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THE SENATE

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT

THIRD SESSION, 2024

Rt. Hon. Speaker
You may approve for tabling
J. M. Nyegenye, C.B.S.,
Clerk of the senate/ secretary, PSC
Date: 19/03/24

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAND, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE REPORT

ON

THE METEOROLOGY BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 45 OF 2023)

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA LIBRARY

(Red Signature)
19/03/24
APPROVED
RT. HON. SEN
AMASON J. KINGI
MARCH, 2024

Clerk's Chambers,
First Floor,
Parliament Buildings,
NAIROBI.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AMCOMET	-African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology
KMD	-Kenya Meteorological Department
KMSA	- Kenya Meteorological Service Authority
WMO	-World Meteorological Organization

LIST OF ANNEXURES

1. Minutes
2. Copy of the newspaper advertisement for public participation
3. Stakeholder submissions

PREFACE

Establishment of the Committee

The Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources is established under standing order 228(3) of the Senate Standing Orders. The mandate and the functions of the Committee are set out under the Fourth Schedule of the Senate Standing Orders which mandates the Committee to consider all matters relating to lands and settlement, environment, forestry, wildlife, mining, water resource management and development.

Membership of the Committee

The Committee is comprised of the following members -

1. Sen. John Muhia Methu, MP - **Chairperson**
2. Sen. (Dr.) Steve Lelegwe Ltumbesi, MP - **Vice - Chairperson**
3. Sen. William Cheptumo Kipkiror, CBS, MP
4. Sen. Johnes Mwashushe Mwaruma, MP
5. Sen. Issa Juma Boy, MP
6. Sen. Agnes Kavindu Muthama, MP
7. Sen. Wamatinga Wahome, MP
8. Sen. Mariam Sheikh Omar, MP
9. Sen. Beatrice Akinyi Ogola, MP

Mr. Speaker,

The Meteorology Bill, 2023, aims to establish a comprehensive framework for regulating, coordinating, monitoring, managing, and controlling meteorological services in Kenya. It seeks to align the meteorological services with international standards and enhance the contribution of these services to various sectors such as aviation, agriculture, and environmental management.

The Bill is designed amidst the growing need for accurate meteorological information across various sectors, requiring an efficient institutional framework. It seeks to regulate meteorological services, currently managed by the unlegislated Kenya Meteorological

Department, to enhance efficiency, accountability, and standardization. Kenya is a party to international conventions like the Chicago Convention of 1944 and the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) of 2015. These conventions set standards and practices for meteorological services, particularly in aviation safety and climate monitoring. The Bill seeks to align Kenya's meteorological services with these international standards, ensuring compliance with global best practices. This includes obligations for accurate weather forecasting, climate monitoring, and timely provision of meteorological information, crucial for sectors like aviation, agriculture, and disaster management.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Bill was published on 22nd September, 2023, and read a First Time in the Senate on 14th November, 2023. Following the First Reading in the Senate, the Bill stood committed, pursuant to standing order 145(1) of the Senate Standing Orders, to the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources for facilitation of public participation.

Subsequently, the Committee, pursuant to Article 118(1) (b) of the Constitution and standing order 145(5) of the Senate Standing Orders, invited submissions from members of the public on the Bill via an advertisement in the Standard and the Daily Nation Newspapers on 22nd November, 2023.

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report contains proceedings of the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources on its consideration of the Meteorology Bill 2023 (Senate Bill No. 45 of 2023) which was published on 22nd September, 2023. The Bill went through the First Reading on 14th November, 2023 and was thereafter committed to the Land, Environment and Natural Resources Committee for consideration and reporting to the House pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 127.

The application of the Bill once enacted shall apply to weather observers, meteorological service providers, private weather service providers, the Meteorology Training and Research Directorate, any meteorological training institution, and any entity using meteorological information for commercial purposes.

The objective of this Bill is to create a robust framework for the management, control, coordination, monitoring, and regulation of meteorological services. It aims to improve the meteorological services' contribution to a variety of industries, including aviation, agriculture, and environmental management, and to harmonize them with worldwide standards. The Bill has fifty-one (51) clauses.

According to the Bill the Kenya Meteorological Service Authority shall be required to provide weather forecasts and information to the public for individual, household or group planning, the management and custody of the national climatological data bank for research and for posterity.

The main purpose of providing meteorological services is to facilitate actors in socio-economic sectors to make informed decisions, enhance efficiency and reduce risks in their operations and draw benefits associated with accurate and timely provision of weather and climate information and services.

Following placement of advertisements in the print media on 22nd November, 2023 seeking public and stakeholder views on the Bill pursuant to Article 118(c) (b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 145(5) of the Senate Standing Orders, the Committee received two memoranda from the general public and held a meeting to review the submissions with the Ministry of Environment Climate Change & Forestry on 23rd February, 2024.

The Committee wishes to thank the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Senate as well as the Secretariat for the support extended to it in the conduct of the public hearings and in fulfilling its mandate.

Further, the Committee wishes to thank members of the public and stakeholders who sent written submissions including the general public.

Mr. Speaker,

It is now my pleasant duty, pursuant to standing order 148 of the Senate Standing Orders, to present the Report of the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources on the Meteorology Bill 2023 (Senate Bill No. 45 of 2023).

Signed: _____



Date: 14th March, 2024

SEN. JOHN MUHIA METHU, MP

CHAIRPERSON

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAND, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES**