



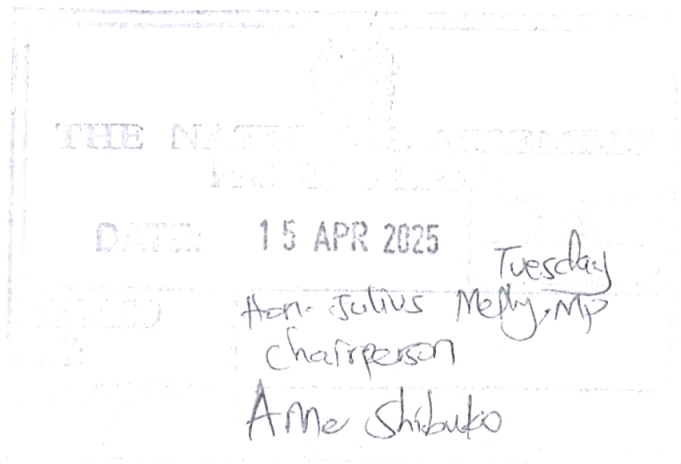
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SNA
15/4/25*



13TH PARLIAMENT (4TH SESSION – 2025)

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

REPORT ON THE APPROVAL HEARING (VETTING) OF PROF. SHAUKAT ALI ABDULRAZAK, NOMINEE FOR APPOINTMENT AS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.



CLERK'S CHAMBERS
DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
NAIROBI

APRIL 2025

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AI	-	Artificial Intelligence
DCI	-	Directorate of Criminal Investigations
CUER	-	Commission for University Education
EACC	-	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
EBS	-	Elder of the Burning Spear
H.E.	-	His Excellency
HELB	-	Higher Education Loans Board
IAEA	-	International Atomic Energy Agency
KRA	-	Kenya Revenue Authority
NACOSTI	-	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
ORPP	-	Office of the Registrar of Political Parties
PAPAA	-	Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act
PS	-	Principal Secretary
PSC	-	Public Service Commission
STEM	-	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
GMO	-	Genetically modified Organism
KNQA	-	Kenya National Qualifications Authority

ANNEXURES

- Annexure 1: Adoption List
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 - Annexure 7: Letters from the Clerk of the National Assembly to KRA, EACC, DCI, HELB, ORPP, Commission for University Education (CUE) and the respective Universities requesting for information on the nominees
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CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report highlights the proceedings of the Departmental Committee on Education on the approval hearing of Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak, nominee for appointment as the Principal Secretary, State Department for Science, Research and Innovation in the Ministry of Education, as sought by H.E. the President and communicated to the National Assembly by the Honourable Speaker on Wednesday, 26th March 2025.

Pursuant to Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution, Section 5 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011) and Standing Order 45(1), the National Assembly receives a notification from H.E. the President regarding the nomination of fourteen (14) Principal Secretaries to various State Departments vide a transmittal letter from the Head of Public Service dated 20th March 2025. The Hon. Speaker vide a communication made on Wednesday, 26th March 2025 conveyed to the House the Message from H.E. the President and subsequently referred the names of the nominees, their curricula vitae, and the report of the Public Service Commission on their recruitment to various Departmental Committees for approval hearings. While referring the matter to the Committees, the Speaker directed that the Committees undertake the vetting exercise within twenty-eight (28) days pursuant to Section 8 of the Public Appointments Parliamentary Approval Act (No. 33 of 2011). The Speaker further directed the Clerk of the National Assembly to notify the nominees and the general public by placing adverts in two newspapers of nationwide circulation and on the Parliamentary Website of the time and place of holding the approval hearings.

In compliance with Article 118(b) of the Constitution and section 6(4) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011), the Clerk of the National Assembly placed an advertisement in the print media on Thursday, 27th March 2025 informing the public of the nomination, date, time and place of the approval hearing. He further invited the public to submit memoranda by way of written statements on oath (*affidavit*) on the suitability or otherwise of the nominees in conformity with section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011). The memoranda were to be received on or before Thursday, 3rd April 2025 at 5.00 p.m. (East African Time). At the close of the submission deadline, the Committee had not received any memorandum against the nominee's suitability.

