REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 1st December, 2021

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

MEMBERS KAMUKUNJI

Speaker: Hon. Members I just have a short communication. It has been communicated to you we are going to have a Kamukunji or consultation meeting for all Members immediately after this just within the chambers. After this plenary, let us remain behind so that we can consult. I would really like to request we do not go for tea so that we can finish then we can free ourselves.

MOTION

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Speaker: Hon. Suge.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion on behalf of the Chair Agriculture and Natural Resources, who has just arrived.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT, this Assembly adopts the annual report by the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources for the period between July 2019 and June 2020 for the department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries dated 9th November, 2021.

I will start with the constitution of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee was constituted by the House on 28th September, 2017 pursuant to Standing Order No. 191 (1). The committee's membership according to S.O No. 157 comprised of the following five Honourable Members:-

1. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Chairperson
2. Hon Patricia Muthoni - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Robert Maina - Member
4. Hon. Peter Matunge - Member
5. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu - Member

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The Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee was re-constituted for the first time by the House on 21st April, 2021 pursuant to Standing Order No. 191 (1). The committee's membership according to S.O No. 157 comprised of the following five honourable Members;

1. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Chairperson
2. Hon. Patricia Muthoni - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Robert Maina - Member
4. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu - Member
5. Hon. Mutahi Muritu - Member

Speaker: Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Daniel Nyausi: Hon. Speaker I am not sure whether I have got the right paper. Mine is reading Hon. Patricia is the Vice Chair in the first and second one. The Hon. Member has continued to say Member, I stand to be corrected.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thanks for the correction. Hon. Patricia Muthoni is the Vice Chairperson.

The committee was reconstituted for the second time on 28th September, 2021. Two Members were added to the committee's membership to become seven (Odd number) according to SO No. 157 and is currently comprised of the following:-

1. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Chairperson
2. Hon. Patricia Muthoni - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Robert Maina - Member
4. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu - Member
5. Hon. Mutahi Muritu - Member
6. Hon. Peter Thomi - Member
7. Hon. Lochimidi J. Esokon - Member

The mandate of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee in the Standing Order No. 191 is mandated to investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters related to agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, livestock sale yards, county abattoirs, plant and animal disease control and fisheries, implementation of specific national government policies on natural resources and environmental conservation, including soil and water conservation and forestry and control of air pollution, noise pollution, other public nuisances and outdoor advertising.

Limitation of mandate, according to Standing Order 177, the committee is limited to its mandate as follows:-

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1) The deliberations of a select committee shall be confined to the mandate of the committee and any extension or limitation of that mandate as may be directed by the Assembly and, in the case of a select committee on a Bill, to the Bill committed to it and relevant amendments.
2) In the exercise of its functions, a select committee may not consider any matter that is not contemplated within the mandate of the Assembly under the Constitution.

We have Scrutiny of the Quarterly report. According to the committee's mandate (SO 191), the committee held several meetings to scrutinize the report in order to report back to the House. After scrutiny of the report, the committee wrote this report in order to present it to the House for adoption.

Acknowledgement,

On behalf of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, I wish to extend my gratefulness to the Members of this House for the support they have always accorded to the committee. Secondly, I wish to acknowledge the Members of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee for their continued commitment. Lastly Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize your office and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly of Laikipia for the support accorded to the committee which has enabled performance of its oversight mandate through the reports received from the County Executive.

Mr. Speaker, Sir. It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Committee to table this report and recommend it to the House for adoption.

According to the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 sections 163, 164 165 and 166, the County Treasury is required to prepare financial statements of each County Government Entity, receiver of Revenue and Consolidated Financial Statements for all County Government entities at the end of every financial year in accordance with the standards and formats described by the public Sector Accounting Standards Board.

For this reason, the County Assembly received a quarterly report and Financial Statements for the Period ended 30th June, 2020 for 2019/2020 Financial Year. The report was committed to Sectoral committees which in turn are mandated to scrutinize and write a report for tabling in the House.

Mr. Speaker. On page four on financial performance, the following table shows the financial performance (approved budget and expenditures for Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4) of the said department for the period under review:

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Program/sub program	Approved budget 2019/2020 FY (A)	Expenditure for the period ended 31st Sept. 2019 (B)	Expenditure for the period ended 31st Dec. 2019 (C)	Expenditure for the period ended 31st March, 2020 (D)	Expenditure for the period ended 30th June, 2020 (E)	Total Expenditure (F)= B+C+D+E	Variance (G) A-F	% Absorption Rate
Headquarter Administration Services	**82,859,668**	9,410,680.00	22,740,426	13,424,853	7,275,727	**52,851,686**	30,007,982	59.95
Agriculture Sector Extension Management	**37,397,616**	187,800.00	4,031,338.00	1,199,300	2,767,393	**8,185,831**	29,211,785	21.89
Livestock Resources Management and Development								
SP2 Livestock Production and Management	**9,280,000**	0	570,000.00	66,000.00	541,100.00	**1,177,100**	8,102,900.00	13.14
SP4 Animal Health and Disease Management and Control	**243,640,271**	0	5,504,667.00	54,891,100	38,230,500	**98,626,267**	149,435,121.00	39.76
Fisheries Productivity Program								

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Promotion of Irrigation and Drainage Development and Management	**2,200,000.**	0	339,100	303,834	94,250	**737,184**	1,462,816	33.51
Fisheries Development and Management								
Crop Development and Management								
Land and Crop Productivity Enhancement and Management	**3,470,611**	0	451,200	66,900	204,280	**722,380**	2,748,231	20.8
Irrigation Development and Management	**14,456,874**	0	108,700	0	123,800	**232,500**	14,667,500.00	1.56
Strategic Food Security Service	**104,566,406**	0	19,095,083	3,358,443	8,977,291.00	**31,430,817**	73,135,589.00	30.06
	497,871,446	**9,598,480**	**52,840,514**	**73,310,430**	**58,214,341**	**193,963,765**	**308,771,924**	38.96

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The next table represents the grants received by the department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries for four quarters (1st – 4th) quarters of the year. These were Grants received by the Department from the International Organizations for four quarters of 2019/2020 Financial Year

Name of Donor	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	Q4	**Cumulative**
Agriculture Sector Development Support Project (ASDSP)	-	0	14,771,019	1,500,000	16,271,019
World Bank - Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP)	-	50,214,821		61,385,648	111,600,469
EU Ideas	-	-	-	-	-
Total Grants	**-**	**50,214,821.00**	**14,771,019.00**	**62,885,648.0**	**127,871,488.0**

The committee observed the following:

1. The department was allocated an annual budget of Kshs. 497,871,446.00 for the financial year 2019/2020 out of which the expenditure for the 4th quarter was Kshs. 58,214,341.0. This makes the cumulative expenditure for the year to be Kshs. 193,963,765.00 representing 38.96% (Table 1). From the reported expenditures and absorptions, the committee draws the following observations;

   a) Animal Health and Disease Management and Control Program had the highest allocation of Kshs. 243,640,271.00 out of which an expenditure of only Kshs. 98,626,267.00 was incurred representing 39.75% absorption rate

   b) Strategic Food Security Service had an allocation of Kshs. 104,566,406.00 out of which an expenditure of Kshs. 31,430,817.00 was incurred representing 30.06% absorption rate.

2. The department did not receive any grants from EU Ideas in the period under review.

The committee recommends that: -

a) The county department to improve on the utilization of funds allocated to the various votes, the allocation of funds to be based on the ability of the department to absorb.

b) The House adopts the committee's report for the period ending 30th June, 2020.

Mr. Speaker, this is the report of the Agriculture committee for the 1st to 4th quarter of the financial year 2019/2020. Since the Members have been following the report, I know they have clearly seen how the department utilized their budget within that period.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to support the observation of the committee on what they have observed and recommended. What the department should do to ensure that the money that has been appropriated and the money that has been budgeted is well utilized, for the better and improvement of the people of Laikipia County.

In the first observation you have seen the department, didn't spent the money fully for the Animal Health and Disease Management control. This Assembly had appropriated for Kshs.3,000,000 but they ended up spending Kshs.98,626,000. This is a great concern in this Assembly, because we as the people of Laikipia really depend on animal products.

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It has been our concern that this County should adhere with disease measures, so that our farmers may not suffer from those diseases. We usually have the foot and mouth and the anthrax which does affect our pastoralists communicates. This money should be catered for the procurement of drugs to minimize the diseases. We know that if the diseases are well controlled, the meat production will also increase.

There is another issue of food production whereby the Assembly allocated Kshs.406 million and the department ended up spending only Kshs.31 million. This is the department which should have worked seriously and tirelessly to see that we have got food security in this county. We have the extension department which should work very closely with our farmers to see that our people do get the right skills to improve production so that we can have enough food in our stores. If the department is spending Kshs.31 million out of Kshs.104 million, I think that there is a great concern and a question that this department should answer to the committee.

With those few remarks, I would urge the Members to support the report. I also thank the Chairperson and the Members of this committee. They had to burn the midnight oil to bring this report at the right time. I call upon the Chairperson, Hon. Simon Kanyutu to second the report. Thank you.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second our report and I thank the Hon. Member, my neighbour for having read it on my behalf. I don't have much to add on what he has stated. However, I am concerned that the county department needs to improve on utilization of funds allocated to various votes, and also the allocation of funds to be based on the ability of the department to absorb. Mr. Speaker, as we were doing the report we found that there are some departments in the same agriculture which were not able to absorb the funds as allocated. So I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Kwanza nataka kushukuru kamati kwa ripoti ambayo wameleta kuhusu hesabu kwa muda kati ya 2019 hadi mwezi wa sita 2020. Hii ni Idara ya Kilimo na langu ni kutoa maoni yangu kuhusu hii idara. Kulingana na ripoti ambayo imeweza kuletwa hapa na mwenyekiti wa hiyo idara, inaonyesha ya kwamba pesa ambayo ilikuwa zimetengewa hiyo idara na vile zimetumika.

Bwana Spika, hii ripoti inaeleza vizuri ya kwamba ni ripoti ya robo ya kwanza hadi ya nne na hiyo ni ya mwaka mzima. Kile ambacho nimeweza kuona katika hii idara ni ya kwamba kuna uzembe mahali fulani kwa sababu ukiangalia zile mipangilio ambayo imewekwa hapa utaweza kuona ya kwamba hii idara katika kipengele cha mwisho upande wa *absorption rate,* hizi *sub-programme* zote wameenda chini ya 50%. Hii ni kumaanisha ya kwamba mwaka mzima zile pesa ambazo idara ilikuwa imetengewa ambazo ni Shilingi milioni 497, na zile ambazo waliweza kutumia, unaona ya kwamba ni 39.96% ambayo ni hatari sana.

Kamati wangeweza kutueleza kwa sababu waliweza kukaa na wale maafisa na kuwaelezea zile pesa ambazo waliweza kutumia kwa huo mwaka. Wangeweza pia kuwaeleza ni ngapi iliyobaki katika hiyo idara na ilienda wapi. Kama umepewa pesa na haujatumia vile ipasavyo na ni mwaka mzima, ni lazima kuwa ya kwamba kuna mahali uliweka hizo pesa au ziko kwingine hadi wakati huu. Tunajua ya kwamba wakati mwaka umeisha, ile bajeti ambayo ilikuwa imetengewa hiyo idara huwa inarudishwa. Kwa hivyo tungeweza kujua kama hizi pesa zilirudishwa kwa serikali kuu ama zilienda wapi.

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Katika huo mwaka utaona ya kwamba kulikuwa na shida. Hata mipangilio ya *strategies food security services* waliweza kutumia 30.6%. Tunajua ya kwamba huo ni mwaka ambapo korona iliingia na kulikuwa na shida. Watu walikua wanaumia kumaanisha ya kwamba hizo pesa hazikuweza kutumika. Tungetaka kujua afisa wa mahesabu katika hiyo idara ni kazi ipi alikuwa anafanya na pia kama yeye yuko na uwezo wa kuendelesha hiyo idara. Hata waziri mwenyewe tunafaa tuelezwe na kamati kwa sababu wao wenyewe ndio wameweza kukutana naye na kumuuliza hayo maswali. Nadhani mwenyekiti yuko na hayo majibu kwa sababu hizi ni pesa nyingi. 38% ambazo zimetumika ni kuonyesha ya kwamba kuna 62% ambayo haijatumika, iko wapi au iko na nani? Iko na Kanyutu au iko na Suge. Iko na Gavana ama iko na waziri.

