

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 7th June, 2005

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table:-

ESTIMATES FOR 2005/2006 FINANCIAL YEAR

The 2005/2006 Estimates of Development Expenditure of the Government of Kenya for the year ending 30th June, 2006.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure of the Government of Kenya for the year ending 30th June, 2006.

(By the Minister for Finance)

The Economic Survey - 2005

*(By the Minister for Finance on
behalf of the Minister for
Planning and National Development)*

The 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) Budget for the Kenya National Assembly.

*(By the Vice-President and Minister for
Home Affairs on behalf of the Chairman, Parliamentary Service Commission)*

*(Several LDP Members sat on
the Government side)*

Mr. Mwenje: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. May I urge the Chair to

welcome hon. Members of the LDP back to the Government side. It is good that you welcome them back to this side!

(Laughter)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, the Chair wishes to welcome all hon. Members to this House after a short recess.

Next Order!

QUESTIONS BY PRIVATE NOTICE

VCT CENTRES FOR TIGANIA EAST CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Health the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that Tigania East and Central divisions of Tigania East Constituency have no VCT centres?

(b) Is she further aware that many people in this area are dying of HIV/AIDS related illnesses oblivious of their status and unable to take advantage of early detection to benefit from anti-retroviral drugs?

(c) What urgent measures is the Minister going to take to ensure that VCT centres are opened at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries within the next three months to arrest this deteriorating situation?

The Minister for Health (Mrs. Ngilu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that Tigania East and Central divisions of Tigania East Constituency have no VCT centres. I am also aware that Mutiunjuri Dispensary in the neighbouring Tigania West Constituency and Kengele Health Centre in the neighbouring Igembe Constituency offer VCT services which are accessible to the people of Tigania East. However, the strategic plan of the Ministry is to ensure that we have VCT centres five kilometres from each other. Therefore, we will set up VCT centres in Tigania East in the course of this year.

(b) The prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS in the district is 9.6 per cent. This is still very high compared to other areas in the country and a lot of work is being done to bring it down.

(c) The Ministry plans to open VCT centres at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries because of the high population and the constituency being at the furthest end of the district. The VCT centres will be opened after training of VCT counsellors. At the moment, the Ministry has already opened 500 VCT sites countrywide. The Ministry has also opened 560 PMCT centres and 194 comprehensive care centres for giving treatment, support and care to the patients who suffer from HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of the answers that the Minister has given to my Question are irrelevant. I have not asked about the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Meru North District. However, I have talked about specific divisions in my constituency where HIV/AIDS patients cannot access VCT centres. The Ministry has spent a lot of money on seminars and emoluments and yet people are dying of HIV/AIDS related diseases in the villages. Could the Minister be specific and tell us when she will open a VCT centre at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries? Part "c" of my Question requires specific answers, which the Minister has not given.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Munya, you have asked your question. Let the Minister answer it now!

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, part "c" of the Question by the hon. Member says:- "What urgent measures will the Minister take to ensure that VCT centres are opened at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries within the next three months to arrest this deteriorating situation?"

I have said that the Ministry plans to open VCT centres at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries which are in Tigania East Constituency.

Hon. Members: When?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! May I remind you that we have rules which must be followed in this House. Let us be orderly and avoid unnecessary excitement.

Dr. Galgalo: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The VCT services need to be provided literally in every health facility. The Ministry of Health should train the nurses in dispensaries and health centres and offer this as a common service. Why can the Ministry not consider that approach rather than treat VCT centres as special centres?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have combined our dispensary and health centres facilities to offer VCT services. As I have said, we have already opened 500 VCT centres and 560 PMCT centres in the country. We will increase these centres as we train more health workers, which we are doing now. Meanwhile, we have opened 194 comprehensive care centres which treat, support and care for the patients who suffer from HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Mwanzia: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. If I heard the Minister correctly, she said in part (a) of her answer that the Ministry will open VCT centres five kilometres from each other. I do not think that is realistic. Could she tell us whether that is practical or not?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that this is our plan. If hon. Members will remember, a year ago, we did not have as many as 500 VCT centres which we have today. This may not be realised in the next one year, but it is in our strategic plan.

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister's priorities seem to be upside down. A big budget has been set aside to fight HIV/AIDS but the disease is still ravaging people in the villages because the basic infrastructure required to fight it is not there and yet the Minister is prefabricating and avoiding to answer the question. Could the Minister give us a specific timeframe when she will open a VCT centre at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries? The Chair can give her more time if she cannot answer this question.

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the hon. Member repeat his question so that I can answer it?

Mr. Munya: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when will the Minister open VCT centres at Kunati and Mikinduri dispensaries?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will put that in the strategic plan so that we can open VCT centres at Mikinduri and Kunati dispensaries in the next three months.

RELEASE OF LOAN BALANCE TO MUSOCO

Prof. Olweny: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask the Minister for Agriculture the following Question by Private Notice.

(a) Is the Minister aware that the Kenya Sugar Board and the Ministry of Agriculture last year approved sugar development loan for Muhoroni Sugar-cane Outgrowers Company (MUSOCO) to the tune of Kshs100 million and that Kshs67.5 million of this has been released for land preparation and planting of cane?

(b) Is he further aware that the Treasury has refused to release the balance of Kshs32.5 million to be used by farmers to weed the sugar-cane fields which are currently being smothered by heavy weed infestation?

(c) What efforts is the Minister making to ensure that the loan balance of Kshs32.5 million is released immediately to MUSOCO so that the farmers can embark on weeding their sugar-cane fields?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Kaindi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after

consultation, I do not think the answer I have is sufficient to address the concerns of the hon. Members. We need to consult the Treasury. Therefore, I request the Chair to defer this Question until next week.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Prof. Olweny, is that okay with you?

Prof. Olweny: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I hope the Question will be on the Order Paper next week.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Obviously, this Question should be answered urgently since it is by Private Notice. Mr. Assistant Minister, why should you request that it be deferred until next week and not Thursday this week?

The Assistant Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Kaindi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is some information which we require from the Kenya Sugar Board (KSB), which the Treasury concurs with. I discussed this matter with the Minister for Finance who told me that he has an updated position.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Very well! I defer this Question to Tuesday, next week!

(Question deferred)

Next Question by Mr. Omingo!

MEASURES TO SAVE OGEMBO
TEA FACTORY FROM COLLAPSE

(Mr. Omingo) to ask the Minister for Agriculture:-

(a) Is the Minister aware that Ogembo Tea Factory faces imminent closure due to mismanagement?

(b) What is the Minister doing to arrest this problem that will affect over 30,000 tea growers?

(c) When will the factory conduct elections to put in place directors to address farmers' problems?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Omingo is not here! His Question is dropped!

(Question dropped)

DELAY IN PAYMENT OF COMMERCIAL
FARM WORKERS' SALARIES

Mr. Wamwere: Bw. Spika, naomba kumuuliza Waziri wa Leba Swali Maalum lifuatalo.

(a) Je, Waziri anakubali kuwa ni kinyume cha sheria kwa wenye mashamba makubwa Subukia na nchini kuchelewesha malipo ya mishahara ya wafanyakazi wao?

(b) Je, makampuni yanapochelewa kulipa mishahara, Waziri anaweza kufanya mipango ya dharura na kushurutisha makampuni kuwatengea ardhi wafanyakazi hao kwa minajili ya kukuza vyakula ili wasitatizwe na njaa?

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Khalif): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I agree with the hon. Member that delay or non-payment of wages is a criminal offence under labour laws. The Employment Act (Cap 226) Laws of Kenya, Section 4 provides that any employer who fails to tender wages when due is committing a criminal offence. However, I am not aware that owners of large commercial farms in Subukia and any other part of the country delay in paying their workers wages or salaries.

(b) Payment of wages or salaries is protected by our country's labour laws. Any employer who

delays or fails to pay wages when due, is committing an offence and my Ministry will not condone such employers. In this respect, if the hon. Member knows such employers, I should be informed immediately and appropriate legal action will be instituted. I would like to inform the hon. Member and this august House that our labour laws and the International Labour Standards do not allow workers' wages or salaries to be paid in kind. If this is allowed, we will be exposing them to bondage and fiefdom. The Employment Act Cap.226, Section 4, provides that the entire amount of the wages earned by, or payable to an employee in respect of work done in pursuance of a contract of service, shall be paid to him or her directly in the currency of Kenya.

Mr. Wamwere: Bw. Naibu Spika, Swali langu halipendekezi kuwa wafanyakazi wanaochelewa kulipwa mishahara yao waruhusiwe kulima badala ya kulipwa mishahara yao. Swali langu linauliza kama wakati wafanyakazi hawa wanasuburi kulipwa mishahara yao wataruhusiwa au kupewa mashamba ya kulima. Ni maoni yangu kwamba Waziri Msaidizi hakulielewa Swali langu vilivyo. Ikiwa wafanyakazi hao hawatalipwa mishahara yao mara moja, je, Waziri Msaidizi anaweza kuwasiliana na Ofisi ya Rais ili kuhakikisha kwamba wafanyakazi hao wanapata chakula cha msaada?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I cannot compel employers to give their employees part of their land as a cushion to delayed payment of wages. The Employment Act, Cap.226, provides that any amount of work done in relation to a contract of service must be paid for through legal tender, that is, the currency of Kenya. So, the issue of giving out land to employees who have not been paid by their employers is totally irrelevant to me.

Mr. Mwandawiro: Bw. Naibu Spika, wakati huu ninapozungumza, wafanyakazi wa Serikali wamegoma na wananyanyaswa. Ikiwa Serikali inatilia maanani masilahi ya wafanyakazi, kwa nini basi isitatue matatizo yao?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we, as a Government, are doing something about that. I am very much impressed by the concerns raised by the hon. Member. However, I think that is not within what we are discussing at the moment.

Dr. Galgalo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister says that it is a criminal offence under our laws for employers to delay paying workers their salaries or wages. In northern Kenya, especially Moyale and Wajir districts, civil servants receive their salaries as late as 15th or even 20th of the following month. Why does the Government delay in paying its workers salaries in those parts of the country if it knows that it is unlawful?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of what the hon. Member is alleging. But if what he says is true, then let him officially lodge a complaint with the Ministry of Labour.

Mr. Wamwere: Bw. Naibu Spika, nilipouliza swali la kwanza la ziada nadhani Waziri Msaidizi hakulielewa. Sijui kama wakati huu atalielewa vizuri. Je, inawezekana Serikali kuwapa chakula cha msaada wafanyakazi hao ili wasife njaa wakati wanaposubiri kulipwa mishahara yao? Je, Waziri Msadizi anaweza kuliahidi Bunge hili ya kwamba nikimpa majina ya waajiri ambao wamekosa kuwalipa wafanyakazi wao mishahara kwa muda wa miaka mitano au kumi, atawashtaki kwa makosa ya jinai mara moja?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as for the issue of relief food, I will liaise with the relevant Minister concerned. At least, we will do something about it.

(Laughter)

Mr. Wamwere: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Assistant Minister did not answer my last question. I asked him whether he could make an undertaking to the House that, if I give him a list of employers who have failed to pay their workers salaries---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Wamwere! The Assistant Minister said that he will refer the matter to the relevant Ministry. We should now move on to Ordinary Questions.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS*Question No.300*APPROVAL OF ID APPLICATIONS
IN IJARA CONSTITUENCY

Mr. M.Y. Haji asked the Minister of State, Office of the President:-

- (a) whether he is aware that all applications for Identity Cards (IDs) in Ijara Constituency are sent to Nairobi for approval after going through the vetting committee at the local level;
- (b) whether he could inform the House the rationale for this procedure; and,
- (c) whether he could also indicate which individual or committee is undertaking that responsibility in Nairobi.

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Kingi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to beg for the indulgence of the House to allow me to bring an answer to this Question, preferably on Wednesday, next week. This is because, as you all know, I have just been appointed to office. Therefore, I need a bit of time to acclimatise and be able to bring a comprehensive answer to the House.

*(Several hon. Members stood
up in their places)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! It is only the hon. Member who asked the Question who should have the opportunity to respond to what the Assistant Minister has said.

Proceed, Mr. Y. Haji!

Mr. M.Y. Haji: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Assistant Minister for his appointment. But, at the same time, I wonder whether he is the right Assistant Minister to answer because this Question falls under the Ministry of Immigration and Registration of Persons and not the Office of the President.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Never mind! The Question was directed to the Ministry and the Assistant Minister has sought the indulgence of the House for it to be deferred. That, to me, is the issue. Of course, the Chair must note that this is really a very bad start for a new Assistant Minister. But as circumstances dictate, I think we have to oblige to the Assistant Minister's request. I, therefore, defer the Question until Tuesday, next week, to give him sufficient time to familiarize himself with the office.

(Question deferred)

Next Question by the Member of Parliament for Masinga Constituency!

Question No.382

FUNDING FOR MASINGA PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Mbai asked the Minister for Education, Science and Technology:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Miangeni, Wendano, Ulutya and Muambani Primary Schools in Masinga Constituency have not been receiving Government funds to

support the free primary education programme since July, 2003; and,
(b) what urgent measures he is taking to make sure that those schools receive their funds as soon as possible.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Mrs. Mugo): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am aware that the three schools; Wendano, Ulutya and Miangeni in Masinga Constituency have not received some amount of free primary education funds since January 2003.

(b) The affected three schools did not have their accounts credited because they had submitted wrong account numbers to the Ministry. However, the Ministry has received their correct account numbers and a payment totalling to Kshs1,744,011 has already been made payable to the accounts since the inception of free primary education in January 2003 to April 2005. The remaining balance of Kshs369,440 is being processed and will be immediately disbursed to them as follows: Wendano, Kshs104,770; Ulutya, Kshs134,185; and, Miangeni, Kshs130,485.

Mr. Mbai: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the Assistant Minister for that answer, although I got a different written reply. Could she tell the House why the Ministry has taken that long to advise those schools to correct the accounts?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, we did not take too long to advise those schools. There were many schools which had given wrong accounts. That is the first time that the Ministry had paid money directly to school accounts. As you may be aware, there are over 18,000 primary schools in the country. So, as soon as that was rectified, we informed all the schools that did not have the right accounts. As soon as we got the right account numbers, we put in the money. So, that problem will never happen again.