The Clerk of the National Assembly also wrote to Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP), the Commission for University Education (CUE) and the relevant Universities seeking references and background checks relating to the suitability of the nominee.

The nominee appeared before the Committee on Friday, 4th April 2025 for vetting. The Committee examined their suitability based on the criteria set out in Section 7 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011). In addition, the Committee examined their academic credentials, relevant experience, knowledge of sector issues, as well as on leadership and integrity. The Committee paid due regard to the procedure used to arrive at the nominee; any constitutional or statutory requirements relating to the office in question and suitability of the nominee for the appointment proposed having regard to whether the nominee's abilities, experience and qualities met the needs of the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation.

Committee Recommendation

The Committee having held approval hearings of the nominee regarding his suitability, observed that due process was followed on the recruitment as provided for under Article 155(3) (b) of the Constitution and section 8(2) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval Act) (No. 33 of 2011). The Committee, having undertaken extensive and thorough vetting of the nominee, therefore recommends that the National Assembly **APPROVES** the nomination of Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak for appointment as Principal Secretary, State Department for Science, Research and Innovation in the Ministry of Education.

Acknowledgements

The Committee registers its appreciation to the Office of the Speaker, the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly, the Director, Departmental Committees and the Committee Secretariat for the logistical and administrative support extended during the vetting process.

In addition, the Committee thanks the nominees for their cooperation during the vetting process. Finally, the Committee appreciates KRA, EACC, DCI, HELB, ORPP, CUE and the respective Universities for providing references and background checks relating to the suitability of the nominees.

I acknowledge and appreciate Members of the Committee for their patience, sacrifice and commitment which enabled the Committee to complete the task within the required timelines.

On behalf of the Departmental Committee on Education, and pursuant to Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution and Section 8 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011) and provisions of Standing Orders 45(4) and 199(6), it is my pleasant duty to present the Report of the Committee on the approval hearing (Vetting) of Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak, nominee for appointment as Principal Secretary for the State Department of Science, Research and Innovation in the Ministry of Education for debate and adoption by the House.



The Hon. Julius Kibiwott Melly, CBS, MP.
Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Education

CHAPTER ONE

1 PREFACE

1.1 Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

1. The Departmental Committee on Social Protection is one of the Twenty Departmental Committees of the National Assembly established under **Standing Order 216** whose mandates pursuant to the **Standing Order 216 (5)** are as follows:

- i. To investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned ministries and departments;*
- ii. To study the programme and policy objectives of ministries and departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;*
- iii. on a quarterly basis, monitor and report on the implementation of the national budget in respect of its mandate;*
- iv. To study and review all legislation referred to it;*
- v. To study, assess and analyse the relative success of the ministries and departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;*
- vi. To investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned ministries and departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the House;*
- vii. To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 204 (Committee on Appointments);*
- viii. To examine treaties, agreements and conventions;*
- ix. To make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation;*
- x. To consider reports of Commissions and Independent Offices submitted to the House pursuant to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution; and*
- xi. To examine any questions raised by Members on a matter within its mandate.*

1.2 Subjects under the Committee

2. In accordance with the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders, the Committee is mandated to consider Education, training, curriculum development, and research.
3. In executing its mandate, the Committee oversees the Teachers' Service Commission, the Ministry of Education and all its Agencies.

1.3 Committee Membership

4. The Departmental Committee on Education was constituted by the House on 27th October 2022 and comprises of the following Members:

