

SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

First County Assembly- Third Session

Wednesday, 25th February, 2015

The House met at the County Assembly Chambers at 2.30 pm

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adera) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS

Hon. Agoko: I wish to lay a report before this House on:-

Status of Agriculture Tractor Hire services, Procurement and Distribution of Seeds and Fertilizer in the Financial Year 2014/2015 and Agri-Business Funds collected in 2013/2014

(Hon. Agoko laid the document on the Table)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Next Order!

NOTICE OF MOTION

Hon. Agoko: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I take this opportunity to give a notice of Motion:-

THAT this House Adopts the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on status of Agriculture Tractor Hire Services, Procurement and Distribution of Seeds and Fertilizer in the Financial Year 2014/2015 and Agri-Business Funds collected in 2013/2014 laid on the Table of the House, today, Wednesday, 25th February, 2015.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Next Order!

STATEMENTS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Elisha, you have something?

Hon. Okuku: Not something, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have a Statement!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: And that can be something. Proceed!

Hon. Okuku: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have three Statements to make:-

1. **AWARE** that the post of a substantive County Secretary was advertised but stopped by the Governor and that public funds were spent in the exercise, I wish to seek for a Statement from the County Executive why the exercise was stopped and when the post will be re-advertised.

2. **AWARE** that the Health sector is seriously understaffed and patients are suffering, causing high mortality rate, I wish to seek for a Statement from the County Public Service Board on the progress of recruitment for the health workers.

3. **AWARE** that a taskforce was formed by the Executive to address emerging issues between the local community, especially Yimbo East Ward which I represent and the Dominion Farms Limited.

FURTHER AWARE that the conclusion of the report was done by November 2014, I wish to seek for a Statement from the County Executive when the report will be tabled in the House.

Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon Elisha, you have issued three Statements and two are under one and they fall under different dockets. So, I direct that the first Statement that deals with the issue of County Secretary be committed to the Committee on Public Administration and Governance.

The second one dealing with health be dealt with by the Health Committee. Your last Statement which deals with Dominion Farms Limited and the community should go to the Agriculture Committee.

We should get the reports within two weeks. The second week from today!

Next Order!

MOTION

Hon. Agoko: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. May I take this opportunity to present this report to the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it's about 13 pages, I don't know whether to go through it word by word or we can go per sub heading?

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I wish you could just summarize your report. I believe you are aware of the contents. If you can summarize it, the better.

Hon. Agoko: I would then Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, wish to go to page 3.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture projects are our major flagships in the county and therefore more emphasis needs to be put in place to promote and scale up agricultural interventions so as to spur the economy of Siaya County.

In response to a Statement made by Hon. Muhulah on 18th February, 2015 in the Plenary in relation to acquisition of tractor hire services, the following issues were raised;

1. Number of tractors available and their working conditions

2. Number of tractors allocated per ward
3. Acreages ploughed in 2014/2015 FY.
4. Number of people who have paid money for ploughing in 2013/2014 FY and have not been ploughed for.
5. Availability of funds collected in 2013/2014, specific details of the bank account and its signatories
6. What are the inhibiting factors in relation to fuel supply?
7. Quantity of fertilizer and seeds that have been bought and strategy for distribution
8. Quantity of seeds procured in 2013/2014, how many were distributed and status of unused stock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, after various joint meetings with the CEC for Agriculture and her technical team, the committee came up with the following.

NUMBER OF TRACTORS AVAILABLE AND DISTRIBUTION

In total, we have 20 tractors. 12 owned by the County government and 8 are privately owned, but hired by the County government. They are in good working conditions.

Table 1.0

S/N	SUB COUNTY	WARD	TRACTOR ALLOCATION		REMARKS
			COUNTY	PRIVATE	
1	ALEGO USONGA	S.E.Alego	1		working
		N.Alego	1		working
		W.Alego	1		working
		C.Alego	1*		*-sharing tractor
		Township	1*		*-sharing tractor
		Usonga	0		Served in December for land preparation for rice. Currently, no farmer has applied. The 30 acreage threshold has not been achieved as farmers in Usonga prefer to pay the private tractors for the service, but expect the County Government tractors to plough for them for free.