Prof. Oniang'o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is shocking that two years down the line, some primary schools have not received money from the Ministry. Could the Assistant Minister tell us how many schools are involved and what accounting measures have been taken at the district level to make sure we know what is going on?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have said, the money has been paid. It has not taken two years to pay the money. The only balance is the current payment which we have been disbursing and many schools have already received their money. That is the last instalment. We have streamlined the system.

Dr. Kibunguchy: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the Assistant Minister's answer, it appears that she paid some money in retrospect. The money for free primary education is for consumables. How can she rationalise the two?

Mrs Mugo: Could the hon. Member repeat the question, please? I did not get it!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Dr. Kibunguchy, could you repeat the question?

Dr. Kibunguchy: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has said that she paid money for the last two years. That money was paid in retrospect. But the money meant for free primary education is for consumables like books, pieces of chalk and everything. How can you rationalise the two?

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if we did not have the right account numbers, there is no way the Ministry could have paid money to non-existent accounts. When we got the right account numbers, the money was paid. However, the schools which did not receive their money because of one problem or another were paid as soon as the problem was rectified.

Mr. Mbai: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Assistant Minister be specific on when she released that money because those schools have suffered? That is because they have to pay their workers.

Mrs. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will ensure that the money is paid as soon possible. It is being processed.

*Question No.350*LAUNDRY MACHINE FOR
LOITOKITOK DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Mr. ole Metito asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) whether she is aware that Loitokitok District Hospital has not had a laundry machine for over two years now; and,
- (b) when the machine will be provided.

The Minister for Health (Mrs. Ngilu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes, I am aware that the laundry machine broke down in the year 2004. After an assessment by the Ministry of Roads and Public Works, it was found to be obsolete and required Kshs1.2 million to rehabilitate it.

(b) A manual cleaning of linen is currently being done and priority will be given to procuring a new machine during the 2005/2006 Financial Year.

Mr. ole Metito: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to thank the Minister for that assurance. I would like her to note that, that is a district hospital with a bed capacity of 200 patients. The manual cleaning of 200 pieces of linen is a health risk. Why has it taken the Government that long? That machine did not break down in the year 2004. It broke down in the year 2001. Why has it taken the Government that long to replace that machine?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is right and I have noted that problem. It is, indeed, very unhygienic to wash dirty linen by hands and because of that reason, we are going to put money aside to buy that equipment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in fact, the hon. Member is also aware that the hospital did not have any water. We are going to provide water to that hospital.

Mr. Poghiso: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Minister thinks that, that is the only hospital that has broken down laundry machines, then she needs to think again! Kapenguria District Hospital is one of the many hospitals that do not have laundry machines. What plans does she have for such hospitals to have those machines and solve that problem once and for all?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many of the machines that have broken down will either be repaired or replaced in the next financial year.

Dr. Khalwale: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, by Kenyan standards, a district hospital which has a bed capacity of 200 beds usually holds about 400 patients. Could the Minister give us the staff establishment that she is using to do manual cleaning of the dirty linen?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Member has said is true. Sometimes, those hospitals have not even 400 patients, but 600. Sometimes, we use casual workers when they are that number. We employ them as they come.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Last question, Mr. ole Metito!

Mr. ole Metito: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just want an assurance from the Minister that, in the coming financial year, that hospital will be provided with a laundry machine.

Mrs. Ngilu: I have said yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I thought the Minister said that.

Next Question by the hon. Member for Kangundo, Mr. M. Maitha.

Question No.374

COMPLETION OF KANGUNDO

NYAYO WARDS

Mr. M. Maitha asked the Minister for Health:-

- (a) when the Kangundo Nyayo Wards will be completed and officially opened; and,
- (b) how much money the Government has allocated in the Budget to complete the wards.

The Minister for Health (Mrs. Ngilu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Kangundo Ngei Wards will be completed on or before 30th June, 2005. That is due to additional external works---

Dr. Galgalo: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I think the Minister is answering a different Question. The Question is about Nyayo Wards and I heard her say "Kangundo Ngei Wards." Could she answer the right Question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes, Madam Minister! The Question is about "Nyayo Wards."

The Minister for Health (Mrs. Ngilu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I answered it that way because I know the hon. Member may have made a mistake. When I recently visited the hospital, the people said that this is what they wanted those wards to be called. So, I am calling it by what the people said.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Kangundo Ngei Wards will be completed on/or before 30th June, 2005. This is due to additional external works, especially pavements, walkways, access roads, parking yard, storm water drainage and other electrical works. The project is 98 per cent complete.

(b) The Ministry has set aside Kshs2.105 million this financial year to complete the Kangundo Ngei Wards and the works are going on.

Mr. M. Maitha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not make a mistake when I referred to the wards as "Nyayo Wards". In fact, I was going to say it in supplementary question because the previous Government took too long to complete the hospital. Since she has now confirmed that they will be called Ngei Wards, could she provide an ambulance because she promised the people of Kangundo that she would do so?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is true that it has taken long, but we are just about to get the ambulances and I am sure that this is one of the hospitals that will be given some form of vehicle.

Mr. M.Y. Haji: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister has just promised to give the so-called Ngei Wards an ambulance. She promised last year to give an ambulance to Ijara Hospital which she has not done. Could she now confirm that she is going to give both hospitals ambulances?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are so much used to ambulances in this country. However, I have travelled around the world to see what other countries use. For instance, in India, they use *Tuk Tuks*. Sometimes, we have to spend a little less so that we can have more in our dispensaries. That is the plan that I have.

Archbishop Ondiek: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when will the Minister supply an ambulance to Ukwala Health Centre which she promised in this House?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, that is a different Question, but if the Minister wishes to answer, she may do so.

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stated that I will sit with the Departmental Committee on Health, Housing, Labour and Social Welfare and we will agree on the form of vehicles that we should have.

Mr. M. Maitha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister said she would give the Kangundo Ngei Wards some "form of vehicle", not an ambulance. Could she clarify what form of vehicle it

would be? Could she also send nurses to that hospital because we have a shortage?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, we shall be sending a vehicle. The vehicle that I know people call ambulance is the one that has health facilities inside it. But I know that we can provide some vehicle that can take the sick to the hospital, like we do in our private cars.

Dr. Khalwale: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. In view of the rot that we witness in our hospitals in this country, is the Minister in order to suggest that there are no standards whatsoever in transporting patients by suggesting that we take patients using *Tuk Tuks*?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair did not hear the Minister talk about standards. But would you like to reply, Madam Minister?

Mrs. Ngilu: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know we have standards. But bearing in mind that our roads are not as good as they should be to transport people, we even want to introduce four-wheel-drive vehicles that can take people from their homes to the nearest health facilities. That is what I mean.

Question No.124

LIVESTOCK CESS COLLECTION
IN 2003/2004

Mr. Wario asked the Minister for Local Government:-

(a) whether he could inform the House how much money was collected as livestock cess in the year

2003/2004 in the country; and,

(b) how much of the cess collected is ploughed back to pastoral areas.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government (Mr. Kamanda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The Government collected Kshs83,196,000.54 as livestock cess in the year 2003/2004 in the country.

(b) All the money has gone back to the pastoral areas.

Mr. Wario: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have heard the Assistant Minister say all the money collected was ploughed back to pastoral areas. Which specific projects per district were implemented using these funds?

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I may answer specifically on the council that touches on the hon. Member's area, which is Tana River District, the whole of that year, the council collected Kshs3 million. That council depends purely on livestock cess, even for the running costs. Without livestock cess, that council would not be there.

Mr. ole Metito: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has not given a specific project, even in Tana River District that was done using livestock cess money. Could he tell the House that projects like cattle dips and others have been implemented in pastoral areas as a way of ploughing back this money?

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that is precisely what the councils have done. They have purchased drugs for vaccination, acaricides and improvement of auction yards.

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister's response to this Question is actually vague because it does not exactly mention the specific projects and the amount of money that has been supplied to a particular project. What specific policies does the Ministry have in place for local authorities to determine exactly the percentages within which they can allocate amounts for specific projects with regard to livestock cess and other revenues generated from all districts? All the monies we have, including Local Authorities Transfer Fund (LATF), are actually used to repay

debts.

Mr. Kamanda: I would like tell the hon. Member about the type of monies collected by the county councils. But before that, I would like him to tell me exactly about his local county council and I will tell him about the money we collected as cess from livestock. This money is not enough to undertake any project. If you talk of a council collecting about Kshs270,000 per year, you will see it is not enough to undertake any project. The money is only enough for the running costs of the council.

Mr. Abdirahman: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Abdirahman! You stood there and asked a question as the Assistant Minister listened. Now, when he is replying you do not want to give him an opportunity to reply. Last question, Mr. Wario.

Mr. Wario: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the House will agree with me that this Question has not been answered adequately. I have asked the Question about the country but the Assistant Minister is targeting Tana River District. However, I beg to tell the Assistant Minister that the pastoralists are being over-taxed by councils, because they pay for the transport of animals, export and service charge. They pay about Kshs400 per animal. Could the Assistant Minister consider reviewing this taxation?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Generally, Mr. Assistant Minister, the hon. Member is right. The Question asks about livestock cess in the country and how much is ploughed back. He is not talking about Tana River District but the whole country. So, that is the point.

Mr. Kamanda: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you heard me correctly, I answered about the whole country. I said that we collected Kshs83 million as livestock cess, and I gave, as an example, Tana River District, where we collected Kshs3 million for the whole year. So, I have covered the whole country. I want to assure the hon. Member that the fee is determined by the councils. We are going to work closely with our councils, and I will ask them if they can go by the suggestion by the hon. Member and reduce taxes. He can also appeal to councillors and the local authorities to review the taxes. Local authorities operate in areas represented by hon. Members. Hon. Members are free to talk to them on anything on behalf of their constituents.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Question, Mr. Ndambuki.

Question No.054

RELOCATION OF COMPANIES FROM KENYA

Mr. Ndambuki asked the Minister for Trade and Industry:-

- (a) whether he could inform the House how many companies have relocated from the country in the last one year;
- (b) whether he could further explain the reasons that have led to these relocations; and,
- (c) what he is doing to stop further relocation of the remaining companies.

The Assistant Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Miriti): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Six companies have relocated from the country in the last one year.

(b) The reasons for their relocation include, adverse effects from workers' strikes in the year 2003, signing of the East African Customs Union under which some of the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) companies in the region were allowed to export 20 percent of their products to Kenya, high costs of production and insufficient supply of raw materials locally, complicated Customs procedures and the effects of amendments to the EPZ Act and Customs and Excise Act in the Finance Bill, 2004 and the coming into force of the Multifibre Agreement ending quotas in the international textile trade, with consequent erosion of our preference under the Africa and Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA).

(c) The Ministry of Trade and Industry, in collaboration with the Kenya Association of

Manufacturers and other key stakeholders, has formed a national consultative committee to address all the issues that have adversely affected the manufacturing companies. It is hoped that the committee's findings and recommendations will provide a lasting solution to curb further relocation of companies.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members on my right! Please, consult quietly!

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have heard the Assistant Minister say that six companies have left the country in the last one year. That means that many Kenyans were left without jobs. Could the Assistant Minister tell us the names of these six companies that have relocated, and which countries they went to?

Mr. Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On what? Is it on what Mr. Ndambuki has said?

Mr. Ethuro: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to seek your guidance. This is Question No.054, which means that it is one of the Questions that were filed in 2003. So, when the Assistant Minister refers to "in the last one year", which "last one year" is he referring to?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the six companies include M/s Thriser EPZ Ltd., which relocated to Uganda; Nisa Africa EPZ Ltd., which went to South Africa; Sunflower Spinning Mills which relocated to Tanzania; Indigo Garments EPZ Ltd., which relocated to India; Nzaya EPZ Ltd., which relocated to Sri Lanka, and Nhua Garment EPZ Ltd., which relocated to China. There is a seventh company, namely, M/s Resiun Apparel Ltd., which has relocated to Uganda.

Mr. Ndambuki: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Assistant Minister has not told us how many Kenyans lost their jobs. He has told us that one of the reasons why the companies left is because of the signing of the Customs Union.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, how come these companies are relocating to some of our partner countries, with which we have signed this agreement?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we lost about 6,000 jobs. However, the first company, Thriser EPZ Ltd., left for Uganda because it had completed its ten-year term in Kenya and it had turned local. Otherwise, it went to enjoy the EPZ facility in Uganda.

Question No.381

LICENSING OF BARS/NIGHTCLUBS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Eng. Nyamunga asked the Minister for Trade and Industry:-

(a) whether he is aware that many bars and nightclubs have been licensed to operate in residential areas, especially in urban centres, thereby disturbing the peace and quietness in the affected estates; and,

(b) if the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, when the Ministry will create legally enforceable standards to protect the people whose basic right to sleep is being violated by the above businesses.

The Assistant Minister for Trade and Industry (Mr. Miriti): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) I am not aware that many bars and nightclubs have been licensed to operate in residential areas.

However, I am aware that many premises in residential areas, particularly in urban areas, are operating as bars and nightclubs and by so doing, violating the right to peace, quiet atmosphere and

sleep of other people in the affected estates.

(b) The Ministry of Trade and Industry, in liaison with all the relevant authorities, is currently finalising a trade policy to provide the legal framework for the implementation of all trade related activities, including enforceable standards to regulate operations of bars and nightclubs.

Eng. Nyamunga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is the Assistant Minister telling the House that, in fact, it is possible to run a bar or a nightclub without a licence and authority from the Provincial Administration?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is always possible to operate illegally, and once identified, the violators of the law are arrested.

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very surprised to learn that the Assistant Minister is not aware that there are bars and nightclubs that operate in residential areas. He only has to go to Milimani area and he will find many bars that operate into the late hours of the night when children are supposed to be doing their homework. These bars have become a nuisance. I am told that he actually owns one of the bars.

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like the hon. Member to substantiate the allegation that I own one of the bars.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I want to overrule Mr. Muiruri on the statement that the Assistant Minister owns one of the bars. Mr. Muiruri, can you substantiate that?

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am told that he owns the Katikati Bar.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! You are making a very serious allegation against the Assistant Minister. You are actually implying an improper motive on the Assistant Minister. That is hearsay. Could you now apologise and withdraw?

Mr. Muiruri: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that I am told and whoever told me must have been wrong. However, I withdraw the remarks.