Chairperson

Hon. Julius Kibiwott Melly, MP
Tinderet Constituency
UDA

Hon. Eve Akinyi Obara, MP
Kabondo-Kasipul Constituency
ODM

Members

Hon. Dr. Christine Oduor Ombaka, MP
Siaya County
ODM

Hon. Mary Emaase Otuchi, MP
Teso South
UDA

Hon. Nabii Nabwera Daraja, MP
Lugari Constituency
ODM

Hon. Jerusha Mongina Momanyi, MP
Nyamira County
JP

Hon. Peter Ochieng Orero, MP
Kibra Constituency
ODM

Hon. Abdul Ebrahim Haro, MP
Mandera South Constituency
UDA

Hon. (Prof.) Phylis Jepkemoi Bartoo
Moiben Constituency
UDA

Hon. Elijah Kururia, MP
Gatundu North Constituency
IND

Hon. Rebecca Noonaiishi Tonkei, MP
Narok County
UDA

Hon. Clive Gisairo, MP
Kitutu Masaba, Constituency,
ODM

Hon. Joseph Makilap, MP
Baringo North Constituency,
UDA

Hon Julius Taitumu M'Anaiba, MP
Igembe North Constituency,
UDA

Hon. Dick Oyugi Maungu, MP
Luanda Constituency
DAP-K

1.1 Committee Secretariat

1. The Committee is well resourced by a secretariat comprises of the following: -

Mr. Douglas Katho
Head of Secretariat

Mr. Clive Onyancha
Clerk Assistant III

Ms. Fiona Wanjiru
Legal Counsel

Mr. Eric Kanyi
Fiscal Analyst II

Dr. Mburu Maina
Research Officer III

Ms. Noelle Chelagat
Media Relations Officer

Ms. Pauline Njuguna
Hansard Officer

Mr. Richard Sang
Serjeant-At-Arms

Mr. Nimrod Ochieng'
Audio Recording Officer

Mr. Jared Onyancha
Public Communications Officer

Ms. Christabel Naisula
Parliamentary Internship Programme

Mr. Dennis Amunavi
Clerk Assistant III

CHAPTER TWO

2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Legal Framework

5. The office of the Principal Secretary is established pursuant to Article 155 of the Constitution. It provides that:

155. (1) There is established the office of Principal Secretary, which is an office in the public service.

(2) Each State department shall be under the administration of a Principal Secretary.

(3) The President shall—

(a) nominate a person for appointment as Principal Secretary from among persons recommended by the Public Service Commission; and

(b) with the approval of the National Assembly, appoint Principal Secretaries.

(4) The President may re-assign a Principal Secretary.

(5) A Principal Secretary may resign from office by giving notice, in writing, to the President.

6. Pursuant to the said provision, H.E. the President nominated fourteen (14) persons for appointment as Principal Secretaries to various State Departments. Among them, H.E. the President nominated Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak, the nominee for appointment as Principal Secretary, Science, Research and Innovation in the Ministry of Education.

7. The Departmental Committee on Education was assigned the role of conducting the approval hearing (vetting) of Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak, the nominee for appointment as Principal Secretary, Science, Research and Innovation in the Ministry of Education.

8. The legal framework the Committee made reference to in its vetting exercise included:
- i. Article 10 of the Constitution on the national values and principles of governance;
 - ii. Chapter 6 of the Constitution on leadership and integrity;
 - iii. Article 77 of the Constitution on restriction on activities of State Officers;
 - iv. Article 78 of the Constitution on dual citizenship;
 - v. Article 118 of the Constitution on public participation;
 - vi. Article 232 of the Constitution on values and principles of public service;
 - vii. The Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011);
 - viii. The Public Service Commission Act (No. 10 of 2017) on recommendation for appointment of Principal Secretaries
 - ix. The Leadership and Integrity Act (Cap. 182);
 - x. The Public Service (Values and Principles) Act (No. 1A of 2015); and
 - xi. The Public Officer Ethics Act (Cap. 183).

The Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011)

9. Section 7 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011), provides for issues which the relevant House of Parliament (in this case, the National Assembly) is supposed to consider in relation to any nomination. These issues include:

i. the procedure used to arrive at the nominee;

- ii. *any constitutional or statutory requirements relating to the office in question; and*
- iii. *the suitability of the nominee for the appointment proposed having regard to whether the nominee's abilities, experience and qualities meet the needs of the body to which nomination is being made.*

10. During the approval hearing, section 6 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011) provided important points, viz:

- i. An approval hearing shall focus on a candidate's academic credentials, professional training and experience, personal integrity and background (section 6(7), PAPAA);
- ii. The criteria specified in the Schedule shall be used by a Committee during an approval hearing for the purposes of vetting a candidate (section 6(8), PAPAA);
- iii. Any person may, prior to the approval hearing, and by written statement on oath, provide the Clerk with evidence contesting the suitability of a candidate to hold the office to which the candidate has been nominated (section 6(9), PAPAA); and
- iv. A candidate may, at any time, by notice in writing addressed to the Clerk, withdraw from the approval process and the candidate's nomination shall end (section 6(10), PAPAA).