Wednesday, 25th February, 2015 SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

2	Rarieda	W.Uyoma	1		working
		N.Uyoma		1	working
		S.Uyoma		1	working
		E.Asembo		1	Tractor currently not working due to mechanical breakdown
		W.Asembo	-	-	Initially allocated private tractor which ploughed all the land that had been registered for THS. Tractor to be allocated to another Ward this week.
3	Bondo	E.Yimbo	1		working
		W.Yimbo		1	working
		N.Sakwa		1	working
		S.Sakwa	1		Tractor currently not working due to mechanical breakdown
		W.Sakwa		1*	Working
		C.Sakwa			Served by County tractors on rotational basis
4	Gem	Yala Township	1*	1	Private tractor grounded *-sharing tractor with north Gem.
		N.Gem	1*		*-sharing tractor with Yala Township
		E.Gem			Served by county tractors on rotational basis
		W.Gem			Served by county tractors on

					rotational basis
		C.Gem	1*		*-sharing tractor with South Gem
		S.Gem	1*		*-sharing tractor with Central Gem Initially allocated private tractor which developed mechanical problems
5	Ugunja	Sigomere		1	working
		Sidindi	1*		*-Sharing tractor with Ugunja
		Ugunja	1*		*-Sharing tractor with Sidindi
6	Ugenya	E.Ugenya		1	working
		Ukwala	1*		*-sharing with N.Ugenya
		N.Ugenya	1*		*-sharing with Ukwala
		W.Ugenya	1		working

REMARKS.

- Number of private tractors hired during the season 2014/2015= **14 tractors**
- Number of private tractors down with mechanical problems= **4 tractors**
- Private tractors withdrawn/temporarily pursuing other interests = **5 tractors**
- Total number of County tractors = **13 tractors**
- County tractors with major mechanical problem = **1 tractor**
- County tractor with minor mechanical problem= **1 tractor**

There is a challenge in hiring private tractors because of delayed payment by the County government.

The following is a list of private tractors hired and payments made in 2013/2014 financial year:-

NO.	NAME	AMOUNT
1.	Samuel N. Ochanda	Kshs. 216,750.00
2.	George O. Okongo	Kshs. 1,299,000.00
3.	Andrew Oduka	Kshs. 654,900.00
4.	Assa Okoth	Kshs, 171,900.00
5.	Kifaru Auto Works	Kshs. 111,000.00
6.	Peter Angonga	Kshs. 145,800.00
7.	Success C Mafoni	Kshs. 66,000.00
8.	Bobmillas Limited	Kshs. 510,000.00
9.	Maricus Odongo	Kshs. 156,000.00
10.	West Kenya Sugar Co.	Kshs. 329,250.00
11.	Agricultural Development Corporation	Kshs. 2,700,000.00
12.	TOTAL	Kshs. 6,360,600.00

The contractors currently engaged with the department are;

1. Charles Kipkirui Korir
2. Peter Nyariwo
3. Martin Onyatta Oswago
4. George Okongo
5. Paul Ochieng Omeno
6. George Owira Ofula
7. Davis Ochieng Okeyo
8. Kifaru Auto Works
9. Bobmillas Limited
10. Rafiki wa Maendeleo

The County Government has allocated Kshs. 66million for purchase of 5 new tractors and implements, Kshs 27million for purchase of 27 trailers and Kshs.13million for 13 disc harrows. As at now Kshs.30million is available for purchase of tractor and implements, Kshs.13million for trailers and Kshs. 6million for disc harrows.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Committee had a lot of reservations on this because we couldn't understand why the 27 trailers had to be bought. We somehow thought they could be used in garbage collection. We didn't want to say they are unnecessary because we don't know their use. But as far as agriculture is concerned, we may not want the 27 trailers.

