 254 (0) 20 238 1203/4
Mobile: +254 (0) 724 319 344/ +254 (0) 733 221 322
Fax: +254 (0) 41 231 8397 / +254 (0) 20 238 1202
E-mail: info@kma.co.ke
website: www.kma.co.ke

KMA/SS/4/1/03

21st December, 2021

Officer In charge
Kenya Coast Guard Service,
Mbita Station,
MBITA

Dear Sir,

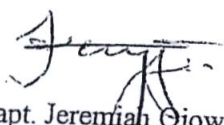
DETENTION OF MV MBITA I AND MBITA II

Reference is made to the above subject matter.

Kindly note, that the above mentioned vessels were inspected in September 2021 and were found not to comply with safety requirements, which are NOT closed to date. The above subject ships have, therefore, been detained and not allowed to sail from the Mbita slipway from 21st December, 2021 until the deficiencies found are rectified and notification to that effect given.

During the period of detention, the ships are not supposed to be engaged in any operation except their maintenance.

Yours faithfully,


Capt. Jeremiah Ojowi
DIRECTOR OF MARITIME SAFETY
OR: DIRECTOR GENERAL

CC: Director General,
KCGS, Mombasa.

Director,
Chronicles Ltd.

Manager,
Mbita Ferries Ltd, Mbita

Skipper,
Mbita I,

Skipper,
Mbita II,



KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY FLAG STATE SURVEY FORM

1. Vessel Name:	MV MBITA I
2. Official Number:	
3. Date of Build:	
4. Place of Inspection:	MBITA
5. Date of Inspection:	24 September 2020
6. Overall Length	24.3m
7. Depth	2.09M
8. Beam	6.05M



KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY FLAG STATE SURVEY FORM

1. SHIPS DOCUMENTS

	SHIPS DOCUMENTS	YES	NO	N/A	EXPIRY DATE	ISSUED BY	REMARKS
1	Certificate of Registry	☐	☐	☐		KMA	Not available onboard the vessel.
2	Minimum Safe Manning Certificate	☐	☐	☐			The vessel not issued with the safe manning certificate in accordance with Lake Victoria Transport(Maritime Safety) Regulations 2010
3	Stability Booklet	☐	☐	☐			Not available onboard
4	Insurance Certificate	☐	☐	☐			Not available onboard
5	Crew employment Contracts						Crew employment contracts not available onboard

2. PUBLICATIONS AND MANUALS

	PUBLICATIONS & MANUALS	Yes	No	N/A	Remarks
1	Official Logbook	☐	☐	☐	Bridge and Deck log book available.
2	Oil Record Book (Machinery)	☐	☐	☐	Not available on board, Company to make available on board approved Oil record book for document transfer and disposal of oily water.

3. EQUIPMENT SERVICE CERTIFICATE AND TEST

	EQUIPMENT SERVICE CERTIFICATES & TEST	Yes	No	N/A	Remarks
1	Pyrotechnics – Flares	☐	☐	☐	Not available onboard as required.
2	Pyrotechnics – Parachute Flares	☐	☐	☐	Not provided onboard the vessel, vessel to procure flares
3	Life jacket lights – batteries within expiry date or renewed yearly	☐	☐	☐	50 lifejackets provided, deteriorated and straps worn out. All lifejackets not fitted with whistle and lights,
4	Firefighting equipment service certificates	☐	☐	☐	Vessel not provided with BA sets
5	SCBA bottles – 5 years				

4. SEAFARER'S CERTIFICATES

	SEAFARER'S CERTIFICATES	Yes	No	N/A	Remarks
1	All Crew hold appropriate certificates of competency or Certificate of Proficiency				All crew not certificated in accordance with Lake Victoria Act.
2	All Crew hold Valid Seafarers Medical Certificates				All not issued with Seafarers Medical Certificates.
3	All Crew hold appropriate and valid Basic safety and Advanced safety courses certificates				Crew onboard do not possess valid Basic Safety and Advanced safety courses certificates.

1. INTERNAL AUDIT AND SYSTEM REVIEW

		YES	NO	N/A	REMARKS



KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY FLAG STATE SURVEY FORM

1	Safety System Review	1. When was the last internal audit carried out 2. Are the internal audits record kept as per the procedures 3. Risk Assessment records 4. Safety Checklist 5. Rest hour log 6. Engine room logbook 7. Tools and spares				No reports and records available indicate that the company undertakes internal audits in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Occupational Safety Regulations.
2	Preventive Maintenance Plan	1. Preventive maintenance plan available onboard/shore. 2. Has maintenance for the ship and equipment carried out as per the plan established. 3. Have maintenance works performed been properly recorded. 4. Have specific measures for critical equipment identified been taken as per the procedures? 5. Is the planned maintenance schedule system kept upto date 6. Have monthly inspections for LSA been carried out using the checklist 7. Is there any technical reports for machinery failure sent ashore 8. Does the company respond to the technical reports 9. Are the defective items involved in the ships maintenance plan				No preventive maintenance was available, the vessel crew undertakes daily checks Life jackets not being inspected monthly and records kept
3	EMERGENCY PROCEDURES/ PREPAREDNESS	1. Has the company provided the ferries with updated emergency contact list 2. Are the coxswains familiar with procedures to respond with the emergency situations identified 3. Have drills and exercises for the emergency situations identified been conducted as per the procedures 4. Is the radio personnel aware of how to transmit distress alert under the GMDSS 5. Have mandatory drills conducted regularly 6. Ship based and shore based contingency plans clearly identify the roles, responsibilities and record keeping procedures 7. Lessons learnt from exercises and real incidents are taken into account when updating the emergency responses plans				No emergency drills and exercises being carried out onboard. No emergency response plan was available onboard and contacts for emergency response

KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY FLAG STATE SURVEY FORM

Items	Checkpoints	Remarks/Status/Condition	Corrective action to be taken
LIFE SAVING APPLIANCES			
1 Lifebouys (approximate quantity) 4pcs	1. Clean and neat appearance and all signage clear and understandable. 2. Visually inspect the housing for damage or deteriorations. 3. Grabline around the circumference is not damaged, frayed, or been subject to solar degradation. 4. Check the condition of grabline connection with the lifebouy body. Should be secure to prevent the it from becoming detached Housings 5. Lights attached to lifebuoys should be inspected, tested and maintained in accord with the manufacturers instructions. 6. Ensure that the housing is securely attached to its supporting structure, accessible and that the supporting structure is adequate and stable	2 lifebuoy provided at entry of wheelhouse Lifebouy onboard not marked with the ships Name on the lifebouy body. Reflective tape missing	Lifebouy to be marked with the vessel name and port of registry.
2 Life Jackets (approximate quantity)	1. Are sufficient number available 2. Regularly Inspected and maintained as per the PMS 3. Clean and neat appearance and all signage clear and understandable. 4. Visually inspect for damage or deteriorations. 5. Check the condition of attached lights and whistle. 6. Lights attached to the jacket should be inspected, tested and maintained in accord with the manufacturers instructions.	50 adult Lifejackets provided Sufficient number of lifejackets not provided onboard. Life jackets not fitted with lights and whistle Life jackets not being inspected regularly and passsengers not being advised to don life jackets before departure of the vessel.	Sufficient number of life jackets to be provided onboard Life jackets to be marked properly and to indicate MV Mbita I and port of registry as Kisumu Life jackets to be regularly inspected and fitted with whistles and lights
3 Bouyant apparatus (Aproximate quantity) 2pcs of rigid life raft.	1. Clean and neat appearance and all signage clear and understandable. 2. Visually inspect the housing for damage or deteriorations. 3. Grabline not damaged, frayed, or deteriorated due to solar degradation. 4. Check the condition of grabline connection with the body. Should be secure to prevent the it from becoming detached Housings 5. Ensure that the housing is securely attached to its supporting structure, accessible and that the	2 rigid liferaft provided on the monkey island Grabline deteriorated due to solar degradation	Grabline to be renewed.



KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY FLAG STATE SURVEY FORM

	Items	Checkpoints	Remarks/Status/Condition	Corrective action to be taken
		supporting structure is adequate and stable		
4	Medical first aid kit (approximate quantity) 6pcs	1. Are sufficient number available	Inventory of medication available onboard not documented. Sufficient medical first aid kits not being provided	Proper inventory of all medication onboard to be kept. Atleast 2 medical first aid kits to be provided to the vessel.
FIRE FIGHTING APPARATUS				
1	Fire plans	1. Are the plans posted in easily accessible places 2. Duplicate stored in watertight enclosure	Fire plan not available onboard	Owner to make available the vessels fire plan onboard.
2	Fire hoses and nozzles not leaking	1. In operating condition, inspected and serviced and in satisfactory condition 2. Are lengths/numbers per the fire control plan onboard 3.	No fire hoses and nozzles available onboard	Vessel to be provided with the nozzles and hoses as per approved fireplan.
3	Smoke detectors	1. Are regular inspections and testing carried out. 2. Is it in satisfactory working condition	Vessel not fitted with smoke detectors	
7	Fire alarm system	3. Are regular inspections and testing carried out. 4. Is it in satisfactory working condition	Vessel not fitted with fire alarm system	
8	Fireman outfit/EEBDs	1. Condition Satisfactory 2. Ready for use with SCBA 3. Spare bottles charged 4. Kept in easily accessible places as per the Fire plan.	Vessel not provided with fireman outfit and Breathing apparatus	
9	Gas detectors	1. Are portable oxygen meter and flammable gas detectors calibrate and tested.	Not provided onboard	Vessel to ensure proper procedures for entry to enclosed space are followed
10	Emergency fire pumps	1. Emergency fire pump operating normally and instructions posted 2. Delivery pressure normal 3. Priming pump operating normally 4. Operating instructions posted	Vessel provided with a petrol emergency fire pump which is being kept in the engine room, Not as required since that's a fire hazard	Vessel not to keep petrol in the engine room.
11	Engine driven pump	1. Emergency fire pump operating normally and instructions posted 2. Delivery pressure normal 3. Priming pump operating normally	Engine driven fire pump not in working condition and pulley belts and protection shield cover missing.	Pumps to be repired and made operational and ready for use

8. Vessel to rectify all the listed deficiencies and to provide a corrective action plan with timelines on how the pending deficiencies will be rectified before issuance of the Local safety certificate.

The ship MV. MBITA I was found to have several detanable deficiencies and thereby ordered not to sail until rectification of the same.

MASTERS /OWNERS REPRESENTATIVE REMARKS

NAME OF INSPECTOR(s) AND SIGNATURE

NAME OF MASTER AND SIGNATURE/OWNERS

① BRUNO NUSOKA 24/09/20

② B-OTIENO 24/9/20

③ ICHALFAN RAYA 24/9/20

Shadeed Kipchumba

Appendix 14: Response from Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs



MINISTRY MINING, BLUE ECONOMY AND MARITIME AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY

DSKC

Kindly deal.

01/12/2022

23rd November 2022

MOT&I/MSA/ADM/VOL. IV/206

J.M NYENGENYE, CBS

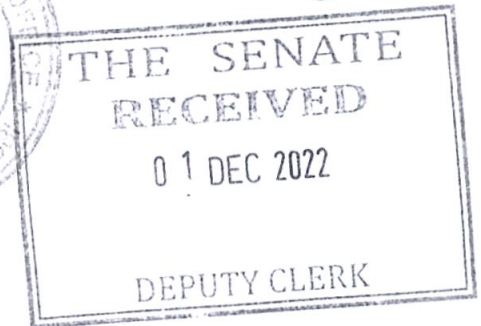
Clerk of the Senate

Clerk Chambers

Parliament Buildings

P.O Box 41842-00100

NAIROBI, KENYA



Dear Mr. Nyengenyne

REQUEST FOR CLARITY ON THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF AGENCY WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT

Reference is made to your letter REF: SEN/DSEC/RTH/CORR/2022/005 of 18th November 2022 on the above matter.