The Public Service Commission Act (No. 10 of 2017)

11. Section 47 (2) of the Public Service Commission Act (No. 10 of 2017) provides qualifications that one must have so as to be eligible for appointment as a Principal Secretary. These are:

- i. be a citizen of Kenya;
- ii. hold a degree from a university recognised in Kenya;
- iii. has at least ten (10) years relevant professional experience, five (5) years of which should have been in a leadership position or at a top management level in the public service or private sector;
- iv. possess general knowledge of the organisation and functions of Government;
- v. demonstrates an understanding of the goals, policies and developmental objectives of the nation;
- vi. has demonstrable leadership and management capacity including knowledge of financial management and strategic people management; and
- vii. meets requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution.

Article 10(2) of the Constitution on national values and principles of governance

12. Article 10(2) of the Constitution provides for the national values and principles of governance which include patriotism, national unity, sharing and devolution of power, the rule of law, democracy and participation of the people; human dignity, equity, social justice, inclusiveness, equality, human rights, non-discrimination and protection of the marginalised; good governance, integrity, transparency and accountability; and sustainable development.

Chapter 6 of the Constitution (Leadership and Integrity)

13. There are important provisions in Chapter 6 of the Constitution worth pointing out. Article 73 of the Constitution provides that the authority assigned to a State officer (a Principal Secretary being a state officer under Article 260 of the Constitution) is a public trust to be exercised in accordance to the Constitution, demonstrate respect for the people, bring honour to the nation and dignity to the office and promote public confidence in the integrity of the office. Also, the State officer shall have the responsibility to serve the people, rather than the power to rule them.

14. The guiding principles of leadership and integrity are listed as selection based on personal integrity, competence and suitability, objectivity and impartiality in decision making, selfless service based solely on the public interest, accountability and discipline and commitment in service to the people.

Article 77 of the Constitution (Restriction on activities of State officers)

15. Article 77 of the Constitution provides that a full-time State officer shall not participate in any other gainful employment and that any appointed State officer shall not hold office in a political party.

Article 78 of the Constitution on citizenship and leadership

16. Article 78 of the Constitution states that a person is not eligible for election or appointment to a State office unless the person is a citizen of Kenya. It also provides that a State officer or a member of the defence forces shall not hold dual citizenship.

Article 118 of the Constitution on public access and participation

17. Article 118 of the Constitution provides that:

1. *Parliament shall:*
 - a) *conduct its business in an open manner, and its sittings and those of its committees shall be in public; and*
 - b) *facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other business of Parliament and its committees.*
2. *Parliament may not exclude the public, or any media, from any sitting unless in exceptional circumstances the relevant Speaker has determined that there are justifiable reasons for the exclusion.*

Article 232 of the Constitution on Values and Principles of Public Service

18. Article 232 of the Constitution provides for the values and principles of public service which include high standards of professional ethics; efficient, effective and economic use of resources; responsive, prompt, effective, impartial and equitable provision of services; involvement of the people in the process of policy making; accountability for administrative acts; transparency and provision to the public of timely, accurate information; fair competition and merit as the basis of appointments and promotions; representation of Kenya's diverse communities; and affording adequate and equal opportunities for appointment, training and advancement, at all levels of the public service of men and women; the members of all ethnic groups; and persons with disabilities.

The Leadership and Integrity Act (Cap. 182)

19. The Leadership and Integrity Act provides a number of obligations to a State officer. These are, among others: to respect and abide by the Constitution and the law, public trust, performance of duties in an honest and accountable manner, professionalism, financial integrity, not to engage in activities that amount to abuse of office, not misuse public resources, accepting gifts that may compromise the officer's duties, wrongful or unlawful acquisition of property, conflict of interest e.t.c.