LAND PREPARATION PROGRESS REPORT AS AT 24TH FEBRUARY 2015

The following table gives a summary of the total acreage of farms that has been ploughed per ward and balances, in which work is ongoing.

Table 1.2

S/N	SUB COUNTY	WARD	ACREAGES DONE	BALANCE
1	ALEGO USONGA	S.E.Alego	67.75	49
		N.Alego	55.25	47.50
		W.Alego	16	29.7
		C.Alego	60.25	81
		Township	35.25	26.45
		Usonga	NIL (because they want the County government to do it for them free of charge)	NIL
2	Rarieda	W.Uyoma	209.25. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you realize that the Member for West Uyoma said the department	53

			should pack and go yet it is South Uyoma that has had the highest amount of work done	
		N.Uyoma	161	48
		S.Uyoma	168.125	45
		E.Asembo	23.5	18.5
		W.Asembo	27.5	0
3	Bondo	E.Yimbo	1 Very Unfortunate. The tractor that was there broke down after doing only one acre.	39 We are pushing the department to ensure that the remaining acres are ploughed
		W.Yimbo	28	6.8
		N.Sakwa	139.5	0.5
		S.Sakwa	134	30
		W.Sakwa	33.5	1.5
		C.Sakwa	103	53
4	Gem	Yala Township	1.0	19.0
		N.Gem	20.0	48.45
		E.Gem	28.69	NIL
		W.Gem	26.25	21.25
		C.Gem	28.5	21.29
		S.Gem	30.5	29.75

5	Ugunja	Sigomere	58	27
		Sidindi	61.25	23.5
		Ugunja	76.25	26.75
6	Ugenya	E.Ugenya	96	10
		Ukwala	28	8
		N.Ugenya	44	11
		W.Ugenya	47	10
7.	TOTAL		1808.315	757.94

Hon. Deputy Speaker: What about Usonga?

Hon. Agoko: I explained Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that in Usonga nobody has paid even for a single acre. They expect the County government to do it for them free of charge. So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we can only urge the representative for Usonga to urge his people to make use of this service.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Is that a reflection of the people of Usonga? That they don't like paying for services?

Hon. Agoko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, let me clarify that in Usonga, it's a bit funny. In Usonga we have about 10 tractors that are owned by private operators from Rift valley that are working and charging about Ksh. 5,000 per acre. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Usonga Ward is where people are very able and they prefer paying for the Ksh. 5,000 per acre tractors. They don't need the County government tractors and Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at some point---

Hon. Muhulah: On a point of order Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let the Member explain! Or what is your point of order?

Hon. Muhulah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot sit here and listen to the hon. Member misguiding this House. There is no logic where somebody would wish to pay Ksh. 5,000 for a tractor when there is a cheaper one. The Usonga people are actually farmers who plant in big plantations. We are not defending anybody in this House Mr. Deputy Speaker----If there are no tractors in the County then we need to say!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Hon. Muhulah you are out of order. The Member has already explained that there are schemes in Usonga and there are several tractors. Therefore, it's the farmers democratic right to go for a tractor of their choice. You cannot force them to go for the County tractor. Hon. Agoko, proceed!

Hon. Agoko: At some point there was hue and cry and we were wondering why the people of Usonga did not do that and about 4 tractors were paraded beside the Member of County Assembly for Usonga's office for about one week for them to see that the tractors are available and still they did not make any orders for the services

TRACTOR HIRE SERVICES STATUS

Table 1.3

S/NO	SEASON/ FINANCIAL YEAR.	LAND IN ACRES	AMOUNT(KSH)	REMARKS
1.	2013/2014 Long Rains	4,150	4,873,138	Some land was ploughed in institutions. The institutions that were ploughed for include; Siaya ATC- 32 acres GK prison -14acres Nyanginja primary school - 4acres
2.	2014/2015 Short Rains	1,035	1,140,414	Land was ploughed at various rates i.e dry rate, Kshs.1200 and Kshs.1850
3.	2014/2015 Long Rains	2,566	4,747,100	Land preparation is ongoing and the figure keeps on increasing.
4.	TOTALS		10,760,652	10,760,652

REMARKS.