Could the Assistant Minister answer my question and confirm that in Milimani area there are so many bars and nightclubs which operate into the late hours of the night? They disturb our children when they are doing their homework.

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has withdrawn the remark. However, I want to request that he also apologises because of the very serious allegation that he has made.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Assistant Minister, that is the discretion of the Chair. I did not ask him to do so. So, would you answer the question?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, we are aware that there are bars which are operating in residential areas illegally. There are many bars which have either been licensed illegally or they are operating illegally.

Eng. Nyamunga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) can have standards that would enable the residents who are inconvenienced to report to the institution to enforce the law.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the matter is left to the residents, invariably, the investors are richer than the neighbourhood and they will bribe their way around. The KEBS should set up standards that can help the residents. When will the Assistant Minister ensure that those standards are put in place?

Mr. Miriti: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a committee which is already handling that issue and it is supposed to specify the levels of nuisances prevailing around.

GAZETTING OF FORESTS IN
ALEGO USONGA CONSTITUENCY

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Weya is not here? The Question is dropped.

(Question dropped)

Question No.318

PAYMENT OF DUES TO MR. KONAHA

Mr. Choge asked the Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development:-

- (a) whether he is aware that Mr. Kenneth Mugambi Konah was declared redundant by Factory Guards Ltd., on 20th March, 2003; and,
(b) when the grievant will be paid all his dues.

The Assistant Minister for Labour and Human Resource Development (Mr. Khalif): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) Yes I am aware that Mr. Kenneth Mugambi Konah's services were terminated on 21st March, 2003, on account of redundancy. Mr. Konah was employed by Factory Guards in March, 1999 as a bicycle supervisor.

(b) After being declared redundant, the management paid Mr. Mugambi all his terminal benefits in accordance with the Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Act, Cap.229, Legal Notice No.53, Protective Security Services (Amendment) Order, 2003, as follows:-

(1) One month salary <i>in lieu</i> of notice	Kshs.	5,304.00
(2) Annual Leave - 26 days	-	4,554.00
(3) 16 days worked in March, 2003	-	4,488.45
(4) Severance pay @ 18 days per each completed year of service-	18,916.20	
(v) Prorata leave 4.2 days	-	735.60
Total	-	34,398.25

Finally, Mr. Mugambi was paid the above amount on 27th March, 2003, and accepted the money by thumb-printing on the payment voucher. In this respect, Mr. Mugambi was paid all his terminal benefits in accordance with the law.

Mr. Choge: The Assistant Minister is aware that Mr. Mugambi was employed on 30th November, 1995. On termination of his service on 20th March, 2003, a certificate of service was issued, thereby giving him a period of service of seven years. He was paid for a period of six years. What justification did Factory Guards Ltd. have in robbing Mr. Mugambi Konah of his dues?

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mr. Kenneth Mugambi Konah was employed by M/s Factory Guards in March 1997 as a bicycle supervisor. His services were declared redundant on 21st March, 2003, and he was paid all his terminal benefits in accordance with the Protective Security Services Regulation Order, Legal Notice No.53 of 2003. Therefore, he was paid all his redundancy benefits which were calculated in accordance with the above order. He was paid his dues in March, 2003, which he signed by "footing-thumbing" on the sheet.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Did you say "foot-thumbing", Mr. Khalif?
Proceed, Mr. Choge!

Mr. Choge: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said that Mr. Konah Mugambi was given a certificate of service dating 30th November, 1995. Whether or not the "foot-thumbed" or thumb-printed, the issue of his dues amounting to Kshs34,000 is neither here nor there. Could the Assistant Minister confirm to this House the date of Mr. Mugambi's appointment and date of

discharge?

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) took the Chair]*

Mr. Khalif: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as I am concerned, Mr. Kenneth Mugambi was paid all his terminal dues. If I am proved otherwise by the hon. Member, I will correct the situation.

Question No.383

NUMBER OF BBC EMPLOYEES IN NAIROBI

Mr. Abdirahman asked the Minister for Immigration and Registration of Persons:-

- (a) how many employees work for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in Nairobi office by sections/programmes;
- (b) how many of these are on work permits in each section; and,
- (c) what the Ministry will do to protect the interest of the Kenyan youth who are qualified in journalism.

The Minister for Immigration and Registration of Persons (Mrs. Kilimo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to reply.

(a) The BBC has two sections/programmes, which include the East African Bureau Office based at the Longonot Place, Kijabe Street, Nairobi. The bureau has a total of 38 employees. Permanent employees are 31, while contract workers are seven, making a total of 38 Kenyans. The section also has 10 expatriates and, therefore, the total number of employees at the EA Bureau is 48.

The second section is the monitoring unit at Karen. It has 26 Kenyan employees, while the expatriates are five, making a total of 31 employees. In total, therefore, the number of employees in both sections is 79.

(b) Of the 79 employees of the BBC, the EA Bureau has given work permits to 10 expatriates, while the monitoring Unit at Karen has given work permits to five employees. The total number of work permits given to BBC is 15.

(c) The Ministry will ensure that only genuine cases are issued with work permits in order to protect Kenyan youth who are qualified in journalism.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) left the Chair]*

[Mr. Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair]

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Minister for the very good response as it shows clearly how many employees are Kenyans, and how many are on work permits. While I am sure that many of us know that the 500,000 jobs pledge has just become a pipe dream, we need to take care of the interests of Kenyans. What specific skills do Kenyans lack which have to be filled up expatriates?

Mrs. Kilimo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenyans are among the most qualified people in the world and so they hardly lack any experience. However, the problem is that once Kenyans are

employed, they are satisfied. They do not look for better jobs. They do not browse the internet to see what is happening so that they can change from their current employer to another one. Many people have come to invest in this country and when they advertise the jobs in the papers for people with experience, Kenyans do not apply. I would like to request hon. Members to tell our people to apply for jobs that are advertised so that they can be taken up by Kenyans. My Ministry will ensure that the positions that are given to these companies or whoever has invested here will only be the required minimum number while the rest will be for Kenyans. However, that is only possible if Kenyans come out to apply for these jobs.

Mr. Wanjala: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have clearly heard the Minister talking about experience. Kenyans are denied jobs on the basis of experience. Where would they get experience when they have just completed their college? Why are they denied jobs because of experience? You can only get experience if you are employed. Kenyans are denied opportunities because of experience, yet they have never been employed.

Mrs. Kilimo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my earlier response, I said that Kenyans who are already employed do not venture into new areas of employment. That means that if the employer wants somebody with experience, those who are already employed should go for those jobs since they have experience and leave their current positions to be taken up by the new people from colleges.

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to get a confirmation from the Minister on the issue of work permits.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Hon. Members! The Minister cannot even hear!

Mr. Abdirahman: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, could the Minister ensure that those who are coming on work permits to this country are only for jobs where we have no qualified Kenyans? I am sure that we have qualified Kenyans for most of the jobs. There should be a criteria that can be developed for this.

(Mr. Mukiri stood up in his place)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Mukiri, it is against the Standing Orders to stand on the Floor!

Mrs. Kilimo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as pertains work permits, I found out in the Ministry that people who are not qualified had been employed. Currently, we ensure that when they apply for those jobs, we do not renew their work permits. However, I want to ask Kenyans not to accept to be compromised. When these expatriates are brought in, they are supposed to have an under-study who is a Kenyan for two years. You will find a Kenyan accepting to be an under-study when he knows very well that his qualifications do not match those ones of the expatriate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after two years, the under-study cannot properly take up that position and these jobs continue to be for expatriates. It is up to Kenyans to guard this country and ensure that if one is an under-study for an expatriate, he should ask himself whether his qualifications match up to that job.

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! We are now moving to another area.

Mr. Kimathi: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Kimathi! I know you mean well, but the rules do not allow

you to do what you are doing! Take it easy.

Hon. Members, we have a Ministerial Statement to be issued by His Excellency the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs. Mr. Muite and Mr. H.M Maalim will then request for Ministerial Statements.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

APPOINTMENT OF MR. NYACHAE AS CHAIRPERSON OF PSC ON CONSTITUTION REVIEW

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to make the following Ministerial Statement. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 154(1), the House Business Committee, during its sitting on Monday, 6th, June, 2005, has nominated the following Member as Chairperson of the Select Committee on the Constitutional Review Process: The hon. Simeon Nyachae, EGH, MP.

(Applause)

*(Mr. Kosgey stood up
in his place)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Kosgey, if you want a clarification, I will allow you. But no debate will be allowed!

Mr. Kosgey, please, proceed!

Mr. Kosgey: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I wish to state categorically that, that was not a unanimous position of the House Business Committee.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after a lengthy deliberation that lasted for three hours, the decision was communicated to us by the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs as a ruling.

The rules of this House state clearly that the House Business Committee will "nominate". In this case, the Government side of the House decided to overrule that and submit the name of Mr. Nyachae without the consensus that is required. We did not vote! If that was the case, then we should have voted!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a culmination of the process that we started four months ago. The Government side has deliberately chosen to take over the process and make it a Government-driven-process instead of being a people-driven-process.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, would I be in order to ask that we be given a further clarification on how the Government wishes to proceed with this process? We, on this side of the House, have sought all along to make sure that this process is a people-driven-process but without---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Kosgey! I asked you to seek a clarification. Now you are debating and yet, this is not a Motion! Could I now ask you to finish what you are saying?

Hon. Members: Ah! Ah!

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek a clarification because the Government has decided to unilaterally nominate a Government Minister to chair a Parliamentary Select Committee of this House.

Hon. Members: Shame! Shame!

Mr. Kosgey: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what options do we, on this side of the House, and Kenyans in general, have?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is enough, Mr. Kosgey!

Mr. Wanjala: On a point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, Mr. Wanjala! Who are you informing?

Mr. Wanjala: I am informing---

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Last clarification from Mr. Muturi!

Mr. Muturi: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, granted that the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs has read out that the House Business Committee has nominated Mr. Nyachae to chair the Parliamentary Select Committee, and he is well aware that, the House Business Committee reached a deadlock and he decided to make a ruling, could he clarify to this House whether it is desire of that side of the House to push through, unilaterally and in a dictatorial manner, all that which they want this House to do, including a matter as important and of great moment as the review of our own Constitution? Indeed, that is the same side of the House that has, all along, told Kenyans that they stand for a people-driven-process!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Enough, hon. Members! I think I better stand! Hon. Members, I think this House is being treated to a matter that does not belong here.

(Applause)

Now, I am going to read Standing Order No.154(1) for the benefit of hon. Members:
"The House Business Committee shall nominate the members who shall serve on any select committee appointed by the House and the Member who shall be Chairman thereof, unless the House, at the time of the appointment of the select committee, shall itself have nominated such members and chairman."

Hon. Members, you will recall that the House did, in fact, appoint Members of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Constitution Review here. It did not appoint the Chair. Therefore, the responsibility lies squarely, in accordance to this Standing Order, on the House Business Committee. If there are any disputes about how it was done, I direct that it be sent back to that Committee. However, for now, there are no disputes because the House was simply noting the Statement that the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs has read!

(Applause)

Next Statement!

(Several hon. Members stood up in their places)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I want to make it very clear that this is not a debating matter!

Mr. Samoei: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The integrity of the House Business Committee is being put to question. Is it in order for the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs to allege that the House Business Committee made a decision, when it is clear that it did not? If that is the case, what is the status of the decision that the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs unilaterally decided Mr. Nyachae is going to be the Chairman of the Committee? It is beyond his duty! It is the business of the House Business Committee!

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Members from this side of the House who are members of the

House Business Committee have said clearly that there was neither a decision nor a nomination. Where did the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs find the name of Mr. Nyachae to bring to this House?

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! Let the Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs say the last word on this matter!

The Vice-President and Minister for Home Affairs (Mr. Awori): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the House Business Committee did nominate Mr. Simeon Nyachae.

(Applause)

*(Several hon. Members withdrew
from the Chamber)*

An hon. Member: They are running away from the process!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! Those hon. Members who wanted to leave have left. Now, let us go on with the business!

Mr. Muite, please, proceed!

POINTS OF ORDER

KENYA WILL NOT SIGN TREATY WITH USA

Mr. Muite: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand on a point of order to request a Ministerial Statement from the Minister for Foreign Affairs on whether the Government of the Republic of Kenya would be prepared to hold in abeyance, signing of the bilateral treaty which the United States of America (USA) is coercing Kenya into signing, in order to give time to this House to debate a Motion on the issue and express its views and feelings on that matter. I have already drawn and submitted the Motion. What I am asking is for the Minister to clarify whether the Government is willing to wait!

(Applause)

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of the USA has not and cannot coerce the Government of Kenya to sign any treaty. I have said here before and I want to repeat, that the position of the Government is very clear. We shall treat all our friends in all international and bilateral matters equally. We shall not under any circumstances give positions of privilege to any country on matters as important as the issue hon. Muite has talked about. In short, the treaty shall not be signed by the Government of Kenya.

(Applause)

INDISCRIMINATE SHOOTING OF PEOPLE BY POLICE IN GARISSA

Mr. H.M. Mohammed: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek a Ministerial

Statement from the Minister of State, Office of the President in charge of internal security, on the circumstances in which police escorting a contractor to grab a portion of land belonging to Garissa High School shot people. When the students, parents and the general public resisted the takeover of the land, the police started shooting indiscriminately and killed a 15-year old boy and injured several others. This is a very serious matter. Police decided to shoot innocent students who were not armed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the Minister to take action immediately and arrest these trigger-happy policemen and women so that they are taken to court.

Secondly, he should investigate and tell the House and the nation at large who gave the orders to the police for them to go to the school. This is an urgent matter and I want the Minister to issue this statement today.

(Laughter)

The Assistant Minister, Office of the President (Mr. Kingi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have taken note of the sentiments of the Member of Parliament and we will provide a comprehensive statement on the issue next week on Tuesday. That will give us enough time to carry out some research.

Mr. Munya: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I want to seek a clarification on the Ministerial Statement the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs has already made.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No! That has already been overtaken. Consult with the Assistant Minister.

Next Order!

MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF TWELFTH PIC REPORT

THAT, this House adopts the Twelfth Report of the Public Investments Committee on the accounts of State Corporations, laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, April 13, 2005.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Where is the Chairman of the Public Investments Committee?