The Public Service (Values and Principles) Act

20. Section 5 of the Public Service (Values and Principles) Act provides that a public officer shall maintain high standards of professional ethics, including, being honest; displaying high standards of integrity, transparency, accountability, respect to others, objectivity, patriotism, observance of rule of law. (Applies in future upon appointment)

The Public Officer Ethics Act (Cap. 183)

21. The Public Officer Ethics Act provides for obligations to be carried out by a public officer. These include professionalism, carrying out duties in accordance with the law, prohibition from unjust enrichment, avoiding conflict of interest, not using office as a venue for soliciting or collecting harambees; not acting for foreigners; care of property; political neutrality, not practicing nepotism or favouritism, giving impartial advice, conducting private affairs in a way that maintains public confidence, bar from sexual harassment, submission of declaration of income, assets and liabilities once every two years (section 26). (Applies in future after appointment)

2.2 Qualifications for appointment as Principal Secretary

22. In conducting the approval hearings, the Committee was guided by Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution, section 47(2) of the Public Service Commission Act, and the provisions of Section 7 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011).

2.3 Message from H.E. the President

23. H.E. the President on **Thursday, 20th March 2025** communicated the names of fourteen nominees for appointment to the positions of Principal Secretary to the Speaker for approval by the National Assembly pursuant to Article 155 (3). The Speaker in his communication to the National Assembly on **Wednesday, 26th March 2025** and pursuant to Standing Order No. 42 referred the names to relevant Departmental Committees to conduct approval hearings and report within twenty-eight (28) days.

2.4 Speaker's Communication and Committal to the Committee

24. In accordance with Standing Order 45(1), the Speaker read the Message from H.E. the President and referred the names of the aforementioned two nominees, their curricula vitae and report of the Public Service Commission on the recruitment process to the Departmental Committee on Education to conduct approval hearings.

25. While referring the matter to the Committees, the Speaker directed that the Committees undertake the vetting exercise within twenty-eight (28) days pursuant to Section 8 of the Public Appointments Parliamentary Approval Act (No. 33 of 2011). The Speaker further directed the Clerk of the National Assembly to notify the nominees and the general public by placing adverts in two newspapers of nationwide circulation and the Parliamentary Website of the time and place of holding the approval hearings.

2.5 Notification to the Public

26. Section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011), provides that *"any person may, prior to the approval hearing, and by written statement on oath, provide the Clerk with evidence contesting the suitability of a candidate to hold the office to which the candidate has been nominated"*.

27. The Clerk of the National Assembly on **Thursday, 27th March 2025** placed a notification in the print media informing the general public of the intention of the Committee to conduct approval hearings, as provided for by Article 118(1)(a)(b) and (2) of the Constitution and Section 6(4) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011), which allows public participation in committee proceedings. The notification gave provision for the submission of memoranda, by way of written statements on oath (*affidavit*) on the suitability or otherwise of the nominees, by **Thursday, 3rd April 2025 at 5.00 pm (East African Time)**. At the close of the submission deadline, the Committee had not received any memorandum for or against the suitability of any of the nominees.

2.6 Notification to the Nominee

28. The Clerk of the National Assembly vide an advert placed in the print media on Thursday, 27th March 2025 and a letter Ref. NA/DDC/EDU/2025/029 informed the nominees of the nomination by H.E. the President and requested them to appear for vetting by the Departmental Committee on Education on **Friday, 4th April 2025** in *Bunge Tower, 5th Floor, Committee Room 24*. The Clerk of the National Assembly further requested the nominees to bring with them their clearance certificates from the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) and Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP).

2.7 Clearance Requirements

29. The Clerk of the National Assembly wrote to the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP), Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), relevant Universities requesting for tax, education loans, integrity, affiliation to political parties, criminal record status of the nominees as well as credibility of their tertiary education certificates.

2.8 Report of the Public Service Commission on the Nomination of Principal Secretaries

30. Pursuant to Article 155(3)(a) of the Constitution, the Public Service Commission invited applications from suitably qualified persons for the position of Principal Secretary. The advertisement was published in the print media, Kenya Gazette No. 10536 and on the Commission's Website on 20th November 2024 with a closing date of 4th December 2024.