Approximately Ksh.771.400 was deposited on county revenue account between December, 2013 and 15th January, 2014. Deposits on agribusiness account commenced in mid-January 2014. Auditors have been invited to audit the account on 16th April, 2015 and

communication has been issued to the bank that no withdrawals be made from the account with effect from 15th February, 2015, except for deposits to be done until 15th April, 2015.

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

An informal meeting was held in January 2014 at IFAD Hall with all elected hon. Members of the County Assembly and the CEC of Agriculture and the meeting resolved that an agribusiness account to be opened and the monies collected from agri- business activities be managed from this account.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the explanation of the CEC then was that it was very difficult to access the monies from the County revenue account. It was a very informal meeting Mr. Deputy Speaker, but we were shocked that the CEC and the department used that kind of engagement to go ahead and open an account. We had no problem with the same Mr. Deputy Speaker.

In this regard the funds collected from various activities under agribusiness initiatives are deposited in the agribusiness account. The account details are as follows;

Bank Account Details

Account name-**Agribusiness Initiative for Siaya County**

Account number-**1148554374**

Bank-**Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB)**

Branch-**Siaya**

Signatories;

1. Mandatory

- I. Chief officer Agriculture, Livestock, Irrigation, and Fisheries
- II. Accountant in charge Agriculture, Livestock, Irrigation, and Fisheries

2. Alternate signatories

County director of Agriculture and Manager AMS Siaya

Deposits and Expenditure on Agribusiness Account

S/NO	PERIOD	AMOUNT DEPOSITED	AMOUNT SPENT	BALANCE
1.	14 th Jan 2014- 30 th June 2014	7,181,897	447,650	6,734,247
2.	1 st July 2014-	4,059,059.50	10,083,615	-6,024,555.5

	31 st Dec 2014			
3.	5 th Jan 2015- 20 th Feb 2015	3,574,779	1,092,100	2,482,679
		14,815,735.50	11,623,365	3,192,370.5

Sources of income

1. Tractor Hire service-Ksh.9,712,735.5
2. Sale of seeds-approx.Ksh.5 ,014,000
3. Agribusiness trade fair-Ksh. 89,000

Expenditure

1. Purchase of strategic grain reserve (1,947 bags) -Ksh.5, 587,600. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to state that the committee on agriculture did not know of the money spent on the purchase of grains because we had not been consulting on expenditures of the financial account.
2. Purchase of storage bags (ordinary and PICS bags) – Ksh. 1,245,000. The bags that were used are modern bags that can keep maize for a longer period of time. They have three linings that cannot allow weevils to penetrate, hence the amount stipulated.
3. Facilitating purchase and storage of maize(strategic grain reserve)-Ksh.691,525.90
4. Purchase of fuel for the tractors and supervision-Ksh.1.210, 626.10. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would wish to state that one tractor uses an average 10 litres of fuel per acre. To get a tractor for a week is a reasonable amount of money
5. Repairs/maintenance of tractors and compensation to casual plant operators-Ksh.2,202,050
6. Publicity and launching of Agribusiness initiative-Ksh.301, 000. This was done at Siaya ATC and some of us here attended.
7. Distribution of seeds to farmers-Ksh.94,215
8. Refunds for un-ploughed farms-Ksh.77,550
9. Facilitation of Riparian counties fisheries bill workshop-Ksh 123,800.
10. Bank charges-Ksh,89.999

REMARKS

Expenditure done in the account has never been reported to the Committee and no consultation was done prior to spending the amounts.

INHIBITING FACTORS TO FUEL SUPPLY

1. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Tractor Hire Services for short rains falls between June and September when the sector has not received AIEs (monies to operationalize the activities).
2. Delays in paying for ordered fuels by the county treasury.
3. AMS section is having only one service crew vehicle (to carry out supply and delivery in the field)
4. Poor facilitation of field officers.

FERTILIZER PROCUREMENT.