Hon. Members: He has gone! *Ameenda!*

(Motion deferred)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Next Order!

ADOPTION OF SESSIONAL PAPER NO.3 ON SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to move the following Motion:-

THAT, this House adopts Sessional Paper No.3 of 2005 on Sports Development, laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 28th April, 2005.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in spite of the fact that Kenya is a known sports powerhouse this country has operated for nearly 50 years without---

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, hon. Members! I think we must now get into business. The Minister is moving a very important Motion. Please, can you give him time? Those who wish to leave should do so quietly.

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in spite of the fact that Kenya is known for its ability in sports, this country has operated for nearly 50 years without a Sessional Paper on sports. The point I wish to underscore is the importance, timing of this Paper and the need to have a definite policy on sports in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Sessional Paper that is before the House for debate was put together after several consultative meetings between the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, which I head, and various stakeholders, including athletes themselves.

A lot of input and knowledge has been applied in this regard, and I want to assure you and Members of this House that the Sessional Paper is a good document and requires the bi-partisan support of both sides of the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know very well that in spite of the fact that we have not had a Sessional Paper, Kenya has continued to baffle and stun opponents and friends alike. Kenya has continued to dominate the world in international athletics meets, and that is just half the potential that is being exposed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Sessional Paper proposes to bring a policy that is going to set out very clearly how the Government is going to mobilise resources for sports development in this country. This Sessional Paper is going to clearly set out how successful sports persons are going to be honoured, rewarded and acknowledged in this country. It is equally going to set clearly how arbitration and issues of governance in federations are going to be run in this country.

In the past, the running of sports has been the subject matter of both the temperament of the officials involved and *ad hoc* Government policies but when this Sessional Paper is passed and made into a regulation, then it will be very definite, how issues of sports will be handled in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we propose to harmonise all aspects of sports. We are also going to put, after this Sessional Paper, a regulatory framework through which sports would be regulated in this country.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) took the Chair]*

In other words, the Sports Bill is just knocking on the door and its passage will bring a regulatory framework through which the Government is going to regulate sports, register federations and start institutions which will be charged with the responsibility of handling sports.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are various forms of sports in this country, like mass sports which involve many people. We have competitive sports, sports as relates to the elderly, sports and religion, and the use of sports to advance certain thematic issues like peace, harmonising society and so forth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would want to say that we have various sports institutions, one of them being the Kenya National Sports Council (KNSC). The KNSC is an association of sports federations of this country. It is registered under the Societies Act, but there is need to give it its own statutory position. There is need for it to be underpinned in the statutes so that it can be used as a vehicle for administration of disputes among federations that may have problems. It

also needs to be used to impart upon sporting personalities and bodies associated with sports, ethics that relate to sports.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir sports is a very important tool in this country, because it leads to leadership growth among the youth. It gives them an opportunity to achieve self-esteem and to conduct themselves responsibly. If we do so, we will ensure that sporting icons all over the country do not engage in lawlessness or drug abuse or any kind of bad behaviour. It is important for us to encourage sports. Sports is also very important because it has the potential of providing employment both to youthful and elderly persons. Employment or provision of the same is a commitment that we gave to the public. It is through sports that we can do so. We can do so by directly engaging the players in gainful employment and relating to agencies that will market and promote various sporting disciplines. We can also do so by selling sports-related paraphernalia. The potential of employment that is offered in sports is huge.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sports can also be used to connect communities; to make sure that social velocity among hitherto warring communities is enhanced. So, sports is a vehicle that can be used to attain peace. Sports can also be used to send very important messages, particularly in our war against HIV/AIDS. Sports attracts a huge gathering, and using the language of sports, we can talk to people who may not be aware about the dangers that lurk when you engage in irresponsible sexual activities.

Sports can also be used to try and reach out to people who cannot contain their penchant for drugs. It is a very important subject. As a country and a Government, we need to heavily invest in sports equipment. The Sessional Paper talks about the kind of investments we need to put in place. The investments we need to put in place should not be borne entirely by the Government. It should be borne in partnership with the private sector. The private sector, the Government and the country have a lot to gain in sports.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, generally, sports is important in making our people healthy. Physical exercise is a very important prerequisite for health. It also leads and contributes to mental health and productive people. It is important for us to have a sports policy and continue supporting sports.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kenya is a country that is known for fairness in sporting. In very negligible and minimal instances, have we as a country been associated with doping-related cheating. We are known all over the world as an important sporting country. This country has been marketed internationally by our humble athletes. In the past, most of our athletes were not looked after well. In this policy, we propose to start looking after them well. In this Sessional Paper we propose to have a lot of them recognised and to be role models to younger people who aspire to have a career in sports. Sporting has been used to market this country and a lot of people come to visit our country and find out how our people train.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sports has also contributed to immense wealth among young persons. Statistics have it that about 30 to 40 young millionaires are created by sporting alone; for example, people who participate in international meets. Those who succeed there come back and invest. If you go to towns like Eldoret, Kitale and Nakuru, you will find such investments abound. It is, therefore, very important to invest in sports so that young Kenyans continue to harvest wealth from wherever they are going.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have had a problem in the past with athletes trying to change their nationalities from being Kenyans. They do so because there is no framework within which they are honoured. A lot of people, both in the private and public sector, have not invested sufficiently in rewarding these athletes. With the passage of this Sessional Paper, we will have in place institutions to address this problem. We will, for instance, initiate a sports lottery whose proceeds will be used to honour our athletes.

Sometimes it is very touching to see people who have caused the flag of this country to be flown high and the national anthem of this country to be sang among other important countries in abject poverty. This Sessional Paper proposes to make provisions for that and to handle that.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you look at our sports facilities, you will find that they are generally run-down except for a few that the Stadium Management Board has been charged with the responsibility of running. We want to identify all the land that has been set aside for sporting. We want to mobilise additional resources directly from the Exchequer and the private sector to maintain, rehabilitate most of these sporting facilities and to even build more. We need to build more sporting facilities in every village so that idleness does not overtake our youth. This will ensure that they are engaged in productive and meaningful activities that preach discipline and peace.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in areas where cattle rustling and wanton violence are rampant, it is important to give our youth an alternative so that they do not engage in these vices. The Sessional Paper proposes that resources be set aside for improvement of facilities. It also proposes that scholarships be given to people who have shown interest in sports and academia. This Sessional Paper will be the first that we are putting in place after those very many years. It will also help us contain the flight of our athletes from Kenya to other countries.

In the past, people have misunderstood what the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services has said from time to time. We are not opposed to athletes training in Kenya, because we have to reciprocate. Our own athletes train in various countries and use their facilities. We are opposed to people who change their nationality and yet they hide around in some small places and try to persuade young Kenyans who are still in primary school to alter their nationality for immediate gains that are not sustainable. Most of the young Kenyans who leave this country to go to other countries under the guise of changing nationality are dumped immediately they are unable to show any prowess in sports. In fact, no education opportunity or gainful employment is offered to them. We encourage our athletes to compete in any country; opportunities abound for such competition. We also encourage our athletes to conquer athletes from other countries in various races. However, we discourage them from altering their citizenship and, thereby, becoming vulnerable, particularly, when they are spent as athletes. I know that changing their Kenyan nationality to another country's nationality does not in any way make them better sportspeople. In fact, what makes them better sportspeople is their own resilience, commitment and discipline to the sporting event that they identify with.

In conclusion, this Sessional Paper is timely. It is good for this country and with the support of this House and that of the Exchequer and the private sector, Kenya is likely to realise its full potential in sports which currently is standing at only 20 per cent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to move.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to congratulate my learned colleague for bringing this Sessional Paper No.3 of 2005 on Sports Development.

I fully associate myself with all the issues that my friend has said. Sports in this country is one of the major marketing resources. Kenyan athletes, from 1964, have not failed to get an Olympic gold medal in any Olympic games held. At one time, Kenya was a football power-house in this region. I do not know if you are old enough to remember that at one time the East and Central Africa Football Federation Cup, which was regional, used to rotate between Abaluhya Football Club (AFC), Gor Mahia Football Club and Luo Union Football Club in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I believe that you also know that at one time Gor Mahia Football Club won the Mandela Cup which was a continental cup. When you monitor the marathon circuit, from Japan, Germany to the USA, there is not a single marathon event that Kenyans have not won. Both Kenyan male and female athletes have made and left an indelible mark on the world's athletics calendar.

I do remember that one time we were travelling from Chile via New York City. Kenyan athletes; Mrs. Catherine Ndereba and Mr. Lang'at from Eldoret, had just won the Boston Marathon. When our plane touched ground, on their account, we were received at the JFK International Airport like heroes. We shared in the glory of Kenyan athletes. We were treated so well that I felt so proud to be a Kenyan and to be associated with Kenyan athletes. However, if you look at the performance of our athletes and other sportspeople and at the same time look critically at the facilities available to them, you will realise that these people have been excelling through sheer personal determination. Some have, in fact, fallen victim of dishonest brokers and marketers who get them and use them for their own self aggrandisement and acquisition of wealth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy that my colleague, the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services has now found it necessary, 40 years after Independence, that our Government has to bring a Sessional Paper to define and set goals that will develop and harness the sports geniuses that we have in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, football in this country is long dead. The little that is left is constantly mired into senseless and reckless controversies and quarrels in the management of football. I want to take this opportunity to tell the Minister that he needs to do an urgent surgery with regard to the management of football in this country. It is so embarrassing that our national team can go to play in a World Cup qualifying match without our celebrated striker simply because of flimsy and solvable problems like payment of allowances. The manner in which the Oliech saga was handled recently requires that the Minister must step in and streamline the football regime in the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in pre-Independence time, the colonial government built a lot of stadia in this country. Among these are Jomo Kenyatta Sports Ground in Kisumu; Kanduyi Stadium in Bungoma which is famed for hosting Gor Mahia Football Club in a match they won; Bukhungu Stadium in Kakamega; Nairobi City Stadium and others. All these stadia were built during the colonial times. I would want the Minister to effect what he has set out in this Sessional Paper; that he is going to embark on improving facilities. It is desirable that every single district in this country has, at least, one good quality standard stadium where football and athletics can be developed. The stadia should have all the attendant facilities such as swimming pools and facilities for other games.

You do recall that Kenya has had to participate previously in swimming during the Olympic games. I believe you remember the case of Mr. Anthony Likhakha and other Kenyan swimmers. We have the potential. In fact, one of the problems Kenya suffers in the Olympic, Commonwealth and other world games is that we have been left to focus on athletics only. Countries like Germany or Cuba, before the athletics event starts, they have already swooped 20 to 30 medals from field events and games like swimming. It is about throwing the Hammer, we have muscle men in this country who can do that. If it is throwing the discus, we have men and women who can do that. The same applies to field events such as Long-Jump, High-Jump and sprint races. It is all a question of training and motivation. If our country can produce great athletes like Moses Kiptanui, Paul Ereng and so many others, I am sure we can produce athletes who can beat Marion Jones, Jim Montgomery, Dwain Chambers and other great athletes who have been scooping medals in events that Kenya does not participate in.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, how do we do this? The answer is all contained in this Sessional Paper, and my thanks go to the Minister. We need early childhood development of our sportsmen and women right from primary school. We need to identify children with special skills, motivate and encourage them. We need to establish institutes that can develop these skills. In the good old days or rather the bad old days, when we were going to school, we used to have students who were not good in class and who could not measure up to the rest of the students in class, but when you saw them on the football pitch, you could see a genius in them; there were girls who you could see on the netball pitch and you could see the genius in them. In those days, such children were shunned and

taken to be unproductive and unhelpful to the family that was investing in education for the sole narrow purpose of passing exams. But we now know that when you are talking of Muhammad Ali, the great boxer, nobody has ever told you how many exams he passed in class! When you talk of Pele or Diego Maradona, we have never been shown their academic certificates, but they are household names! So, we must establish centres of excellence where we develop and nurture talent, be it in football, netball and in all manner of sports.

This paper also addresses a very important issue; the role of sports in our social structures. In areas where the youth idle around with nothing to do, you will find that their immediate alternative recreation becomes sex, with its attendant danger of contracting HIV/AIDS; they will become alcoholics with the attendant problems that go with it; they will become cigarette smokers and eventually, they will abuse hard drugs. These are all products of idleness in our youth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you go to your own constituency, you will see that in areas where you have provided footballs, volleyball nets, volleyballs and so on, after their morning work, the youth gainfully engage themselves in sports. But go to an area where there is neither a football nor a netball pitch, or even an athletic track, and you will find youth indulging in all manner of destructive social vices such as sex, alcohol, drugs, smoking, idling and eventually, crime. So, in addressing the issue of sports, we are in more ways than one, solving the social problems facing us. We are taking away our youth from temptations to indulge in vices by creating opportunities for our youth to exploit their talents to the level where they can become competitive locally, nationally, regionally and eventually, internationally.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to take this opportunity to salute one man in this country: The legendary Mr. Kipchoge Keino. What that man has done in the development of sports, especially in athletics, is something we should all applaud. We saw he was a genius when the Minister suspended the Kenya Football Federation (KFF) and set up an oversight board, chaired by Mr. Keino. One would have thought that Mr. Keino is the greatest footballer in this country because he streamlined the running of football and we could see some sanity. We could see that what we lack in this country is not talent but management, identification and harnessing of talent. If we can do that, this country will be a world beater.

When we talk of our internationally renowned athletes like Tecla Lorupe, Edith Masai, Catherine Konga, Catherine Ndereba, a girl called Ochichi and all those athletes; who can be a better ambassador for this country than those athletes? Wherever they go, they are carrying our flag and our name. At every event, when a Kenyan wins and the whole world is watching, the first thing you hear is our national anthem. Even those who do not know it would ask: "Which country's national anthem is that?" You have heard the BBC commentator crying: "Oh, there go the Kenyans again, one, two, three---". This is a pride for all of us and we should not leave this talent to filter through the marsh the way it has been done. There will be absolutely no harm in this country holding world records from 800 metres to 10,000 metres. I am sure you recall the great moment in Seoul, Korea, when Paul Ereng won a gold medal in the 800 metres race, while Julius--- What was the name of this young man who won a gold medal in the 1,500 metres race?

