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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON GARISSA TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGE

Following the request for more information regarding the predicament of students of Garissa Teachers Training College (TTC), the Senate raised the following supplementary questions:

1. State the specific measures the National Government is undertaking in terms of enhancing surveillance in learning institutions;
2. Explain the fate of students who are not willing to go back to Garissa Teachers College;
3. Explain if the Government is receiving the necessary cooperation from the political leaders in the region in addressing these concerns; and
4. State what the Ministry has done to ensure that all other learning institutions that were closed due to security concerns are reopened.

Mr. Chairman, I beg to reply to the questions raised as follows:

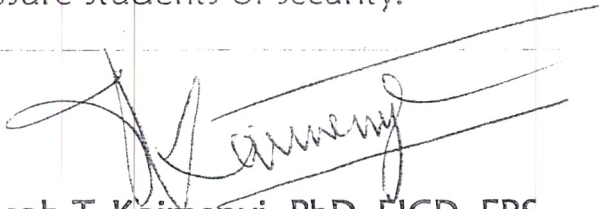
1. The National Government is working closely with the security organs in all counties to ensure that all learning institutions are provided with adequate security day and night. The County Security teams have been addressing students where threats have been reported, and assuring

them of security. The Ministry has also advised learning institutions to initiate basic security arrangements such fencing, reinforcing the gates, employing watchmen and hire security guards from private security firms and convene parents and stakeholder meetings so as devise ways of assisting the institutions address the security concerns.

2. The Ministry is compiling a list of students who are not willing to go back to Garissa TTC. Consultations will be held with stakeholders and decision made by the Ministry on the way forward. So far 16 students have registered and are categorical that they will not go back to the college. By Tuesday 26th May, 2015, there were 200 students and 10 teachers in the college and learning was going on. However, many students started leaving the college following renewed tension in the County. The situation was aggravated by leaflets circulating in the college warning of an impending terrorist attack on the institution by 27th May, 2015 that is said to be targeting non-Muslims. Those who left on 26th May, 2015 have not yet reported to the Ministry.
3. Yes, the Government has received support and cooperation from the political leaders in the region. Examples are some of the stakeholder meetings held in the different Counties in the North Eastern Region to address the security concerns which have not only affected education but also other sectors. In some of these meetings, they have come up with recommendations and resolutions on how to address the problems affecting education as a result of the security threats in the region.
4. Further to my response to question 1 and 3 above, the Ministry will continue liaising with the National Government, County Commissioners and the security organs in the Counties to ensure security in all learning institutions. The Ministry has also issued a circular Ref MOE.CONF/G9/53 dated 8th April, 2015 to all Principals and Head Teachers to make adequate security arrangements in their schools. They should have the contacts of the County Commissioners and the County Security Commanders within their respective Counties to be able to reach them any time there is need for consultation or reporting cases of security scare. At the same time, County and Sub-County Directors of Education have been instructed to cooperate with

security organs so that schools in areas where security has improved can arrange to open and resume learning.

This calls for concerted efforts of leaders, parents, administration and other stakeholders in the affected areas to work closely by holding regular consultations and organizing public forums to sensitize and assure students of security.



Prof. Jacob T. Kaimenyi, PhD, FICD, EBS
CABINET SECRETARY

Date.....

19/6/2015



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

STATEMENT ON THE PREDICAMENT OF STUDENTS OF GARISSA TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE (TTC)

Pursuant to Senate Standing Order 45 (b), Senator Christopher Obure requested for a statement from the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Education, Information and Technology regarding the predicament of the students of Garissa Teacher Training College.

The Senator wanted the Chairperson to:

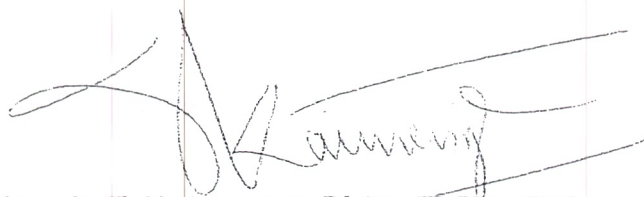
1. Explain whether the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, is aware that many of students of Garissa Teacher Training College which is adjacent to the Garissa University College that remains closed, have not reported to college for the second term this year fearing for their lives;
2. State whether the Cabinet Secretary has considered other options in the meantime such as transferring those students to other Training institutions to enable continue their studies;
3. Explain if the students, their parents and guardians can be assured that this temporary setback will not in any way affect the studies and the future of these students; and
4. State the appropriate measures the National Government will take to ensure adequate security in all institutions in the country.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to respond to the questions as follows:

1. The Ministry is aware that many students of Garissa Teachers College have not yet reported back to college this term for fear of their lives after what happened at Garissa University College on 2nd April 2015. Out of the 610 students enrolled in the college, only 44 students from the local community have reported back to college.
2. The Ministry has decided that the students should not be transferred to other Teachers Training Colleges because that would mean closing the college. The college is the only one of its kind in the whole of the North Eastern region and closing it would affect education in the region. It would also be an indication to the terrorists that the government has failed on security matters, which is not the case.
3. The Board of Management and the County Security team will assure the students, their parents and guardians of security. Already, the following has been done:
 - 10 armed security officers have been deployed to the college and have been guarding and surveilling day and night.
 - The County Government has provided 3 armed Kenya Police Reservists to supplement security.
 - All the college staff are undergoing security vetting.
 - The County Government has promised to set up a police post in the college.
 - The College's barbed wire fence has been reinforced and the Principal is in the process of working on modalities of putting up a perimeter wall around the college in order to further improve the security of the institution.
 - The outer and inner gates of the TTC are now well manned by security officers and movement in and out of the college is closely monitored.

- All college staff have been given identification badges.
- The Principal is in constant communication with the County security intelligence team and has been attending security meetings.
- The County security team has already visited the TTC and inspected the facilities.

4. The National Government, in liaison with the County security teams in all counties will ensure that all learning institutions are provided with adequate security day and night.



Prof. Jacob T. Kaimenyi, PhD, FICD, EBS
CABINET SECRETARY

Date.....

14/3/2015



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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REF: MOE.CONF/G9/53

DATE: 8th April, 2015

All Principals of National Schools
All Principals of Extra County Schools
All Principals of County & Sub-County Secondary Schools
All Principals of Tertiary Institutions
All Head Teachers of Primary Schools
All Principals of Special Schools

REPORT ON SECURING OF SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS

Greetings. As you are aware, there is need for us as a Nation to ensure that there is adequate security in all our institutions given the occasional terror threats to the said institutions. In the circumstances, I kindly request you to let me know within seven(7) days from the date of this letter the arrangements that you have put in place to secure your institution. At any given time, it is important that you are able to reach those charged with security matters in your county. For this reason, go out of your way to get telephone numbers of your County Commissioner, County Commander and Deputy County Commander with immediate effect, in case you do not have their telephone numbers already.

PROF. JACOB T. KAIMENYI, PhD, FICD, EBS
CABINET SECRETARY

CC: Mr. Joseph Kinyua, Chief of Staff & Head of Public Service
PS State Department of Education
PS State Department of Science & Technology
County Directors of Education