Kshs.19.3million from the recurrent budget was allocated for fertilizer procurement. The department of agriculture has initiated the procurement process up to identifying the supplier and the award given. The quantities of fertilizer to be purchased are as shown in the table below.

Table 3.0: Fertilizer to be procured directly by the County Government of Siaya

Type of Fertilizer	Quantity -50kg Bags
Diammonium Phosphate (DAP 18:46:0)	2000
Chemically compounded NPK 23:23:0	1500
Chemically compounded NPK 17:17:17	500
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN 26%N)	2600
TOTAL	6,600

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this was supposed to be delivered in the 2013/2014 financial year, but there was a serious issue on this because the supplier who was awarded this contract in 2013/2014 delivered fertilizers that had a mark of the National Cereals and Produce Board meaning it was subsidized fertilizer that was being again supplied to the County government. We raised a red flag and it was returned to the supplier. I wish that this House notes that an anomaly was taking place

7.0 SEED PURCHASE 2015-LONG RAINS (2014/2015 FINANCIAL YEAR)

In the current financial year no funds were allocated for procurement of seeds. However, arising from requests made during the last joint meeting between the sector and County Assembly Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Irrigation and Fisheries, Ksh.4.88Million has been vired from the purchase of trailers to acquire the seeds. Details of the seeds to be purchased are as shown below.

Table 4.0

SNO.	Type of Seed	Firm	Quantity-KG	Price
	Duma 43	Agri seed company	14,000	Kshs.2,730,000
	DH04	Kenya seed company	12,000	Kshs. 2,040.000
	Serena Sorghum	Kenya seed company	500	Kshs.70.000
	Seredo Sorghum	Kenya seed company	300	Kshs. 42,000
	TOTAL		26,800	Kshs. 4,882,000

REMARKS:

The procurement process is complete awaiting delivery by the suppliers. The delivery for the seeds by Kenya Seed Company is expected on Thursday, 26th February, 2015, while the seeds from Western Kenya are already in the stores. Disbursement of seeds to farmers will be done immediately when all the seeds are in the county. The Seeds going to be purchased this season include Duma 43 and DH04 as they were the most popular in terms of viability test.

NB. Seeds from Western Kenya were not purchased, but are a replacement of the last stock which was returned to the supplier.

7.1 Seed Balances as at Jan 2015

The county government of Siaya through the department of agriculture procured 63.7 tons of assorted maize seed during 2013/2014 financial year (Long rains season),as at mid-January 2015 approximately 48 tons had been disposed leaving about 15.6 tons in stores across the county.

The table below shows balances of seeds in various stores across the county.

Table 4.1

VARIETY AND QUANTITY/ KG	H516	DH04	H513	WS505	WS 507	DUMA 43	TOTAL S	Value.
								Kshs.
Alego Usonga	744	0	0	168	384	0	1296	129,600
Bondo	382	0	0	396	976		1754	175,400
Gem	1610	0	0	774	356	148	2888	288,800
Ugenya	1922	20	0	1840	986	72	4840	484,000
Rarieda	938	0	0	1560	830	0	3328	382,800
Ugunja	678	0	0	564	326	0	1568	156800
Total	6,274	20	0	5,302	3,858	220	15,674	1,567,400

REMARKS.

The department has continuously been monitoring the viability of the seed supplied last year; result being viability of some of the seeds in the store was unsatisfactory. Therefore, the department engaged the two main suppliers of the seeds in the county warehouses to replace the stale seeds. Western seed Company has since then recovered all the 9 tons of seed not disposed in the last season and replaced with fresh stock of the same quantity. Meanwhile the department has continued to consult with Kenya Seed Company to replace stocks whose germination is found unsatisfactory. Seed balances was also due to lack of sensitization to farmers and late distribution.