31. 2,517 candidates were shortlisted from 20th November to 4th December 2024 and a further review done on 11th December 2024 that brought the shortlist to 109 candidates in an exercise that had due regard for gender, marginalised/minority groups and PWDs pursuant to Article 232(1)(h) of the Constitution. Interviews for the shortlisted persons were conducted from 27th to 31st January 2025.

32. The Public Service Commission had adhered to all provisions of the Constitution in the process of advertising, shortlisting and interviewing the candidates in a process that had due regard for merit, gender, ethnic and regional balance.

2.9 Committee proceedings

33. The Committee, having received the names of the nominees, was obligated to conduct approval hearings and make determination of the nominees' suitability or otherwise within twenty-eight (28) days as provided for in section 8(1) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011).

34. The Committee held three (3) sittings during which it examined and reviewed the nominees' certificates, testimonials as well as conducted approval hearings.

CHAPTER THREE

3 APPROVAL HEARINGS

35. The Committee conducted approval hearings for the nominees on **Friday, 4th April 2025**. In conducting the vetting exercise, the Committee was guided by, among others, the Constitution, the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011), the Public Service Act and the National Assembly Standing Orders.
36. The Committee examined the nominees pursuant to the provisions and guidelines in the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011). The Committee also considered the following in vetting the nominees:
- a. Academic qualifications
 - b. Employment record and work experience
 - c. Professional association
 - d. Public office, political activities and affiliations
 - e. Potential conflict of interest
 - f. Suitability to the position
 - g. Tax compliance
 - h. Vision and leadership
 - i. Integrity
 - j. Expectations and Key priorities

3.1 PROF. SHAUKAT ALI ABDULRAZAK

Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak was orally interviewed by the Committee on 4th April 2025 in Bunge Tower, 5th Floor, Committee Room 24, and responded to questions during vetting as follows:

3.1.1 Academic and Professional Qualifications:

37. Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak is a distinguished scholar with a wealth of academic qualifications and professional expertise. He has a post doctorate from Shimane University, Japan, **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Applied Sciences** and a **Master of Science (MSc) in Applied Sciences**, both from the **University of Aberdeen**, UK. He also holds a Post postgraduate diploma in Animal Nutrition at the University of Aberdeen, UK and a Diploma from Egerton University in Kenya. His foundational academic journey began at Allidina Visram High School in Mombasa.
38. In addition to his formal education, Prof. Shaukat has participated in numerous advanced professional training programs, both locally and internationally, that have honed his leadership, management, and research skills.

3.1.2 Professional Experience:

39. Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak has a wealth of experience spanning over three decades in academia, public service, and international leadership. Currently, he serves as the **Director for Africa at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**, headquartered in **Vienna, Austria**. In this capacity, he has been at the forefront of **promoting nuclear science and technology for sustainable development across Africa**.
40. Before his role at IAEA, Prof. Shaukat served as the Vice Chancellor of Umma University and also as a **Chief Executive Officer of the National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation (NACOSTI)** in Kenya. During his tenure at NACOSTI, he championed policy frameworks that strengthened Kenya's research and innovation landscape, advocating for robust governance structures and fostering partnerships with global research institutions. His efforts led to increased funding for scientific research and bolstered the integration of technology in public service delivery.
41. Prof. Shaukat has also served as a **Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Extension), lecturer, and researcher at Egerton University**. Here, he mentored students, spearheaded groundbreaking research initiatives, and made significant contributions to curriculum development. He has been widely sought after for his expertise and has delivered keynote addresses at numerous international conferences on **Science, Technology, and Innovation**, further solidifying his reputation as a thought leader in his field.

3.1.3 Honors and Awards:

42. Prof. Shaukat has received numerous honors and accolades, including **Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear (EBS)** for distinguished public service and leadership, **Moran of the Order of the Burning Spear**, and **Fellow of the International Service Council**.

3.1.4 Other Activities and Memberships:

43. Prof. Shaukat is an active member of several professional and academic organizations. He is a **Fellow of the Kenya National Academy of Sciences**, a **Fellow of the Kenya Institute of Management and Animal Production Society of Kenya** where he has played a vital role in promoting the dissemination of scientific knowledge and policy advocacy. Additionally, he serves on the **Advisory Committee on Nuclear Security at the International Atomic Energy Agency**, guiding global and regional strategies on nuclear safety and security.
44. His commitment to fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange is evident from his participation in various **international scientific and research boards**, where he continues to advocate for the application of technology to solve societal challenges.