Ningeomba kamati ya Kilimo kama wameweza kuangalia hiyo idara na kuona ya kwamba hawawezi kutumia pesa vizuri kwa sababu hata kwa ripoti yao wameweza kuweka mapendekezo ya kwamba; *the department to improve on the utilization of funds allocated to the various votes, the allocation of funds to be based on the ability of the department to absorb.* Kwa hivyo ni kumaanisha ya kwamba kama kamati wenyewe wameona ya kwamba hii idara hawawezi hizo pesa, ni vizuri wangependekeza ya kwamba kwa bajeti ambayo inakuja tuweke pesa kwa idara ambazo zinaweza kutumia pesa vizuri.

Tuko na idara kama ya afya ambayo iko na shida kwa sababu watu hawana madawa na pia madaktari. Ni kwa nini hizi pesa katika hii idara ambazo hazikuweza kutumika ziwekwe kufanya hiyo kazi. Nakumbuka pai 2019 kulikuwa na shida. Ng'ombe zilipata ugonjwa wa *foot and mouth.* Ni kwa nini hizi pesa hazikuweza kusaidia yule mkulima ambaye alikuwa anafaa kutumikiwa. Kwani hizo pesa zilienda wapi. Najua ya kwamba mwenyekiti yuko na hiyo ripoti na atatuelezea kwa sababu wakati wanakaa na huyo waziri huwa wanawakilisha hili Bunge. Nafikiria ya kwamba mwenyekiti na kamati yake wako na hiyo ripoti.

Bwana Spika, katika ripoti ambayo imeletwa ya huo mwaka, Bunge la Laikipia, liliweza kutumia 100% kumaanisha ya kwamba hiyo ni idara ambayo iliweza kutumia pesa yote vizuri. Ukiangalia hii idara iliweza tu kutumia 38%. Hiyo ni kuleta mchezo sana na pesa ya mwananchi. Kumaanisha ya kwamba mwananchi hakuweza kupewa haki yake inavyostahili. Kwa hivyo mimi nimeshangaa na hii ripoti na vile pia kamati wameweza kuweka mapendekezo.

Naonelea wangeweza kupendekeza ya kwamba hizo pesa zipunguzwe mpaka kiwango ambacho wangeweza kutumia kwa sababu kama mimi ninaweza kutumia tu milioni moja, ni kwa nini unanipatia milioni ishirini? Kama mwingine anaweza kupatiwa milioni thelathini, ni kwa nini unampatia milioni kumi. Mpatie pesa kulingana na vile anaweza kuzitumia na mahali ambapo kutakuwa na manufaa kwa wananchi.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) left the chair]

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Daniel Nyausi) took the chair]

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Chair, it is not your work. Continue with your deliberation.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Kwa kunilinda kutoka kwa Mheshimiwa Kanyutu. Umejua mimi naongea mambo ya ukweli. Hii ni ripoti ambayo imeletwa na kamati na naona iko na kasoro katika ile wizara.

Deputy Speaker: What is it Hon. Simon?

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: I am standing on a point of clarification. As a committee, we have stated on the recommendation that; *The County demanded to improve on the utilization*

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of funds allocated to the various votes. The allocation of funds be based on the ability of the department to absorb. That is the only bone of contention and what the Hon. Member was seeking. As a committee, that's our statement. Even when allocating give a vote as per the absorption.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Simon. In the future, that will be answered by the mover. Otherwise we might take a lot of time. There will be time to clarify that. The mover will be given time to make his reply. Hon. Nyawira did you have something?