7.2 MAIZE PURCHASE

A total of 1,947 bags of maize were purchased

Table 5.0 Total purchase per sub-county

SUBCOUNTY	NO.OF BAGS
BONDO	83
ALEGO USONGA	127
GEM	426
UGENYA	341.46
UGUNJA	439
RARIEDA	530.2

TOTAL	1,946.66
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MAIZE RELIEF

Owing to severe droughts that affected some areas in the long rains 2014, there were concerns that some little assistance be granted to some families who were affected but were extremely vulnerable.

The idea of granting food relief came from the food security meetings held on 11th September, 2014 at the County commissioner's office followed by another meeting held on 17th September, 2014 also at the County commissioner's office and a final meeting on the same held on 24th September, 2014 at the Alego Usonga sub county administrators office, and the subsequent approval by the cabinet on the same. To date, 463 bags of maize have been removed from the strategic grain reserve and donated to needy families as indicated below.

The CEC incharge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries is pursuing the Executive to allocate funds from the relief kitty to compensate for the stocks used as relief.

Table 5.1

SUBCOUNTY	WARD	NO.OF BAGS	
BONDO	SAKWA NORTH	34	
	SAKWA WEST	40	
	SAKWA CENTRAL	25	
	SAKWA SOUTH	29	
	YIMBOWEST	52	
	YIMBO EAST	43	
	SUB TOTAL		223
ALEGO USONGA	USONGA	25	
	SOUTH EAST ALEGO	139	
	CENTRAL ALEGO	51	
	SOUTH ALEGO	20	
SUB TOTAL		235	
GEM	EAST GEM	5	
SUB TOTAL		5	
GRAND TOTAL		463	

CURRENT MAIZE STORES

Table 5.2

SUB COUNTY	MARKET CENTRE	NO.OF BAGS	REMARKS
ALEGO USONGA	SIAYA ATC	65	
GEM	NYAWARA –COMMUNITY HALL	306	
UGENYA	UKWALA-Sub County Agriculture Office.	341.46	
UGUNJA	SIGOMRE-ASS.CHIEF’S OFFICE	146	
	AMBIRA- Sub County Agriculture Office.	95	
RARIEDA	ARAM- Sub County Agriculture Office.	430.2	
	MANYUANDA	100	
TOTAL		1483.66	

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in that regard, I don’t want to put any blame on the committee because no consultations have ever been done and therefore the committee cannot take liability, but we have the mandate to report to you what is taking place.

8.0 Distribution Strategy for Farm Inputs-Long Rains 2015

Proportion

We uphold last year’s resolution by the county assembly committee on agriculture of 60% equal share and 40% equitable portion in all the 30 wards

Pricing

The price of fertilizer will be pegged on the NCPB rates .The department proposes to charge Ksh.200 per 2kg packet of maize seeds while Ksh.75 per kg for sorghum.

Outlets

Consultations between the department and major stakeholders have resulted in identifying 34 strategically located outlet points. Hon. County Assembly Members to provide security for the stores. The 34 proposed satellite stores in the 6 Sub-Counties are;

1. UGUNJA SUB COUNTY.

- I. Rang’ala family project
- II. MCA’s Office – Ugunja

- III. Sigomre
- IV. Kirind Resource Centre
- V. Sikalame

2. RARIEDA SUB COUNTY

- I. Aram Market
- II. Nyilima
- III. Manywanda
- IV. Madiany
- V. Ndigwa
- VI. Ragengni

3. BONDO SUB COUNTY

- I. NCPB Stores in Bondo town
- II. Kopollo centre
- III. Nyamonye
- IV. Ajigo Market
- V. MCAS Office in Usenge

4. UGENYA SUB COUNTY

- I. Ukwala market
- II. Sega market
- III. Uhuru market
- IV. Aboke market
- V. Bar ndege

5. ALEGO USONGA SUB COUNTY

- I. Boro
- II. Uranga
- III. Siaya Town
- IV. Karemo
- V. Bar ogongo chief camp
- VI. Kowet chief camp

6. GEM SUB COUNTY

- (i) Mutumbu
- (ii) Akala
- (iii) Wagai
- (iv) Sirembe
- (v) Yala
- (vi) Nyangweso

(vii) Ramula market

9.0 CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED IN THE PROGRAM;

1. Private tractors withdrawing and pursuing other interests.
2. Procurement process has been difficult due to late payments to suppliers.
3. Delay in cash flow from the treasury.
4. Drop in acreages to be ploughed
5. Only 20 tractors are in working condition and it becomes a challenge to serve the 30 wards.
6. Finance and Procurement department has been slow in funding.