An hon. Member: Paul Rono.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula) Yes, Mr. Paul Rono. Then, we swept all the gold medals including the 10,000 metres race, and the Kenyan National Anthem was sung in Seoul Stadium five times in 1998. We had not heard of all these boys until then. I only heard of Paul Ereng when I heard Kenya's National Anthem being sung in Seoul, Korea.

We have talents that can sweep away all these medals! When a country like Kenya, with 30 million people goes to the Olympic Games and gets more gold medals than India which has 1.1 billion people, that is a proud moment for all of us. I wish the politicians of this country could pick a leaf from our athletes. Do you remember the golden moment in the last Olympics Games when a Kenyan was

going to win a gold medal in the 3,000 metres steeplechase and he slowed down to motion his brothers to come with him? Why can we politicians not slow down and motion our brothers and sisters to join us in building this country? Why are we abusing each other everyday? What example are we showing the youth? Even if we set up these facilities, children will always look up to us as role models, and if we spend all our time calling each other names, you can imagine what we are bequeathing to our youth.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Sessional Paper also outlines the important linkage between religion, politics and sports, and this is exactly what I am talking about. You have never heard of a situation where our athletes have quarrelled in a training camp because of ethnicity or because of the political divide in the country. This is something that should help us build a cohesive country. I would want us to have a situation we used to see in the 1960s and 1970s. Every year, you would find national sports championships being held in Kakamega, Mombasa, Embu, Nairobi and everywhere in this country and everybody got to mix with each other. I recently saw the Minister organising a marathon event in his backyard. I would like to see the next marathon held in Bungoma District, so that we exploit talent there. From there, the event should move on to North Eastern Province and so on. Our people would like to see who the great Tecla Lorupe and Catherine Ndereba are. These great athletes should be taken out there to motivate the youth. The Ministry should organise talk shows in schools. Let those great athletes go out there and talk to our young people and tell them the importance of succeeding in sports. Our children must know that there is no difference between being a great lawyer and an athlete. This is because they all play different roles in marketing our country and putting our country on the pedestal of world attention.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said many times that when our athletes go out there, win events, get trophies and monetary gifts, the Minister for Finance should give them tax breaks. When, for example, Mrs. Catherine Ndereba wins the Boston Marathon and comes back here with Kshs10 million and she wants to buy a property, she should be exempted from paying any tax on it. That is an incentive that will go a long way in assisting our athletes. After all, the Kshs10 million that she earns there, comes in form of foreign exchange. It comes to boost our foreign exchange reserves.

Therefore, a way should also be found of giving our athletes opportunities to bring in cars duty free. This is a privilege that is available to hon. Members of Parliament. They should also have the privilege to buy property without payment of duty. They should enjoy many other privileges that will give them the correct incentives. Those incentives will make a person know that even if he cannot run, he can swim and benefit from his own Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like the Ministry to take a position that whenever we have a major event, for example, the London, Boston or Brussels marathons, let us not leave our athletes to foreign agents who manipulate, swindle and cheat them. I would like the Ministry to set up a liaison office for every sport and invite these athletes. Officials from this office should tell our athletes that: "When you go for the Boston Marathon, we would like the Government to recognise the important role that you play and we would give you somebody to go with you. This person will be there to assist you to show the pride that our country has in what you will do there." If that is done then we will have the Ministry playing a very critical role in developing our marketing and diplomacy through athletics. If the Minister went with them, for example, the first thing he will do is to call his counterpart. Chances are he will come back with a few scholarships or an offer to develop some stadia or a few support services like coaches to come and assist us.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, football is the most captive sport in the world. It is a pity that we have surrendered our football arena in this country to the English and Spanish leagues. I feel embarrassed because every Saturday when you walk into a local pub anywhere in this country, you will find people sitted at 11.00 a.m. waiting to see Manchester United play Arsenal at 5.00 p.m. These

are teams that have no relevance to us. If we revived the mighty Gor Mahia, the Great Abaluhya and the Great Luo Union, we will still have people do what we used to do. By 11.00 a.m. we used to be at City Stadium waiting for football to start at 5.00 p.m. Now, people are waiting in pubs. By the time the match starts, they are all drunk. Then by 5.00 p.m. we had fought, won or lost three to four battles between Gor Mahia fans and AFC fans. But it was a lot of fun. There was also revenue going to Nairobi City Council and to the clubs. My colleague, the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services would agree with me that all non-institutional football teams in this country are technically bankrupt because there is no gate collection at the stadia.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we also know that a game like football thrives on funds and following. It would be desirable to have a fund in the Ministry that will support growth of football teams that have no capacity to rival institutional teams in terms of funding. What is left is, Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL) and Mumias Sugar Company (MSC) can only take so many players, the rest who cannot access the resources of KBL and MSC are left to collapse. They cannot play anywhere because they cannot afford boots, uniform or hire buses to travel from Sony in South Nyanza and play football in Thika District. We need some funds for sports development.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Sessional Paper talks about financial management. However, before we adopt this Sessional Paper, I would want the Minister to specifically provide for a sports development fund; a fund that will be drawn from the Exchequer and will be able to support non-institutional teams. This is because we have so much talent and the teams we have cannot fit in the little institutional structures that we have. I know that my colleagues would also like to contribute to this Sessional Paper. I would like to come to the conclusion by saying that this country has so much talent. If we quantify this talent, it can bring in wealth. In fact, it can be a rated foreign exchange percentage of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) if we harnessed it well. I am sure we have the capacity to do this. The focused and well oriented NARC Government will do nothing less than what previous regimes failed to do, by harnessing and developing this talent and giving our youth an opportunity to earn from their talent.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Mwandawiro: Asante, Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda kwa kunipa fursa hii kuchangia Hoja hii kuhusu sera ya kuboresha michezo nchini.

Naomba kumpogeza Waziri kwa kuileta sera hii mbele ya Bunge hili. Kama maendeleo yoyote yale, michezo nchini inahitaji sera maalum ili kuimarika. Michezo hapa nchini haiwezi kuendelea kiholela bila sisi kuwa na mipango maalum. Tunahitaji pesa za kukuza mchezo hapa nchini. Mapendekezo katika sera hii yanajitokeza vizuri. Inaonyesha ya kwamba tunaewa matatizo yanayoikumba sekta hii. Ni mambo kama haya ambayo yanaonyesha ni vyema kuunga mkono Hoja hii.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, mambo ya siasa yamefumukana. Ninajua Hoja hii itapitishwa. Naomba ili ipitishwe. Kile ninachoomba ni kuwa tupitishwe mapendekezo mazuri kuhusu mambo mbali mbali ya maendeleo. Hii ni katika mambo ya elimu, maswala ya wafanyikazi na katika hali ya michezo. Tatizo letu liko katika utekelezaji. Ni matarajio yangu kwamba baada ya kupitisha mapendekezo haya ya sera za kuboresha michezo katika nchi yetu, mambo haya yatatekelezwa. Kuanzia mwaka huu wa fedha, najua tutatenga pesa maalum ili Wizara ya Jinsia, Michezo na Huduma za Jamii iweze kufanya maendeleo ambayo yatasaidia watu katika mijini na hata sehemu za mashambani. Kupitisha sera nzuri za kuboresha maendeleo bila kuona chochote kikitendeka haitoshi. Sera hizi hupitishwa lakini mwishowe, hatuoni chochote. Wakenya watatarajia kwamba Wizara ya Jinsia, Michezo na Huduma za Jamii itakuwa na maendeleo katika sehemu zote za Kenya.

Ningetaka kusema kwamba maendeleo ya michezo hayawezi kuangaliwa kando na maendeleo

mengine. Wakati tunapofikiria kuendeleza mambo ya michezo, ni lazima tufikirie hali ya afya ya watu wetu, ajira na kazi. Haitoshi tu kutengeneza mambo ya michezo ili vijana wasio na kazi mashambani na mijini wapate kitu cha kufanya. Michezo tu bila kuangalia mambo ya ajira na kuhusisha pamoja haiwezi kufanikiwa. Tungetaka kuangalia mambo ya mazingira katika nchi hii, ili kila mtu apate kuajiriwa na watu wapate chakula cha kutosha. Tukifanya hivi, watu wetu watakuwa wanaspoti bora. Huwezi kuwa mwanaspoti bora ukiwa unanga'ng'ana kutafuta chakula na mavazi.

Tunapofikiria aina ya michezo, ni muhimu tuzingatie mazingira yetu tunayotumia ili kufanikisha michezo katika nchi yetu. Ukiangalia mji wa Nairobi, utaona kwamba umejaa mitaa ya vibanda. Tunapojenga miji yetu, tunaijenga kiholela kama watu wasio na serikali. Kila mtu anajenga nyumba ovyo bila mpango. Nyumba zilizo katika mitaa yetu zimejengwa bila mipango mizuri. Hakuna mahali ambapo watoto wanaweza kuchezea. Hatufanyi mipango kuhakikisha kwamba watoto wetu wanapokuja nyumbani watakuwa na mahali pa kucheza. Mazingira yetu pia ni machafu mno. Tunapotaribu kuendeleza mambo ya michezo, ni lazima tukabiliane na mazingira ambayo si mazuri kama vile sehemu za Korogocho zilivyo.

Nimesikia viongozi wetu wa ngazi za juu wakizungumza kuhusu watu ambao wanaoishi sehemu hizo kama wao ndio waliochagua kuwa huko. Kama watu wa jamii, tunafaa kujua kwamba watu wanaoishi katika mitaa ya Korogocho, Kibera na Kawangware ni watu kama sisi. Tunafaa kuyatunza mazingira yetu, ili watoto wanaoishi sehemu hizo wapate mahali pa kuchezea. Tunawadhulumu watoto wetu sana kwa kuwanyanyasa tunapowanyima haki ya kutumia vipawa vyao vya michezo. Maendeleo ya michezo ni lazima yaende sambamba na kuboresha mazingira yetu, kukiwa na mipango ya kuondoa vibanda na kujenga mazingira ambayo yamepangwa makusudi na hali halisi.

Vijana wengi wanaohitimu katika mambo ya spoti, iwe ni michezo ya dondi, riadha, au kandanda, wengi wanaishi katika mitaa ya vibanda na kutoka katika jamii zenye umasikini mkumbwa. Kweli, kama tungeweza kuboresha hali ya maisha ya nchi yetu na kuwa na mipango maalum ya kuendeleza michezo, tungefaulu sana kuliko vile tulivyo sasa.

Katika mambo ya uhusiano wa michezo na elimu ambayo yametajwa katika mapendekezo haya ya sera zilizowakilishwa leo--- Nafurahi sana kwa sababu Waziri anayehusika na elimu yuko hapa. Kwa hivyo, atanisikiza. Kuna shida kubwa sana siku hizi katika mfumo wa elimu ya watoto wetu. Tunawapatia watoto wetu masomo mengi katika shule. Elimu ambayo tunawapatia ni ile ya kulazimisha. Wanapoenda nyumbani jioni, mwisho wa wiki na hata wakati wa likizo, hawapati nafasi ya kucheza. Sijaona wakati ambapo shule zimefungwa na watoto hawaendi shuleni. Watoto wa shule wamekuwa kama Wabunge. Tukiwa Bungeni, tunafanya kazi na pia tunapoenda mashambani wakati wa mapumziko, pia tunafanya kazi. Watoto wetu pia wanalazimishwa kuwa katika hali hiyo.

Wakati tulipokuwa tukisoma katika miaka ya sabini--- Nilianza kuhudhuria shule ya msingi katika mwaka wa 1967. Wakati huo, tulikuwa na nafasi ya kucheza michezo ya kila aina. Michezo hiyo haichezwi siku hizi. Michezo hiyo ni kama rugby, teni na handball. Hata mchezo wa kandanda haichezwi kwa sababu juhudi kubwa zimetwa katika kuwashindikisha watoto wetu na kuzingatia masomo katika njia ya kushindana. Elimu yetu imekuwa ya kushindanisha watoto badala ya kuwapa elimu bora na kuwafanya kuwa wazuri katika hali zote. Wanafaa kuwa bora katika vipawa vya michezo, elimu, na mambo mengine.

Ni muhimu kwa Wizara ya Elimu, Sayansi na Teknolojia iangalie mipango ya shule na kuona kwamba watoto hawalazimishwi kukua wakiwa bado watoto. Kuna wakati ambao watoto lazima waishi utoto wao. Nikikumbuka maisha yangu ya utoto, nafurahi kwa sababu nilifurahia utoto wangu. Michezo ambayo nilicheza ni kama vile mambo ya uchoraji na muziki, lakini haiko siku hizi. Watoto wanashindanishwa katika mambo ya elimu. Katika kukabiliana na elimu shuleni, michezo ni lazima itiliwe maanani kama njia ya kukuza watoto. Wakati Wizara ya Elimu, Sayansi na Teknolojia inapogawanya raslimali zake, ni lazima igawanye kiasi cha kutosha katika michezo. Hii ni njia ya

kuwapa watoto hiba ama "personality" ya kuweza kusimama na kujitambua. Watoto wanapojitambua, wataweza kufanya vizuri pia katika masomo mengine. Ninampongeza Waziri kwa kuja na sera ambazo zinaweza kukabiliana na hali iliyoko sasa na kuleta mapendekezo ya kuboresha michezo. Wizara ya Michezo haisikiki katika sehemu za mashambani. Sijui kama ni kwa sababu hatuipatii pesa za kutosha, au ni kwa sababu tunaiona kuwa si ya muhimu. Hatuipatii michezo umuhimu unaotakikana. Hii ndio sababu unapoenda katika wilaya yoyote, utapata kwamba hakuna mipira ya kuchezea. Juhudi za maksudi za Serikali za kuboresha hali ya michezo ya mipira na riadha katika sehemu za mashambani na michezo mbalimbali hazipo. Labda, ni kwa sababu ya kutotilia mambo haya maanani au kukosa pesa za kutosha katika kila Budget. Hayo ndio mambo ambayo ninaona yamependekewa na sera hii, ili tuwe na mabadiliko.