3.1.5 Published Works:

45. Prof. Shaukat is a prolific author with many publications, reflecting his profound insights into the intersection of science, policy, and development. His scholarly contributions have been featured in **international journals and conference proceedings**, significantly shaping policy discourse on science and technology in Africa and beyond.

3.1.6 Income and Net Worth:

46. Totals **Kshs. 358,500,000**, comprising parcels of land in Mariakani, Kajiado, Nakuru, Lamu, and apartments in Mombasa and Nairobi, as well as a house in Njoro, SACCO Funds, Trusts, and Stocks.

3.1.5 Clearance

47. The Committee confirmed that the nominee had been cleared by KRA, ORPP, DCI, EACC and HELB, having obtained clearance certificates to that effect.

3.1.6 On Potential Conflict of Interest

48. The nominee stated that he did not have any family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation or financial arrangements that are likely to present a potential conflict of interest when he first assumes the position to which he had been nominated.

Hon. Shaukat's Questions and Responses

3.1.7 On whether the nominee's certificate from Aberdeen University was equated in Kenya,

49. The nominee indicated that Aberdeen University is a reputable institution and that in 1990 during an interview by PSC a letter was issued by the then Commission on Higher Education. The Committee however, indicated that as a matter of procedure, the certificate has to be currently equated by KNQA. The Committee also directed that the letter from the Commission of Higher Education be provided.

3.1.8 On ways of increasing research allocation from 0.8% of GDP

50. The nominee indicated that he was behind the proposed 2% under the Science, Technology, and Innovation Act. The nominee further indicated that it is only realizable by boosting government resources, having clear policies on private-public partnership, an ecosystem of intellectuals to attract resources from international organizations, and the commercialization of innovations.

3.1.8 On whether he has ever been charged in a court of law,

51. the Committee was informed that he has never been.

3.1.9. On curbing corruption in the State Department, if approved,

52. the nominee said he would ensure prudent use of resources, sticking to budget lines, accountability and having a clear monitoring tool. He also expressed that he would be guided by the Constitution and Code of Ethics and Conduct.

3.2.9 On whether he would resign from his job in Vienna,

53. the nominee indicated that if approved for the position, he would resign from his current position in the International Atomic Energy Agency since his Principal Secretary role would not allow him to engage in any other form of employment.

On legal gaps in Science, Technology and Innovation,

54. the nominee indicated there are and that there is a policy in a draft form and if appointed, he would take it up. The committee was further informed that there is also a draft research and development policy. He also expressed need for policies to bring venture capitalists in science and technology to encourage startups. There is also need to do away with silo mentality and encourage coordination between different organs to enhance synergy.

On notable research done,

55. the nominee expressed that while in NACOSTI, he funded 100 innovators where about 6 have established their own startups and also done 120 publications. He also indicated that he used *Lucina Lecosifara* which is a tree legume to supplement roughages boosting milk production from 7 to 15 litres to the benefit of farmers.

On his views about working from home,

56. the nominee informed the Committee that was a good idea although there is need for employees to be monitored.

On diversion of research funds meant for public universities to private universities,

57. the nominee indicated that it is unethical and he would work closely with the PS Higher Education to ensure monies are used for the intended purpose.

On what he would do in the first 100 days,

58. the nominee indicated he would do a lot of listening guided by the executive order yet to be developed. He would also create a framework to ensure researchers have a platform to share information. He would also come up with an ecosystem to have incubation centres in different counties and have science parks to ensure commercialization of products.

On curbing brain drain,

59. the nominee informed the Committee that there has to be an enabling environment, infrastructure, and researchers' resources. This can be attained through collaboration with research institutions that are outside the country. Brain gain can be enabled by enhancing flexibility where researchers in other countries can still help in enhancing research here in Kenya. Brain circulation on the other hand can also help whereby Kenya can capitalize on the researchers in the country.

On the nominee's view regarding Genetically Modified Organisms,

60. the nominee informed the Committee that GMO'S are appropriate but should be regulated by involving the National Biosafety Authority.