10.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE HOUSE

1. The department to hire more private tractors to bridge the gap on demand for ploughing and the ratio to be one tractor per ward.
2. Seed germination tests to be done to assess viability and avoid losses.
3. Procurement to be done earlier and the sector to come up with planned timelines that are workable
4. Horticulture seeds to be distributed in all the wards.
5. CEC to consult Hon. Members on all agriculture activities being done within their Wards.
6. CEC to attend a Committee of the Whole House to share with Members issues on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries department. . Mr. Deputy Speaker it's our humble wish that this House plans to have a Committee of the whole House attended by the CEC for Agriculture for her and her team to share with the hon. House the activities and issues that are related in that field, because there seems to be many gaps and there are certain issues that will be well highlighted when the CEC herself comes to this particular house.
7. Agriculture being a seasonal activity requires prompt and timely funding. The activity should be given priority by the finance department.
8. Members of County Assembly to take Agriculture seriously putting into consideration that agriculture is not only tractor hire service but includes also livestock and fisheries. Members are humbly requested to allocate at least 10% of their Ward budget in agriculture.

I now call upon the Hon. Members of this house to adopt this report and I ask hon. Ombee to second.

Thank you.

Hon. Ombee: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Minami: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the report that has been tabled in this House. First of all, I don't know if this is a report that is representing the views of the CEC of Agriculture or it is a report by the Committee in charge of over-sighting the Executive arm of the Government.

(Applause)

I say so because, while delivering the report, the Chair has in very many occasions said that these were not the views of the Committee and I thought that whatever was being tabled here were views of the Committee after a fact finding mission that this very House ordered the Committee to do. So, I don't know if we are debating a report that was brought to this House by the CEC for Agriculture or a report that the Committee of Agriculture went out, sought and brought to the House.

Number one, I have seen a report that is full of lies, blatant lies, that is being brought and read to this Assembly and the Members of this House are urged to support. As a Member representing East Gem Ward, there isn't even a quarter of an acre that has been ploughed by the County Government of Siaya in this financial year.

(Applause)

But the report is indicating that 28.69 acres have been ploughed by the County Government of Siaya and none is remaining. I want to confirm that these were the acres of land that were ploughed in the financial year 2014 and not this year. That is why am saying these are lies.

Number two, this report is indicating that East Gem Ward received 5 bags of relief food. This is also a lie because as the representative of that Ward I have never seen anywhere in my life that East Gem, even if you leave Gem as a Sub County where relief food has been brought. I want to say as I said earlier that these are lies.

Number three, stakeholders of agriculture sat down and decided that Ramula market is where the subsidized grains are going to be put. I want to call upon the County Government of Siaya not to bring tension/division to a Ward that has been peaceful for a very long time. I'm saying so because Ramula is in the farthest part of East Gem. Last year the subsidized seeds were brought to the center of the Ward- that is Bar Kalare Chief's camp. I don't know who came with this issue of Ramula, unless this is a person who wants to bring those issues that I said earlier. As the representative of that Ward, I want to state very categorically here that am not going to allow that to happen.