Katika sehemu za mashambani na Wilayani, maofisa wanaohusika na michezo ni lazima wafanye kazi na kuajibika katika Wizara ya Elimu, Sayansi na Teknolojia. Unapoenda katika Wilaya yoyote kama ile ya Taita-Taveta, hautaona kitu halisi kinachofanywa na Wizara ya Michezo. Tunataka hali hii ibadilike. Nilipokuwa nikikua, niliona michezo ikifanyika wilayani kila mwaka. Kuna watu ambao walikuwa wakienda katika shule na kushindana katika riadha siku nzima. Walioshinda walikuwa wakipewa taa, blanketi na zawadi nyingine. Hiyo ilituwezesha kugundua vipawa mbalimbali. Ningependa kueleza kwamba siku hizi vipawa vya riadha vinavyopatikana sehemu ya mashambani havitumiwi na nchi hii. Kule Wilaya ya Taita Taveta kuna milima na mabonde mikubwa. Kuna wanafunzi wanaokimbia karibu kilomita nane wakipanda na kushuka milima ili kwenda kula chakula nyumbani. Kama wangepewa nafasi ya kushindana na watu wengine, hivyo vipawa vingekonekana zaidi katika wilaya hiyo kuliko pahali pengine hapa nchini. Hata hivyo, hakuna mtu anayekuza vipawa hivyo. Ni lazima tukuze michezo hapa nchini. Vipawa vya riadha, kandanda na michezo mingine ni lazima vianze kukuzwa kuanzia kata na wilaya mbalimbali. Watu wanafaa kupewa nafasi ya kudhihirisha vipawa vyao katika michezo ya kila aina kama ilivyokuwa ikitendeka hapo awali.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, umuhimu wa michezo umeelezwa vizuri katika mapendekezo ya sera. Bw. Wetangula aliyekuwa akichangia Hoja hii hapo awali alieleza kinaga ubaga umuhimu huu. Mimi mwenyewe nimetembelea nchi za Ulaya. Najua kweli kwamba michezo inasaidia sana katika diplomasia. Watu wengi kule Ulaya wanajua nchi ya Kenya kwa sababu ya mbuga za wanyama pori na riadha. Mambo haya mawili yameuza jina letu sana. Watalii wengi hupenda kuzuru nchi yetu kwa sababu ya kusikia kwamba tuna idadi kubwa ya wanariadha mashuhuri. Mkenya anaposhinda katika riadha, bendera ya taifa hupeperushwa na wimbo wa taifa huimbwa kwa heshima yake na sisi Wakenya. Mtu akiwa katika nchi ya Sweden au Norway anafurahia ushindi huu. Bali na riadha, watalii hupenda kujua ni mambo gani mengine ambayo hupatikana hapa nchini. Kwa hivyo, michezo husaidia sana kuiuza nchi yetu. Nakubaliana na Waheshimiwa Wabunge waliosema ya kwamba tuyatambue majina ya wanamichezo wetu. Wakati tunapotaja mitaa yetu na kadhalika nchini ni muhimu kuyahusisha majina ya wanaspoti wetu. Kwa mfano, jina la Kipchoge Keino hutajwa hapa na pale ilhali watu wengi wametia fora katika spoti lakini majina yao hayatambuliwi.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, wakati tunaweka sera ya kuweza kutambuliwa kwa vipawa mbalimbali vya michezo katika nchi yetu, ingawa tunaweza kuwasaidia wanariadha na wanasoka binafsi wakuze na kuendeleza vipawa vyao kwa ujumla, lengo kubwa kwetu nikuzingatia michezo yote kwa jumla. Tusiwe na tamaa kama nchi zingine ya kuendeleza watu wachache ambao wamefaulu zaidi. Ni lazima tuzingatia kukuza vipawa kutoka mashinani.

Bw. Naibu Spika wa Muda, kwa hayo machache, ninaunga mkono mapendekezo haya ya sera ya kuboresha michezo katika nchi yetu.

The Assistant Minister for Lands and Housing (Mrs. Tett): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Sports is a very important aspect of any society. The history of sports is as old as mankind. I would like to congratulate our Minister for bringing this Sessional Paper because it was well overdue.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sports, as I always tell the youth, is just as any other discipline. It is like becoming a doctor or lawyer. I always tell them that they should take it very seriously because they will benefit in many ways. But most of the time they say that there is no backup from the Government. They say there is no funding. Sports play a very central role in the overall development of any community. We find that communities that participate in sports together, at the end of the day, they are bond together and become united. Most of the time they are united and they do not fight because of sports. Many countries have become very famous because of sports. For example, Kenya is a very famous country because of our athletes. We are renown in the field of long distance running. We can expand our talent to other sports or disciplines if we have structured approach. This structured approach is nothing else, but what the Minister has today brought into this House; the Sessional Paper. This is one of the beautiful Papers that have come into this House. I have looked at it and I am satisfied that it has covered everything.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, our champions have been our pride. They fly our flags very high throughout the world. They bring us glory. It is unbelievable that we get this glory from athletics. You can imagine what could have happened if we excelled in other sports as well, like other countries. We would be the pride of Africa. Recently the Kenya Pipeline Corporation volleyball team, with very little resources, won the African Cup in volleyball. You can imagine what would happen if we gave them all the help they needed. They would even go further than Africa and fly our flag all over the world.

Our country has participated in sports for over 50 years and we have made our name in the world. Many tourists who visit our country just come to see what sort of a country we have. This is a country where great athletes come from. It is very sad that over 40 years we do not have sports policy in place. I hope today we will adopt this Paper so that, at the end of the day, we benefit not only for today, but for generations to come.

This Sessional Paper is designed also to increase participation in sports and physical activities across all social groups. This will improve health and reduce bad habits, as an hon. Member has just said, that come with idleness, for example, drug taking, drinking of alcohol, *et cetera*. It will create a new aspect in life in terms of recreation, career development and competition.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no recreation in Kenya today. Even in the villages and slums, they need sports and recreation facilities. This Sessional Paper is actually offering such opportunities. It has included the disadvantaged and those who have been socially excluded. That is also very important because the disabled people have their own activities. They are not left out.

We need to develop a national scheme for rewarding and recognising our sports personalities in this country. They should be rewarded with cash, certificates and medals. I propose that we include sportspeople who have made this country proud in the Presidential Honours List during Madaraka Day. If we are recognising people like musicians and others, why not our Catherine Ndereba? Why did we not give her a medal of some sort? Those are incentives that would make our youth know that they are recognised in their own country. It is sad that they are not recognised in this country, but they are recognised, saluted and cheered all over the world. But here at home, we do not even recognise them.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, other countries take sports very seriously. Some of their sportspeople earn monthly salaries paid from the central governments. They do nothing else but to practise day-in, day-out. Therefore, I suggest that the Minister should think of a way of paying our sportsmen and women so that they can feel encouraged. They will know they have bread on the table at the end of the day. That way, they will be disciplined and take their sports very seriously. Mr.

Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we shall also reduce crime in this country. Our youths are idle and have nothing to do. All of us do not have to be runners. There are other sport disciplines like darts, chess, badminton and many more. Why are we not tapping into those sports. We only think of athletics, football and netball. But there are many more others. Some of the caddies in golf were

sponsored by big companies and are, today, the best golfers in Kenya. That shows that, if we are serious of what we are saying and doing, we can elevate our sports to the highest level.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the schools must also be encouraged. We should look at talents in schools. During school holidays, our children loiter everywhere because they have nothing to do in the estates. Imagine if we had recreation centres all over the country, our youth would not sit idle or sleep the whole day! That is what our good boys and girls who do not want to indulge in drugs and other vices do. They just sleep the whole day wasting their time and brains. It is very important to have such recreation centres all over the country. They will be encouraged and have self-confidence. They will be better human beings.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister did not leave out traditional dancers and that is very encouraging. In the villages, estates and slums, we could have traditional dances in the evening. It is a way of lifting your spirit before you go to bed rather than going to bars to drink. We could have traditional dancers coming around the estates to dance! We could even join in. If you had a problem with your wife or husband, you would forget until the next day. I think what the Minister has done is a very good gesture.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, gender must also be taken into account. It is catered for in the Sessional Paper. Women must not be left out. There is a recommendation to remove barriers, exploitation and abuse. That is really welcoming. When we talk about sports, we think of boys and men. But we also need to lift all those barriers, so that everybody is given a chance.

The Paper has also extended a good hand to the aged as well. They will be able to have their regular physical exercises. It is very important because all of us grow old and have nothing to do. We just sit fiddling our fingers and wondering what to do. The Minister is serious he has covered everybody, including the youth and the aged, in the Sessional Paper. That is very welcoming.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would also like to applaud the Minister because he has said that, at the end of the day, he will bring recreation centres to our local areas. That is very important. There is no need to have those centres based in Nairobi and urban areas. It is very important to set them up nearer to the people in the villages and estates, so that they could feel they belong to a particular centre.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sports are like a religion. Like politics, they contribute a lot to the people. We can say everything here today, shout, sing and dance, but the bottom-line comes to the Budget. We need money. The Minister has to budget for all the good things that he has put in the Sessional Paper. That is because without money, we shall just be going round and round and nothing will happen.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I look also at the workers, he has also taxed them. What is a very good motivation for our workers after a hard day's work? At the end of a hard day's work, they will have a recreation centre. Instead of ending up in bars or similar places, they will go into the recreation centres, not necessarily for competition but just to relax. Indoor games are very popular to the not so young people, including myself. So, funding is very important. We should also bring the corporate world on board because they are very useful partners in providing funding for sports facilities.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also seen in the Sessional Paper that the Minister is considering tax exemption on materials and tax rebate on sponsorship of sports teams and organisations. This is very desirable because he is encouraging people to come on board. At the end of the day, we must not only depend on importing on these sports gear. We must put up some factories to manufacture these sports equipment. This will be an industry on its own and it will create a lot of jobs.

So, in a nutshell, this policy will cater for the young, the aged and the disabled. At the end of the day, we will have so many sports and we will have to manufacture our own sports gear. That is a

beautiful concept. We shall not only create employment for our youth, but also push them forward and fly our flag higher in the world of sports.

With those remarks, I beg to support.

Dr. Kibunguchy: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would also like to start off by congratulating the Minister for coming up with this very timely Sessional Paper. I think for a long time in this country, our sportsmen and women have been left to struggle on their own. Those who have made it have done it on their own. It is very important that the Government now, and the Ministry in particular, recognises that there should be some regulatory framework for sports in this country.

The Sessional Paper talks about very important aspects of what has been lacking, for example, mobilisation of resources and honouring our sports people who have done us proud over the years and arbitration in areas of conflict. The Sessional Paper also talks about coming up with a Sports Bill in this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to spend most of my time talking about sports and the youth. I remember during our young days, we used to have facilities in most of our primary and secondary schools for sports. When you go around this country now, you do not find those facilities any more. You find some schools are built on a small piece of land, for instance, one acre and they lack facilities completely for all these sports events. I think it is extremely important when we talk about this Sessional Paper, that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology should know that we need to go back to the days when all our schools had areas set aside for various sports, be it athletics, football, volleyball or even indoor games.

As a medical doctor, I must mention that sport is a very important aspect of health. But at the same time, sport is also recreation. It has been mentioned, and I must also add my voice and say that with sports, we can get a lot of our young men and women away from activities that are harmful to themselves. Sports can also be a source of employment. We need not quote very many people, but when you look at some of the figures some footballers in the Western part of the world earn per week, you find that it is a very lucrative form of employment. Once we get our sports people out there, they can be an advertisement to the companies that sponsor them and to our country. So, we can end up with what I choose to call sport being a form of advertisement for this country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am glad the Sessional Paper talks about sports facilities. We have talked about schools having areas for sports. We would like other areas in this country, like our market centres, our towns and, indeed, other parts of our rural areas, to have specific areas set aside for development of sports in this country. When we talk about our market centres, we have said that we will set aside areas for planting trees. We should also set aside areas for sports.

Therefore, when we look at this Sessional Paper, it really reaches across both the Ministries of Education, Science and Technology and Local Government.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should foster patriotism in this country. Right now, we seem to be torn apart by very small things like tribalism and status. But sports can bring us very close together. When we are playing football together, for instance, we have some harmony. A good example is our national soccer team, Harambee Stars. That is a way of fighting tribalism which is very rampant in this country. Therefore, as we go ahead and improve our sports facilities in this country, we should encourage our youths to participate in sports and this goes a long way in reducing the barriers between the various classes of people, be it tribal or clichés. When I look at the Sessional Paper, I am encouraged that if it is passed, it will do a lot more than just improve sports. It will also reach across other areas.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to end my contribution by mentioning two things. As has been mentioned, our sportsmen and women require recognition, especially those who have played a huge part in trying to put Kenya on the map of the world. This has been mentioned and I

would like to add my voice to it. They require Presidential recognition. However, we must give incentives to anybody who wants to set up sports facilities in this country.

My final comments will be on a sports development fund that has been suggested by an hon. Member. We can look at sports as an investment and when you are investing in anything, you need to have some funds available. It is possible for us to get these funds. I would like the Minister to explore a little beyond the Budgetary allocation. He should look into the possibility of using a small percentage of the Constituency Development Fund to go towards this fund. He should also look into the possibility of bringing in the private sector and the so-called development partners to contribute towards this fund. The idea of a sports development fund is extremely good and I would like the Minister to consider other areas and see how he can raise revenue.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Education, Science and Technology (Dr. Mwiria): Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to support the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services with regard to the enactment and the implementation of a policy on sports. I would like to begin by congratulating him, like all the other hon. Members, for being the first Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services since Independence to think of the need for us to have a sports policy as the basis for developing sports in this country.