The Senate Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing in a meeting held on Tuesday, 8th November, 2022, sought to understand the reasons for suspension of the only private ferry that operated along Mfangano - Mbita route in Lake Victoria from 21st December, 2021 by the Kenya Maritime Authority and resolved to seek the following information from my Office-

1. THE REASONS FOR SUSPENSION OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE FERRY; MBITA I & MBITA II RORO FERRIES SUSPENSION REPORT

The Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), an agency under the State Department of Shipping and Maritime in the ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime, was established under KMA Act No. 5 of 2006 to regulate, coordinate and oversee maritime affairs in Kenya. Among its key functions is to implement the Merchant Shipping act (MSA), 2009 and subsidiary legislation made there-under.

The MSA makes provision for the *registration and licensing of Kenyan ships, the training and the terms of engagement of masters and seafarers and matters ancillary thereto;..... the prevention of collisions, the safety of navigation, the safety of cargoes,the liability of ship-owners and others, ... and makes provision for the control, regulation and orderly development of merchant shipping and related services...*

Works Building, Ngong Road,
P.O Box 30009-00100 Nairobi.
Telephone: (020) 2723101

CA 4, Roads
Kindly deal
Kobati
05/12/2022

As you are aware the safe operation of ships operating between ports in the three counties sharing the lake is governed by the Lake Victoria Transport Act, 2007 as well as the Lake Victoria Transport (Maritime Safety) Regulations, 2010. Further to the above, the Republic of Kenya as a Partner State of the East African Community's Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), is obliged to implement the Lake Victoria Transport Act, (LVTA) 2007, and the Lake Victoria Transport (Maritime Safety) Regulations of 2011. It is noted that in case of conflict between the MSA and the LVTA the latter East African legislation supersedes the Kenyan legislation as per the EAC constitutive instruments.

There have been several major casualties on the lake, which whereas none has taken place in Kenyan waters or involved Kenyan vessels, the accident investigation have attributed them to circumstances similar to the situation we are experiencing with MV Uhuru at the moment. Some of the major accidents in the lake include:-

- I. MV Nyerere, flagged in the United Republic of Tanzania and operating in Lake Victoria which capsized and resulted in loss of over 200 lives in September 2018.
- II. MV Kabalega, flagged in the Republic of Uganda which collided with MV Kaawa and sank shortly after with loss of the ship and cargo; and
- III. MV Bukoba, flagged in the United Republic of Tanzania which sunk resulting in the loss of nearly 900 lives and loss of the vessel.

As the Maritime Administration Unit of a Partner State under the Lake Victoria Transport Act, (LVTA) 2007, KMA is obliged to exercise Flag State Control over vessels on her ship register and to this end issue certificates of seaworthiness. The legislation provides the basis for vessel surveys, inspections and registration for sustenance of maritime transport safety and security as well as casualty investigations.

On 24th September, 2020, pursuant to the Authority's mandate, and as provided for under sections 24, 67, and 77 of the LVTA 2007, safety inspections were conducted on MV. Mbita I, and MV. Mbita II, owned and operated by the Chronicles Investment Ltd, trading as Mbita Ferries. The inspections were aimed at determining the vessels seaworthiness and compliance with the provisions of the LVTA 2007 and to enable the subsequent issuance of a Seaworthiness Certificate on satisfaction of construction and safety standards and other compliance requirements.

The MV. Mbita I, and MV. Mbita II, failed to satisfy the threshold for safety certification due to a number of detainable deficiencies based on which the vessel was stopped from operating pending action by the owner to correct the deficiencies observed and notified to him in writing. Pursuant to section 24 of the LVTA 2007, the Authority, notified the owner and masters of the vessels of

the deficiencies and the remedial actions required for each deficiency to enable issuance of the Seaworthiness Certificate and resumption of operations.

In the course of a scheduled enforcement oversight exercise in Homabay County in December 2021, surveyors from the Authority boarded the vessels while in operation and witnessed violation of section 184 of the LVTA 2007. On 21st December 2021, issued a detention order and in line with the prevailing institutional arrangements, instructed the Kenya Coast Guard Service, Mbita Station, to enforce it against the MV. Mbita I and MV. Mbita II.

The management of Mbita Ferries, was by copy of the detention order, directed to cease the operation of the RoRo Passenger Ferries MV. Mbita I and Mbita II until they fully comply with the provisions of the LVTA, 2007 as earlier advised by the Authority.

