

Annexure **3**

**Communication issued by
the Speaker of the National
Assembly on 31st July 2024**



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (THIRD SESSION)
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

____ (No. 038 of 2024) ____

ON

**EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR CONSIDERATION OF
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE
ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Honourable Members,

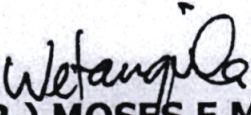
1. As you will recall, in August 2023, the Houses of Parliament established the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) to, among other things, facilitate dialogue and consensus building and recommend appropriate constitutional, legal and policy reforms on issues of concern to the people of Kenya. The committee submitted its report to Parliament containing various recommendations in February 2024.
2. Thereafter, upon adoption of the NADCO report by the National Assembly and the Senate, the leadership of the two Houses met and adopted a clear roadmap to actualize the recommendations contained in the said Report. Consequently, in furtherance of the agreed roadmap by the leadership, I directed, *vide* Communication No. 06 of 2024 dated 5th March 2024, that the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs of the National Assembly holds joint sittings with the Senate Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights to consider recommendations of the report, relating to the proposals to amend the Constitution, within forty-five (45) days.

3. **Honourable Members,** the full implementation of the recommendations of the report especially with respect to proposed constitutional amendments is intended to ensure achievement of the aspirations of the people. However, it has come to my attention that the committees of the two Houses have not been able to meet as agreed in the implementation roadmap.
4. Indeed, I am in receipt of a letter dated 23rd July 2024 from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Justice & Legal Affairs, the Hon. George Gitonga Murugara, CBS, MP, requesting for extension of time to consider the proposals arising out of the NADCO report. In the letter, the Chairperson also alludes to challenges in conducting joint sittings with the counterpart Senate Committee. This is especially with regard to availability of requisite quorum to commence sittings.
5. It is therefore the considered view of the Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee, that to ensure expeditious consideration of the proposals to amend the Constitution, the respective Committees be approved to sit independently and to thereafter report to the respective Houses.
6. **Honourable Members,** appreciating the immense public interest in the actualization of the recommendations and proposals of the National Dialogue Committee, and having extensively consulted the leadership of the House, I have acceded to the request by the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal and Affairs, and **DIRECT THAT—**

- (i) The period for consideration of the proposals emanating from the Report of the National Dialogue Committee (NADCO) is hereby extended by forty-five (45) days from today, Wednesday, 31st July 2024; and
- (ii) Notwithstanding the directive issued on 5th March 2024 regarding joint sittings of the two committees of the Houses of Parliament, the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs is hereby authorised to hold its sittings independently and to report back to the National Assembly within the timelines stipulated above.

The House is accordingly guided.

I thank you!


THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES F.M. WETANG'ULA, EGH, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Wednesday, 31st July 2024