This Sessional Paper also comes at an important time. Even as we talk about how great we have been as a nation in sports, maybe we forget that there has been a great deal of retrogression. A lot of hon. Members spoke about the 1998 Olympics in Seoul, but since then, we have seen total retrogression in sports in this country in terms of how well we do in tracks and fields, in football and even in other sports that are outside the mainstream sports. Some of the reasons for this have been mentioned. They include the fact that we have had too many opportunists who masquerade as people who are interested in sports and who have exploited our sportsmen and women. These agents have been both locally and internationally based.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been very poor management in the existing sports bodies and in Government departments that deal with sports, but more generally, there has been lack of serious interest on the part of the Government to promote a relevant supportive environment. Lack of interest has also been a problem by politicians including former Ministers for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services apart from wanting to accompany our olympic teams to the olympics or Harambee Stars to some place like Tunisia, not because they have an interest in sports, but because it provides an opportunity for some outing. A lot of the things that were done a long time ago in 1960s and 1970s have been forgotten. We had sports programmes in all schools. For example, every Sunday in most secondary schools, there was a cross country which was compulsory for every student. There was a lot interest by principals of schools, especially the expatriates, in talented youths, and they would go out of their way to look for them because they also brought glory to the schools. They would go out and find ways of motivating them. There was a strong Department of Social Services that promoted sports at all levels from the location, divisions to the districts. There were stadiums which were constructed with the national resources, but which were also supported and rehabilitated.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) left the Chair]*

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Mwandawiro) took the Chair]*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have had problems of cultural imperialism even in sports where sports of foreign countries dominate, not only in soccer, but also in other sports that

dominated our television screens and other opportunities for leisure. There were also cultural barriers, especially with regard to the extent which we encouraged women to participate in sports and to distinguish and excel in sports and also in certain communities where sports were not seen as something that should be supported. Many recommendations have been made in terms of how we should get out of this. A very important one is that we should identify talents in good time and have sports programmes in schools. We should also have compulsory sports events in schools and provide scholarship and bursaries to talented sportspeople, including children who are talented in other areas. If we agree that sport is a talent like any other talent, then we should be able to give bursaries to the young people who are good in sports, so that they can compete, exploit and develop that talent.

With regard to schools, we need to promote sports exchanges, not just with schools at the national level, but also with other countries in the region, for example, Uganda, Tanzania and even beyond with European and American countries. When young people have these opportunities, then they can also learn from what is also happening elsewhere.

We should include sports in our school curriculum. Apart from sports just being practised, we should have an examinable subject that incorporates some aspects of sports as a way of popularising and democratising sports. More importantly with regard to schools is the provision of facilities. We should ensure that all schools have sport facilities. We should discourage the setting up of schools on top of bars and in towns without any facilities because it becomes very difficult for young people to grow up and develop their talents in that kind of environment.

Education is not just book knowledge. In fact, a lot of people who are just book worms are not necessarily the best people in terms of management and what they have to share with others in the country. Those who are talented in other areas, for example, sports, music and drama, are people with talents that are important as people who have more degrees than a thermometer. That talent is extremely important and should be developed. Therefore, in addition to the schools, we would ask our planners to ensure that where we are developing new estates, we have sports grounds and adequate sports facilities for the inhabitants of those environments.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we also need to de-elitise sports. You will find that many of the sports like rugby, swimming, tennis, golf and a few others, are only found in certain schools. This is not right. If we agree that Kenyans can be talented in virtually every sport, then we need to ensure that those sports that were basically left for students from advantaged families, who are able to go to Nairobi School or Lenana School and such other elite secondary schools, are not the only ones who have facilities to play all sort of sports. Who knows where we will get the best swimmers from? It may be that rural child who would be the best tennis player or swimmer. However, our educational institutions, parents, communities and the Government have supported those schools and have ensured that for a long time, those facilities were only limited to schools where economically advantaged children went to.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the point has been made about nurturing talent. However, I do not think we are going to do a great deal unless we have academies. We need to develop at least one major academy in every province, if not district, where we can develop talent. This should not just be for sports but for other talents that are related to sporting.

We should also strengthen sports and sports programmes in our public universities. If you go to the USA or Europe, you will find that universities are major competitors and are well resourced to ensure that young people are facilitated to participate in sports. That is the formative stage where most outstanding sports people are to be found at that age. Public universities, therefore, have very strong programmes and many of them have track fields, stadia and facilities that we do not find here. This is important to ensure that we not only nurture that talent but keep our students out of bad habits. As has been said, we should ensure that they have something else that they can do. This is so because we know that all work and no play does not necessarily contribute very effectively to the promotion of a

balanced mind. If we are going to do all these in primary, secondary schools and the universities, it means that apart from the Vote that we are requesting that the Minister for Sports and Gender is empowered to have, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology should also increase its Vote to enable us have sporting events or activities in secondary schools. As of now, it is very limited and it is not possible to support sports as much as we would like by way of encouraging that talent.

The point has been made about why we should encourage our heroes and take care of them even in retirement. It is a shame that our sporting heroes are dying poor. It is a shame that they are jail-birds in Europe. Apart from just giving them honours, because that does not solve any problem - it is what we do for them to ensure that they live and pass on that message. It would be quite clear to the country that apart from the medals, we also take care of athletes, especially if they have been lucky enough to make a lot of money from sporting events. This is why we should be very careful, therefore, before blaming the Cheronos, Kipketers and the Oliechs if we are doing nothing to prove to them that we care. It is not for them to entertain us and to bring glory for a country that does not show any respect or any interest in supporting those kinds of athletes. We have to put mechanisms in place and ensure that we recognise them. That must be seen! It should not just be politicians and unscrupulous sports administrators taking advantage of these young talents. If we do that, and we have a climate that is attractive, we can be sure that there will be very few athletes wanting to get out of this country.

In terms of sporting, the point has also been made that we should democratise it and make sure that we have a national environment that is not just limited to schools. Every council, location and division can have sports events. Here we can have national meets not just with the police force and the Military, as is currently the case, but generally, to promote every sector of this society. We should have competitions and they should start right from the grassroots to the national level as a way of encouraging even that talent that is not likely to be seen to be international.

We also need to make sports part of our national culture and that is one way of doing it. However, that culture must also be reflected in leadership. We must have leaders, principals of schools and politicians who are healthy. Apart from going to gyms, there should be evidence that the people who lead believe in sports and that they are healthy as a basis for promoting or making that part of our national culture. In addition, we should have stadia, rehabilitate those that are already in place and build some more to ensure that these facilities are accessible to a wide cross-section of the Kenyan society.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we should also have sporting exchanges and training camps where we can send our best to Europe and the USA and bring Europeans and Americans to our schools. We should also bring coaches from those countries who would be happy to volunteer to train our young people because of our good reputation. If we had those facilities and we invited them, it is possible to make arrangements between our national, European and American associations to bring the best coaches for our schools. This will ensure that they also benefit our athletes and others who are talented in other sports. We can sponsor international meets like the one we had. We had a track meet recently where we brought a few internationals. We can have more of those, not just for track and field events but also for other events. We should do everything possible to ensure that we have enough sponsorship from companies and governments to bring them here. We will again be popular in sports because we will be giving our Kenyans a chance to have experience with world known athletic, football and other stars.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, management will continue to be important. It is not enough to have sports bodies. It is important to ensure that the people who man those associations are people of integrity, people who are subjected to rules of transparency and who are not out to exploit the athletes, not only in terms of their time but also in terms of utilising the resources that have been voted for by the Government or being donated by well-wishing companies like Coca Cola and others.

We should ensure that those resources are well spent.

The point has been made on diversification of sports. We should ask ourselves: What kind of indigenous sports can we promote? What can Kenya, being one of the leaders in sports in the Continent, do to ensure that we give prominence to some African sport that could even be accommodated under the Olympics and others? Right now, all the sports that we have in the Olympics are Western in origin yet we have African sports that we have not promoted. Kenya is quite well placed to ensure that those kinds of sports, even if it is one or two, become part of the Olympic programme. One of the reasons why we cannot do so well is because we do not have a culture in many of the sports that are practised by a wide cross-section of our society or because we do not have resources. We need to have interest in our own sports and popularise them on televisions so that we would not get into the ridiculous habit of having most Kenyans getting crazy about Manchester United, Arsenal or Chelsea football clubs when we have our own sports that we are not promoting. This should not just be on television or radio, but also in terms of having international competitions where these events are given a lot of prominence and where we encourage Kenyans of all walks of life to participate in them.

National visibility is important and it is not just in terms of having sports projected on television and other social places, but also in terms of getting politicians and leaders to be interested in sports. We should ensure that our President and Ministers attend big sporting events. At the constituency and district level, all hon. Members as well as all local leaders should participate in sports events and to promote, not just during the elections campaign but to have annual events where they are seen to be prominent. They should promote sporting events because that is the only way of encouraging our youth to realise that even leaders are placing an important premium on sports and that, therefore, it is something worth pursuing. We must not just leave it to the campaigns.

Much of this will happen through partnerships. Many things will have to be done across Ministries and, therefore, we need inter-Ministerial co-ordination. We also need the participation of the private sector. If we ask donors to support sports development in this country, there will be a lot of interest because Kenya is well known. It is a question of going out there, identifying those multilateral and bilateral donors as well as individual philanthropists in terms of sports personalities from those countries that have made it and can contribute to nurturing talent that they believe they can see emanating from our country.

Much of that will require putting in place several structures. However, we must be careful of how many structures we put in place. I do not think we need to create other monsters through this document. We need to be careful on how we start. We should start with small units and take advantage of the already existing structures. We should harness the resources that we have. In fact, in the universities, we have departments of sports. Even as we talk about a sporting institute, we should ask: What is it that we are doing to take advantage of what is already taking place in our universities? We have university professors who are doing research. There are professors who are training young people in those areas. So, is it really necessary to begin to think of an independent institute when we could take advantage of what is already existing?

(Applause)

I think that point needs to be taken seriously because we could be creating other structures and duplicating resources that are limited.

Finally, I would like to say that all these good things, whether they are in the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture, and Social Services or Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, will really depend on the extent to which this country experiences economic growth. If we have economic growth, we can provide the facilities. Our people will eat better and participate in sports. They will do

much better. If we have economic growth, we will have people with an income. That way, if we have professional sports, people can afford to pay to watch them. So, economic growth is the key. It is not that Kenyans do not like sports. If you find our stadiums empty, it is partly because many people do not have an income and, therefore, cannot afford to pay. That is on top of the fact that, we have not popularised sports. So, economic growth is the key in terms of whether or not we are going to have facilities and people who are going to embrace sports.

It is for that reason that I am delighted that, maybe, we are now beginning to focus much more on development as opposed to politics. We are not concerned about who gets into State House or who becomes a Minister. If we do that, we will achieve a lot. We will have a strong community, a strong Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services that will support the good programmes that are being proposed in this Sessional Paper.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Assistant Minister for Environment and Natural Resources (Prof. Maathai): Thank you very much, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to contribute to this excellent Sessional Paper. First of all, I would like to compliment the Minister for working to ensure that his Ministry is given the attention that it deserves. I think that, in this country, we have yet to appreciate the role of culture. I think that the Minister is one of the few individuals in this country who have identified and appreciated the role of culture. He has put in a lot of efforts since he took over this Ministry. For example, he developed a national dress. Although, it is still not as popular as we had hoped, it is, indeed, a very commendable achievement. The Minister has told us that we need to develop our culture.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have said many times that, quite often, when we, Africans, speak about our culture, people tend to think that we are talking about primitivity, backwardness and paganistic practices. That is because we have been encouraged and persuaded to think that some elements of our culture are primitive. As a result, we have tended to hate, dislike and trivialise our culture. What we do not quite appreciate is that, in so doing, we hate, trivialise and do not take ourselves seriously. Therefore, I would like to say that it is very important for us to understand the value of this Ministry, and how important it is to our national character.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, I was reading a newspaper and could not help reading an article about the way Britons see Africans. They were discussing about the cancellation of our debts. The questions that were put to Britons were: Should debts to poor countries in the world be cancelled, especially in Africa where those poor countries are? Would the Africans benefit if those debts were cancelled? The article further said that the British people said: "It would make no difference if those debts were cancelled because African leaders are corrupt, have no respect for debts, have no commitment to their people, they steal from their people and misgovern their people. Therefore, whether those debts are cancelled or not, poverty and under-development in Africa will continue." That is an image that has been internalised by many people, especially in developed countries. Despite the campaigns that we have been carrying out to educate them about how we acquired those debts, very few of them have confidence in the African people, our ability to govern ourselves properly and the ability to project ourselves positively.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was also another article that said that, even if our economy grows, it is unlikely that the African poor people would benefit. That is because - they said - to a very large extent, the wealth of Africa is not equitably distributed. It is in the hands of a few people, many of them foreigners and, therefore, the wealth eventually leaves the continent. Even in African countries that have little wealth, it is retained in the hands of a few people. As a result, therefore, even when our economy grows, we do not--- Even when we have resources such as oil, timber and minerals, we continue to be a very poor part of the world.

As I was reading those articles this morning, I was saddened by the fact that, here we are, as

Africans, with a very rich continent - it is among the richest in the world in terms of resources - and yet, we are among the poorest people in the world. What is wrong? What is missing? I could not help identifying what I was reading and what I think is missing in our region. What we are missing are the kind of values that we find in our athletes. The kind of values that are cultivated by sportsmen and women. I thought that besides sports being a portrayal of a peoples' culture, it is very important for us to understand that we should promote our traditional sports. They can help us to promote our values among our young people. Those values are to be found in almost every athlete. Those are the values that, quite often, we lack in our leaders. Those are the values that have made people in the world have a certain attitude and image about Africans.

When I was thinking about those values, I thought about the value of competitiveness that you find in those athletes. When you see those athletes competing, you can not help but be inspired by their commitment to what they are doing, their determination and willingness to pursue. I am more often amazed by the fact that, when the athletes are running or swimmers are swimming, even the last one continues to pursue his or her goal until the end. Even when the person knows that the winner, the second and the third places have already been declared, they continue running or swimming until they finish. That is determination. It is a spirit of competitiveness that we will not give up no matter what one is doing. You must pursue your goal until you have achieved it. To complete the game is to achieve the goal. He or she may not be the winner but he or she has completed the goal. That is very important. To me, it is a value that is definitely very important in our lives.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other value that I find extremely admirable is that one of co-operation. For example when you see a team working. It is that spirit of teamwork and commitment to support your team to work towards that one goal. For example, we see the soccer players work as a team and pull towards the same direction.