On whether he would not move from the position if approved,

61. the Committee was informed that he would diligently serve and would be guided by the constitution on not engaging in multiple gainful employments. He further explained that he proceeded to IAEA in Vienna after setting up UMMA University as he had agreed with the Council. On the other hand, the nominee indicated he left Egerton after the contract ended.

On ensuring food security,

62. the nominee indicated he would use Climate Smart Agriculture to develop variety of crops that can withstand drought and soil salinity. He would also use irradiated vaccine and nuclear technology to eradicate fruit flies

On how the nominee would ensure transparency and accountability,

63. the nominee informed the Committee that the public comes first and that he would do everything in line with Chapter 6 of the Constitution on ethics and integrity, Article 1 and Article 232.

On the role of Science and Technology in the lens of vision 2030,

64. the nominee expressed that between 2008 and 2012 he sat in the National Economic and Social Council as a member and was also among the 7 consultants who developed the indicators of Science and Technology which were used for performance contracting. Science and technology is thus key in agriculture, health, and industry.

On the role of Science and Technology in Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda,

65. the nominee indicated that science can be used in the production of milk, more food using efficient nutrients, and use of Artificial Intelligence to detect diseases. This would help in wealth creation and averting hunger.

On enhancing STEM,

66. the nominee indicated that the four state departments have to work together and it has to start from lower primary school levels. There however, have to be infrastructure, mentorship and demystification of science.

On use of AI in managing security,

67. the nominee informed the committee that drones can be used to collect and relay information especially in the newly established National Intelligence University.

On intellectual property rights,

68. the nominee indicated that there is need to guard what is produced and also create innovation academies and incubation centres in each constituency.

On what would happen if deployed to another state department,

69. the nominee indicated that he is ready to work in any ministry.

On whether the nominee has a dual citizenship,

70. the nominee informed the Committee that he only has Kenyan citizenship.

CHAPTER FOUR

4 OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

71. The observations were guided by Article 155 of the Constitution, section 47 of the Public Service Commission Act and section 7 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011) in terms of issues for consideration as follows:

- i. the procedure used to arrive at the nominees;
- ii. any constitutional or statutory requirements relating to the office in question; and
- iii. suitability of the nominees for the appointment proposed having regard to whether the nominees' abilities, experience and qualities meet the needs of the body to which the nomination is made.

72. The Committee made the following general observations on the nominees:

- i. The nominee is a Kenyan and is not citizens of any other country. They therefore meet the requirements of Article 78 of the Constitution;
- ii. The Public Service Commission submitted the Report of the Recruitment of Principal Secretaries to the National Assembly hence the Committee was able to ascertain that the interview process had been competitive and that the nominees were in the shortlist as extrapolated from Article 155(3) of the Constitution;
- iii. The nominee was cleared by KRA on tax compliance, HELB on the payment of their education loans, EACC on integrity, DCI on their criminal status and ORPP on membership to political parties; and
- iv. The Clerk of the National Assembly had invited members of the public to submit memoranda on the nominee pursuant to section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, 2011. The Committee had not received any memoranda in support or contesting the suitability of any of the nominees.

4.1 Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak

73. The Committee observed that:

- i. The nominee, during the approval hearing demonstrated that he had good understanding of the plans and policies of Science, Research and Innovation and how they fit into the Government's overall plans as required by Section 47(2) (v) of the Public Service Commission Act, 2017;
- ii. According to the information and records presented to the Committee, Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak had never been implicated in any issues that may lead to lack of integrity on his part and therefore met the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution.
- iii. Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the workings of the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation in the Ministry of Education.

CHAPTER FIVE

RECOMMENDATION

74. Having considered the suitability, capacity and integrity of the nominees, and pursuant to Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution and Section 8(2) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act (No. 33 of 2011), the Committee recommends that the National Assembly:

APPROVES the appointment of Prof. Shaukat Ali Abdulrazak to the position of Principal Secretary, State Department for Science Research and Innovation.

SIGNED.......... DATE.....15/4/2025.....

HON. JULIUS KIBIWOTT MELLY, CBS, M.P
CHAIRPERSON
DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