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wanted to echo the words you have said. This is a House of Order. The Standing Order allows only the mover to respond. Otherwise, this will be a market place. It will be unfortunate when you allow a seconder to start responding to questions on the floor of the House.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you. I think the Members stated well that he wanted clarification. He did not rise to give a reply. I never knew the clarification otherwise Hon. Stephen you may continue.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Asante Bwana Spika. Nafikiria yale nilikua naelezea hapa ni ya ukweli. Mwafiki wa huu mswada amekubaliana na mimi. Wakati nilisema haya mapendekezo nilisoma alivyosoma. Nimeshindwa ni ufafanuzi gani alikua akitafuta. Mimi nafikiri hilo ni jambo moja nimepongeza kamati.

Wamesema wizara haiwezi tumia ile pesa imepewa na wameomba wakati wa bajeti nyengine wasipatiwe pesa mingi. Nakubaliana na mwenyekiti kabisa. Wakati tutakapokuwa na bajeti kama mwenyekiti ikiwa bado nitakuwa kwa sababu siku hizi mambo inakaa ikibadilika…

Deputy Speaker: What is it Hon. Nyawira?

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: I think the Member from Thingithu should note that this is the budget for 2019/2020 meaning that the budget has already been done. He should be telling has or be informed that more money was allocated and probably the committee should tell us how they considered this report when they allocated money. I don't think that is relevant at the moment because the budget process has already taken place.

Deputy Speaker: I think the Hon. Member for Thingithu is saying that in the coming budget, this committee will not require much money because it didn't absorb as it was given.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Umefanya vizuri kwa kumfahamisha Hon. Nyawira ambaye ni mwanachama wa kamati ya bajeti. Hizi pesa ni za 2019/2020 na tayari tumefanya ya 2020/2021 ambapo tunajua.

Deputy Speaker: Order Hon. Stephen! What is it Member from Umande?

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, I am feeling uncomfortable in this House. A while ago the Member from Thingithu said; *'asante sana for assuming Hon. Kanyutu'* assuming means you took him for granted and it just passed. I feel he is very much demeaned in this House. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: If that's the case Hon. Nderitu, it is a wrong term to use. You have to withdraw because I don't intend to assume any Member.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Bwana Spika, nafikiria hii ni Nyumba ya kila mtu kutoa maoni yake kulingana vile naona vyema. Hon. Kanyutu sisikii akilalamika. Yuko sawa. Nashangaa

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kwa nini mtu mwingine huko nyuma ameangalia wale wako hapa mbele na hawana shida. Lakini ikiwa yale maneno yako na shida nayaondoa. Kwangu haikuwa na shida.

Deputy Speaker: You may proceed.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Bwana Spika, jambo ambalo nilikuwa nasema kuhusu bajeti na nakubaliana na Mheshimiwa Nyawira ni kwamba hii ripoti hatukuwa nayo. Hatukujua tumejua hawa watu hawawezi tumia pesa zile ambazo wamepewa zikipita zaidi ya milioni mia moja zinalemea ile wizara. Mimi na yeye wakati tutakaa kwa bajeti ya ziada tutakuwa na nafasi nzuri ya kuona ya kwamba hii wizara iko na shida ya kutumia pesa zake. Tutakuwa na nafasi kuzihamisha kwa wizara ya Afya ama Biashara kama mama mboga ama wachuuzi tuwape.

Bwana Spika, hayo ni maoni yangu na naomba kama Bunge tuwe makini wakati tunaletewa ripoti hizi. Kama hii ya kamati ya ukulima ambayo inaeleza mahali kuna shida. Wametueleza kwamba ile wizara iko na shida ya kutumia pesa. Tukiwawekea pesa ya kupigana na magonjwa ya mbuzi na ng'ombe hawataweza kutumia. Afadhali tuwapatie kidogo ile ingine tuwapatie wakulima wenyewe kule mashinani wajiwekee na watumie vile inavyostahili.

Ukiteremka Mukogodo ya Mashariki na Magharibi kuna shida. Mifugo hadi inakufa. Hizo pesa zingekuwa hapa tungewapa hata kama ni nyasi. Ng'ombe zingine zao zimekonda na zikitembea ni kama tayari imekufa. Ni ngozi na kichwa tu imebaki.