As a nation, we should learn that spirit of co-operation so that we do not pull each other into pieces; so that as leaders and Members of Parliament, we are willing to work in the spirit of co-operation for the common good. We should be willing to sacrifice our own ego and aspirations for the greater goal of the country.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other value is confidence. Recently, I visited primary schools in my constituency and I was really shocked by the pupils' fear. This is something that the Minister for Education, Science and Technology should look into. It is very persistent in our schools. There is a spirit of fear in our schools and anyone who has not experienced that should visit their primary or secondary schools and try to speak to the students and see how fearful these children are. Ask yourself: Who instills fear in these children? Is it the teachers, parents or society in general? How come these children do not have confidence? When people have confidence they do not need to be arrogant. They do not need to be overwhelming. They develop a spirit of balance. They are not cowed but they are also not aggressive in a negative way. You find that confidence in athletes. It is the fact that they can stand their ground, that as far as they are concerned, they feel they are okay. If you ever come across an athlete that is something you clearly recognise immediately and this is a value that we should truly cultivate. If we do not cultivate it among children during school time, believe me, you will not cultivate it in an adult. Cowardly, intimidated adults who are not confident tend to be aggressive because they lack confidence. They do not listen to each other and they do not have a spirit of dialogue and give and take because they are aggressive. Deep inside, they are cowards and they are easily intimidated and that usually comes right from school and I wish the Minister for Education, Science and Technology could look into that. These are some of the problems that our children could overcome during sports time.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other value that I want to mention and I am really dwelling on these values because we should not just look at this paper as a Sessional Paper for Sports Development and just see children playing or sportsmen and women competing but we must see the

other values of promoting sports.

We must see why it is such an important issue that the Minister is trying to develop a policy because these are the outcomes of a nation that has a policy in sports. What we see in sportsmen is motivation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, motivation is a very important value. It is related to that spirit of competitiveness. When you are competitive, you are also motivated and you have the spirit of give and take. You also have the spirit of willing to win, but you are also willing to accept that the other person might win and you might lose, and if you lose, do not fight the person who wins; and these are very important values. We have too many people who are not motivated and I think that part of the reasons why our young people have become so vulnerable to destructive behaviour such as drugs and alcohol abuse is because there is no adequate motivation to learn, have a vision, and commitment towards a goal and sports does that. Sports gives one a sense of motivation and hard work.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you watch athletes training, you will find that it is something that can almost bring tears to your eyes. They push themselves to the limit and they do not want to accept the second best. They keep trying and they push on in contrast to people who give up at the first trial. These are people who give up and turn to drugs and alcohol and become destructive to their bodies. When you look at those athletes training, you feel that this is really something that all of us should have, maybe not as good and determined and hardworking as they are but we must, as a nation, have some aspects of these values. These are the values to work hard at persistently. They train today, tomorrow and the day after. They go and compete and win but they still train.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Mwandawiro) left the Chair]*

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) took the Chair]*

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in any country of course you cannot have all the people as hardworking but you can have a country where you have a critical mass of people who believe in hard work. If as many of us believed in hard work as opposed to lying idle, we would not be such a poor country, and even our President has told us that very often. In fact, he reminded us on Madaraka Day that we must be a hardworking nation; that we must be people who work. It is quite amazing at times that as much as there is much work to be done, we want to pretend that there is no work and yet we have not terraced that land so that as it is raining now, the soil is not washed away by water. We have not dug trenches and ditches on our land so that the water does not wash away our soil. We are not planting any trees at a time like this when the rains are falling so that we can improve our environment. There are so many things we are not doing. We are not planting sugar-cane, bananas, cassavas and sweet potatoes. There are so many things that we should be doing. We should be planting sugar cane, bananas and sweet potatoes. These are activities that we could all be involved in to ensure that we are not food insecure. So many people will not do that, yet they pretend they do not have anything to do. They would rather go and drink alcohol and take drugs in pretence of unemployment. That is just an excuse for laziness. Hard work is a value that is extremely important. I know that if there are people who have cultivated it, it is the athletes.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue that is very important especially for us leaders is that spirit of fair play. We have heard about athletes who take performance-enhancing drugs, but the majority of them excel because of hard work. They go to the field and expect fair play. Justice is a very important virtue. Whether we are talking about justice on the field by athletes or at national

level in politics and economics, it is a very important virtue and value.

Recently in this House, we saw a situation where the KWS was recruiting candidates for training in Manyani. We were told that 450 people were supposed to go for training, but we ended up having close to 900 people. As we know, half of those people had to be sent home. What was amazing to me was that it was us hon. Members of Parliament; people who are expected to be promoting good governance - we talk about good governance, accountability, democracy and transparency - but when it comes to practising fair play and justice, we completely fail the test. We are the first to go there and put pressure on the director so that we end up sending our people there. It was even claimed that some hon. Members had sent close to 80 people to Manyani. There are people in this House including me who were not able to send even one person to that place to be trained.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it appears that even hon. Members of Parliament do not have that sense of justice and fair play. That is something that athletes believe in, though not 100 per cent, but at least it is a value that they really believe in and promote with a lot of determination. We say quite often in this House that insecurity is undermining our development because it is preventing people from investing in this country. One of the reasons why we have insecurity here is because we do not have equitable distribution of resources. This is unjust and unfair. We do not believe in fair play and justice. If you do not believe in that, eventually you end up having a country where a few people have it, while most people do not have it. Therefore, those who have it have to protect themselves from the poor, often from killings.

It seems that we are gradually getting into the psyche of accepting that we can continue to kill innocent people under the pretence that we suspect that they were stealing. Most of those people who have those resources that they are trying to protect did not get them in a fair and just way. We want to pretend that because they have that wealth they have to be protected. That sense of justice and fair play is a value that is extremely important.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the other issue that I want to mention is the value of honesty. Nobody would go to compete in the field if they believed that their competitor would not be honest. We sometimes see the punishment that the referees are willing to give to those they believe are being dishonest. Honesty is an extremely important value. One of the reasons why we sometimes refuse to accept decisions that have been made, is because we believe there was dishonesty.

I want to commend the Minister and appeal to him, that as he develops the sport, he should look at some of these values and imagine what could happen to a nation like ours if we focused and deliberately ensured that we invest in sports in order to promote these values. If we realised how important these values are we could channel and captivate them through sports. If we do that, I believe that the recommendations that the Minister has made would be embraced. We would be willing to invest money there so as to improve the nation, our people, our children and, therefore, the leadership of tomorrow.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, sports also help creativity. In countries where sports have been taken as seriously as I am hoping that the Minister will be supported, we see jobs creation. There is a lot of creativity. Alongside sports come artifacts, T-shirts, balls *et cetera*. You give people an opportunity to be extremely creative. Let us create spaces in our towns and cities where our children can play. Let us recognise our athletes. Let us praise them and give them medals. We should let them know that we share in their growth and that we are grateful that they bring so much recognition and inspiration, not only to themselves, but also to the younger generation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this country, we need to know that sports is not only for young people. Sports and fitness is also for old people. You cannot develop a country with people who are unfit and suffering from diseases that are associated with poor nutrition and lack of exercise.

Therefore, let us support the Minister and give him money to raise the sports status in this country so that it can become a vehicle for us to improve and inculcate strong values that would make

our nation respected, not only because we run and box, but also because we have inculcated in our youth very strong values such as I have enumerated.

I beg to support.

Mr. Angwenyi: Thank you, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. First of all, I want to thank the Minister for preparing one of the best Sessional Papers that have been presented in this House in my last seven years in this Parliament. I did not even like the categorization of the Sessional Paper into the mission and the vision. It makes it look like we should give some of these jobs to younger people who have a vision and mission to accomplish. Sports is a very valuable activity for human beings. In fact, for a person to be healthy, that person must be sportsman-like. You can see the way I move around - I used to be a sportsman when I was a young man.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, the only problem we have in this country is that we do not recognise, appreciate or reward our sportsmen. We do not appreciate the efforts made by our athletes. I do not know why the performance in sports has deteriorated in this country over the years - There is only one area in North Rift that seems to excel in athletics. It is because we neither appreciate nor reward those who have performed well in athletics and sports in general. When I was younger, whenever an athlete from Kenya went to compete overseas, it was broadcast throughout the country. I remember that in the early 1970s---

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Ojode): On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Yes, what is it, Mr. Ojode?

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will agree with me that there are several speakers who have debated on this particular Sessional Paper. Could I, therefore, be in order to suggest that the Mover be now called upon to reply?

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Should I continue?

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! The requirement is that once a Member rises on such a point of order, then it behoves the Chair to put the matter on the Floor of the House.

*(Question, that the Mover be now
called upon to reply,
put and agreed to)*

Mr. Sungu: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. Being the Chairman of the Bunge Sports Club, at least, I would have been given a chance to contribute.

Hon. Members: The Minister will donate some of his time!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Members! Hon. Sungu is addressing the Chair and so you cannot assume my responsibility.

Mr. Sungu: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was pleading to you that you take cognisance of the fact that I am the Chairman of Bunge Sports Club and that since this is a very important Motion, I should have been given an opportunity to contribute!

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Sungu! The Chair has heard, but the ruling has already been made.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is no quorum in the House!

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Wetangula): Mr. Angwenyi, that is

mischievous!

*(The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Mr. Ethuro) consulted
with the Clerk)*

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Members! We are consulting on a Standing Order in order to respond appropriately to hon. Angwenyi. Meanwhile, the Minister can proceed.

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. We want to follow the rules of this House. If, indeed, there is no quorum in the House---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! I think you have formed the habit of lecturing the Chair. I have just told you that we are consulting on a relevant Standing Order. That is in pursuit of the rules of the House. That is exactly what we are doing. We have our own opinion too.

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, in view of the point made by hon. Sungu and hon. Odoyo, I will, with your indulgence, donate three minutes to each one of them and also three minutes to Dr. Khalwale.

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have just been given 180 seconds by the generous Minister, through the Chair, to contribute to this Motion. May I add my voice to the fact that the quality of football and table tennis are going down.

(Loud consultations)

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, please, protect us from hon. Angwenyi, who is becoming a nuisance.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Angwenyi! I have ordered you so previously.

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Thank you for protecting me from Mr. Angwenyi---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Odoyo! Why are you flogging a dead horse? Proceed!

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Today, the sports fraternity is faced with such situations like change of citizenship. We have athletes who want to change their citizenship and the so-called "Oliech saga". Mr. Oliech is not prepared to play for this country.

Therefore, we need to harmonize and streamline the sports fraternity and institutions in this country. Russia is a good example where sports start from infancy and go on up to old age. We have to learn something from such countries.

Today, we have Kisumu Stadium which is not able to host any function, yet this country knows that Kisumu is a bedrock of football in this country. The time is ripe for us to make professionalism mandatory in all spheres including athletics, football and hockey. There was a time when hockey in Kenya was ranked at number four or five but today, it is nowhere. There was a time when people played tennis up to the international level but today, the standards of tennis are going down. The same applies for table tennis. There was a time when the last major trophy won by Kenya was by Gor Mahia FC almost 18 years ago. Something has to be done. Our cricket came in a flash but

the association managing cricket is today facing a problem.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the issue of traditional sports like traditional wrestling which used to be there between Luos and Luhyas. The first Goldenberg was in 1987 and I urge that the National Sports---

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, Mr. Odoyo! Your time is up!

The Assistant Minister for Regional Development Authorities (Mr. Odoyo): Thank you Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. I beg to support the Motion.

Mr. Sungu: Thank you Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. First, I would like to congratulate the Minister for bringing this Sessional Paper to the Floor of the House. The importance of sports cannot be gainsaid, and our sportsmen and women have demonstrated that very ably. We have the example of athletics where our sons and daughters have really made us proud in this country. The opposite is true in football, and I would like to plead from the bottom of my heart that, attention should be given to this area, which is also very, very popular and important to this Republic as it can also afford an opportunity for our sons and daughters to excel in the world of sports.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is important for the Government to give utmost attention and funding to sports. Only the other day, we had the rather unfortunate situation surrounding the Harambee Stars where one of the key players, Mr. Dennis Oliech, was not able to travel to Guinea because of lack of payment. I believe and do hope that such a scenario will never arise again. I also believe that it is really very awkward that a national team representing the Republic of Kenya could find itself in the unfortunate situation where it does not have enough finances to travel overseas or even pay for visas and so on. The question of sports stadia from Lodwar to Kisumu, Mombasa, and Nairobi is a case in point.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, many of our sports stadia are completely ruined. In fact, they look like dust boards. It is sad that we do not have a stadium along Jogoo Road where Mr. Aketch used to play. The story is the same for stadia in Dandora and Kibera. Therefore, on that score, I would like to support this Sessional Paper and urge the Minister to make sure that we, as a country, invest a lot in this area.

Dr. Khalwale: Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me start off by congratulating the Minister for giving me an opportunity to speak in support of his very good ideas as envisioned in the Sessional Paper.

It is a shame that after 42 years of Independence, our predecessors in the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services did not see the need of having a national sports policy. We weep for the many football coaches and other sports coaches, many sportsmen and sportswomen and schools who use their meagre resources to make sure that they excel in sports. But, at the end of the day when they have excelled, we want to take the glory from them and blame them when they stand to raise a voice.

A lot has been said about the need to invest in sports. I would like to reemphasise the same because if we invest in sports, we will give our nation an identity. A nation like Brazil has a great soccer identity. We could have our own identity. This has been proved by the few athletes mainly from a certain community in Rift Valley Province. If we invest in athletics, I am sure we will have a national identity.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently we witnessed defections of some of our young athletes to European and other Arabic countries. This is because of lack of support. We must support our people because sports is currently a major form of employment. It is a major form of economic empowerment, not just for the players, but also for the teams, communities and the nation.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are lucky to have a Minister in this Ministry who comes from one of the communities that has a got a track history of having produced good footballers in this country. I would urge him to be focused. He should not waste funds meant to promote soccer

by taking them to places in this country where there is no history of soccer playing at all.

I suggest that if we are to promote football in this country, then the Ministry must revive the renown football clubs like Gor Mahia and AFC.

Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services (Mr. Ochilo-Ayacko): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your further indulgence may I donate two minutes of my time to Mr. Ojode.

The Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Ojode): Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me also add my voice by congratulating the Minister.

QUORUM

Mr. Angwenyi: On a point of order, Mr. Temporary Deputy Speaker, Sir. There is no quorum. This is the same hon. Member who said we have talked about this issue exhaustively.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! Mr. Angwenyi, you are very right. This side is treating the House to a circus. An hon. Member cannot rise on a point of order to [**The Temporary Deputy Speaker**] say we have exhaustively discussed this Motion and then he goes ahead to make a contribution! According to Standing Order No.25, we need to count the number of hon. Members who make a quorum.

Indeed, we do not have a quorum. Ring the Division Bell.

(The Division Bell was rung)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Ethuro): Order, hon. Members! It is now time for interruption of business. The House is, therefore, adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday 8th June, 2005 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 6.30 p.m.