The Authority awaits confirmation from Mbita Ferries for the closure of the cited deficiencies, which upon confirmation, Seaworthiness Certificates will be issued and the detentions lifted so as to enable the vessels to resume service. It is hereby confirmed that the regular vehicular and pedestrian traffic services between Mbita and Luanda K'Otieno are still available from MV. Chamaunga operated by Mbita Ferries and from other service providers. Only pedestrian traffic services are available between Mbita to Mfangano due to the withdrawal of the RoRo vessel MV. Mbita I as a result of the notable deficiencies.

In its regulatory role, the Authority continuously endeavors to support and encourage investors to observe safety standards for the interest of the general public relying on such services. As the unique services by private investors are appreciate and applauded, it is of utmost importance that safety standards as set out by existing regulations are fully complied with for an efficient, safe and secure water transport in Kenya.

Attached; Inspection reports and Detention letter

2. A COPY OF THE CURRENT SHIPPING AND MARITIME RULES AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

Attached; herewith please find a copy of the current Shipping and Maritime Rules and Safety Regulations.

- ✓ The Authority is in the process of reviewing the Small Vessel Regulations to recognize and develop the local vessel construction industry in the country
- ✓ The State Department, working with the Authority and other partners and the LVBC, is undertaking the Multinational Lake Victoria Communication and Transport Project to provide safer water transport in Lake Victoria by providing hydrographic survey and Search and Rescue infrastructure

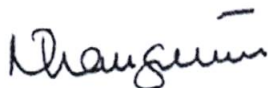
- ✓ The Authority has sponsored a number of personnel to undertake the Naval Architecture programs to revamp the local human resource capacity in ship building and repair.
- ✓ The Authority commissioned a research project for the development of Multi-Modal Transport through the development of water transport routes and provision of landing/interface infrastructure in Lake Victoria and Lake Turkana. The same models are to be utilized in the development and provision of water transport services across Mombasa County and between Mombasa, Mtwapa, Kilifi, Malindi and Lamu to serve local traffic and tourism. The report was shared with the Kenya Ferry Services, County Governments and other investors to create awareness in the available opportunities
- ✓ The Kenya Ferry Services conducted fact finding exercises in Lake Victoria, Lake Turkana and Lamu as a follow up to the above
- ✓ Two local ferry companies currently provide modern ferry services across islands in Lake Victoria with one ferrying vehicular traffic on RoRo vessels
- ✓ Subject to availability of favorable service based subsidies from the government, a local boat building and ferry service company has expressed interest in expanding their routes and introducing modern ferries;
 - From Kenya to Uganda and Tanzania through Lake Victoria
 - Between Mombasa, Kilifi and Lamu,
 - Mombasa County waterways, and
 - Lamu County to serve the islands in the East.

Initial engagements with the relevant agencies have been made by the investor on the above.

- ✓ Further to the above, three local Lamu boat building entities have shown interest and are receiving support from the Authority in building modern ferries to serve in Lamu.
- ✓ The Authority also commissioned a research for the development of the boat building industry by providing durable, affordable and environmentally friendly construction alternatives in the boat building industry.
- ✓ The Authority is also providing support to a local innovative construction entity in Lamu who are in the process of building their second vessel from plastic waste.
- ✓ Cognizant of the high dependency of water transport in Lamu County, the Authority continuously monitors the safety and security of waterways in Lamu, providing advice to relevant agencies on issues that may hinder efficiency in water transport. Such advice includes;

- ✓ The repair or reconstruction of dilapidated and unsafe landing/interface facilities (Main Amu Terminal, Mokowe, Manda and Mtangawanda jetties),
- ✓ The maintenance and repair of aids to navigation,
- ✓ Identification and reporting of risks to the safety of navigation,
- ✓ Dredging of the Mkanda Channel to allow passage of vessels of higher beam and draft at all tide levels.

Yours *sincerely*



Amb. Nancy W. Karigithu, CBS

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY &

SPECIAL ENVOY FOR MARITIME AND BLUE ECONOMY