Tunafaa sisi kama viongozi tuwasaidie hawa wakulima kwa sababu tunawategemea kesho. Hao wakulima wanategemea mifugo yao ili kulisha familia zao. Bwana Spika, hakuna haja tustarehe hapa tukijua kuna watu wanaumia na Idara ya Kilimo haiwezi kutumia pesa vile inastahili. Kwa hayo machache napongeza mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Kilimo kwa kutufungua macho. Tumeona uchi wa hiyo idara.

Bwana Spika napongeza aliyetoa hoja hili kwa kuleta kwa niaba ya mwenyekiti. Mheshimiwa Zamzam alituambia mficha uchi hazai. Bwana Spika, nafikiri kwa sababu hii idara haijaficha uchi inaweza zaa wakati wowote. Kwa hayo machache nakubaliana na nawapongeza. Katika Kamati za Biashara, Afya, Maji na Fedha tuweze kuelezwa vile wanatumia pesa. Kwa hayo machache sisi kama Kamati ya Bajeti tuko tayari na tutaangalia hizi ripoti zote.

Leo nitaagiza Katibu wa Kamati ya Bajeti aweze kuzileta zote ili tuangalie vile kamati zinafanya bajeti. Kama vile tuliona zile zingine Bunge la Kaunti liliweza kutumia pesa yake vile inastahili na hiyo pesa iliweza kuwasaidia wananchi. Tutatoa pesa hapo tuzilete kwa Bunge ili zisaidie wananchi vile inavyostahili. Kwa hayo machache nakubaliana na ninasema asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Many of my points that I will raise will echo my predecessor on giving my input in this report. Mr. Speaker, Agriculture and animal husbandry remains the backbone of Laikipia County yet when a report like this is brought before this House showing us a yearly report and financial statement that shows poor absorption rates by this department, is very sad yet the committee continues to negotiate for budgetary allocation with the department and allocates the same money.

Hon. Speaker, I agree with my Chairperson for Budget that once the supplementary comes, the department should say how much absorption rate they have had and cite why the absorption rate is low so that we know whether it is a fault of the County Government or disbursement by the National Government.

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Mr. Speaker, if you go to the report of the one that has the fisheries, productivity programme and crop development management, you will see that the committee fails to inform us on these figures clearly. Hon. Speaker, if you go to the pages with the grants, a figure that KCSAP was given Kshs.50 million and cumulatively at the end of the year it had Kshs. 111,600,469. Where did these monies go? Which programmes benefitted from these grants?

I remember when we had training at Mountain Lodge, the KCSAP programmes were highlighted effectively to the committee and the Members who attended. This committee fails to inform this Assembly where these monies went only placing figures that this is the money that was allocated. Where did the money go? What programmes were given these? Were they done?

We are not just looking at the allocation. It is to look at the absorption or what programmes were done in these departments. I feel that there is lack of commitment from the committee or the people who write these reports because they just place the figures there and they expect us to understand. We understand that the figures are there but what more do we need to look at so that we are able to give proper allocations to the department.

Like what the Hon. Chair for budget has said, we need to reduce the budget for Agriculture. Mr. Speaker that will affect the backbone of this economy. Therefore, we need to ask ourselves who in that department is failing us so that we are able to bring them before this House, ask those questions and render them incapable of performing the duties. We cannot continue to have low absorption rates where food is very important.

I think my predecessor has said it all that the animals we see when the rains are not here suffer and the money is not being used. Mr. Speaker, as we consider the supplementary budget we should ask questions and not just allocate budgets to departments that do not need it. We should be able to allocate to the Agriculture Department but ensure that the same is being utilised properly.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to repeat what the Budget Committee Chair has said but I feel I want to stand with him that this department is a failure and in many ways has not done what it is supposed to do for that whole year. I am glad that the committee has brought it before this House so that we know where the failure of this government is. We are constructing a lot on infrastructure and you cannot concentrate on infrastructure and fail to put money in people's pockets through supporting the programmes that they are doing.

The Government is not in the business of making but it is in the business of providing service to the citizen. Mr. Speaker, they seem not to be doing that effectively. I support this report but I feel highly that it needs more information especially on the figures. Why is that absorption low? Why did they use Kshs.30 million when they had been allocated Kshs.187 million for a whole year. Where did these monies go to the supplementary budget and why were they supplemented. Why was that year faced with a lot of calamities? Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I support the report.

Hon. Jacob Endom: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Kwanza nashukuru kamati kwa kuleta hii ripoti katika Bunge hili siku ya leo. Kwanza naunga mkono hii ripoti. Hata kama naunga mkono ningetaka kuambia kamati watuletee ripoti kamili kusema wadi zilifanyika nini. Wadi ya Sosian ambayo niko sijaona kazi ya Idara ya Kilimo ikiwa imefanyika. Ni lazima tuongee ukweli ili tupate kusaidika. Bwana Spika, katika hiyo miaka yote ambayo tumekaa hapa hakuna kitu chochote ambacho kilifanyika.

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Tukiwa hapa tunawatengenezea bajeti. Tunatengeneza bajeti tukijua ni ya Laikipia nzima. Kwa hivyo hii ni ripoti ambayo inafaa kufuatiliwa na watuletee ili tuone pesa ambayo tunatenga kila siku zinaenda wapi na zinafanya kazi wapi. Bwana Spika, ninaunga mkono na ninaomba watuletee ripoti. Asante.

Deputy Speaker: If there is no other Member who is wishing to contribute to the same, I will call upon the mover to give a reply.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I reply to the comments of the members, allow me to congratulate and thank the members who have contributed fully to this report and those who have quietly supported the report. The report was detailed and the members have gone through it. The have understood what the department undertook in that period of 2019/2020 and the expenditures of the same. Thank you for the Members' concern. You all know that agriculture is the backbone not only in this county, but National wide. In regards to food security, we also need to strategize as a county to ensure that our farmers do produce the best quality of food in this County.

The same case applies to the Health production sector. Since the Chair is around and has done the best in coming up with this report from the first day to the last, I would wish, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, that I delegate to the Chair to give the last comments on this report.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Suge, you are the Mover of this motion and the only thing you can honourably do is to donate part of your minutes to him. So you can donate some minutes to him, but you are the Mover. So you can donate some of your minutes if you think it is necessary.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Mr. Speaker that was just a request. I thank you for your guidance. I do request that I donate some of my three minutes to the Chair to give remarks on this report, then I will conclude. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Suge. Hon. Chair for Agriculture you can utilize the three donated minutes.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Hon. Member who moved the motion on my behalf, and with a few issues that I would wish to make clarity on. Previously I did not get a chance because I am the one who is conversant with what is happening in the department, being the Chair. As we were making the report we had all those concerns that Members are raising.

Unfortunately, even in budget-making the amount that we give the department is very minimal. Much of the money is given through grants whereby we do not have much control but we have control on what is happening on the ground. On that, the Hon. Members who are seeking for the same, on what has been done with the grants, it is good that they seek a statement and we will be able to clarify.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank our Hon. Governor for having acted accordingly. As we speak at the moment, we already have a new CECM in the department as well as a new CO. I am sure the Hon. Member of Sosian has already stated that he has never seen anything from the department of Agriculture, yet at the moment they are the people that are benefitting from the feeds that are being supplied within that area.

I am very much supportive of what the Members are saying, I have been fighting for the same. We oversight two departments as the committee: Water and Agriculture. On Water

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they have no issues. I am sure the Members are very happy because we did not just sugar-coat the report. We stated what is on the ground and what is happening. I call upon all the Members to allow this financial report because that is the truth on what has been done by the department. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mover?

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the Chair has contributed and has informed the committees on the steps that he has taken, and we have all seen how this department performed. Since the committee is equal to the task I know the department will be pushed so that service to the Laikipians is done accordingly. With those few remarks, I do wish that Members support this report. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, before we rise I would like to remind you that we are having a *kamukunji* as communicated earlier by the Speaker right after this session and the venue will be here. He was requesting that we do it before we go for tea. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until later today, Wednesday 1st December, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.01 a.m.

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