It is so ironical, we are told here by the Chairman of this committee that the people of Usonga refused to pay for tractors, isn't it? And at the same time the County Government is denying those who have paid for tractors and taking four tractors and parading them at the Ward representative's office for a whole week so that the people of Usonga could see the tractors so that they can pay. While we have Wards that are pending here, that only 1acre has been ploughed. Tractors are lying in Usonga where people have refused to pay or they have been told they are too rich to pay the Kshs. 1,800, they can only afford the Kshs. 5,000 tractors that are taken to them, isn't it?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, as a County that talks of agriculture or food security as one of its main objectives so as to make people peaceful and secure, we can only boast of having 13 tractors that are working and yet the County is looking to plough almost 20 acres of land! I don't know when that will happen. Transactions made in and out of the bank have been indicated here, but those are just typings. I would have thought that for a department that would want to be accountable to the people, even bank statements would have been attached here so that most of us who are debating and are being asked to adopt this report would be adopting something that is authentic. The figures written here, you don't know where they are true or they are lies.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I remember very well, in the last financial year, 2013/2014, that majority of the Wards had an allocation of Ksh. 1 million for the purchase of subsidized farm inputs. I don't know if whatever was brought to our Ward, East Gem was amounting to even half of 1million. Right now, we are being requested here to put 10% of the allocation to agriculture when we cannot even verify how 0.03% that we have allocated to agriculture was utilized.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I don't know, maybe I am the one whose eyes are not seeing very well. This report, it's covering which financial year, is it 2013/14 or 2014/15, or is it a mixture of report of financial year? Am wondering why the County Government of Siaya would go out to advertise for people to buy for it fertilizers and then we have somebody going to the government stores and bringing fertilizers. You see, doing business between Government to government is easier that involving middle men. Why wouldn't the County Government of Siaya just write to the National Cereals and Produce Board to provide them with the subsidized fertilizer, why would the County Government of Siaya force us to buy commercial fertilizers when the Government of Kenya has brought to its people subsidized fertilizer?

(Applause)

I don't know the rationale about that nor do I know the intention why that was to happen. Finally, today is when I have seen where an empty sack or *gunia* is bought at Kshs. 650. Sacks which go at Kshs. 50. All of us can go to page 10, down there on expenditure. We are told, purchase of strategic grain reserve, 1,947 bags at Kshs. 5,587,600. Those are bags that have been filled with maize. Number 2, purchase of storage bags (ordinary and PICS bags) at the cost of Kshs 1,245,000. Mr. Deputy Speaker, if you divide 1,245,600 by 1,947, it will come to Kshs. 650 per bag. I don't know whether these bags were gold coated, they were diamond like or they are just the normal bags that we see around.

Finally, I want to say that I want to reject this report in toto because of the misinformation and misrepresentation that is in it.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Members, just give me one minute to say a word. You know, hon. Booker has indicated that the Chair of this committee ought to have come up with the report concerning the views of the Members and I want to tell you that Members don't have facts. They must seek those views and facts from the members concerned, the agriculture people, from the CEC, Chief Officer and the officers concerned with that department. So, the views that are raised should come from those people. We cannot divorce the facts that have been presented from the CECs department. They are the ones who should give us the facts and then we gather them and write a report. So, hon. Booker you should note that. Hon. Madialo.

Hon. Madialo: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Permit me with a very heavy heart to state that this report that should be thrown out completely.

(Applause)

One, it is an indictment. If it's from the CEC of Agriculture, then that CEC is fighting this government. Let me start with the places where they want to place stores and as a representative, let me go to Alego Usonga. Boro is in Central Alego, Uranga is West Alego, Siaya Town of course is township, Karemo is S. E Alego, Bar ogongo is S. E Alego and Kowet is N. Alego. I thought that this Sub-County has got 6 wards, why would they put three stores in one Ward and then leave the others without stores? And my brother and friend hon. Agoko, probably I have said it now but I will still say it, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Agriculture Chairman shouldn't have carried this report to the Assembly and I would be in agreement with hon. Booker---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: And you, the Members, won't be aware of the places/centers that the CEC was intending to put up those stores. So, it's important also for the committee to bring the report so that the House is aware of the intentions of the agriculture department. So, you cannot say that the Chairman was wrong to be bring the report here.

Hon. Madialo: Mr. Deputy Speaker---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: It is through the report that we are now getting the facts.

Hon. Madialo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am properly guided, but when I go out to do public participation in legal affairs and you take me to two centers in Sidindi Ward and you leave Sigomre, I would be able to know there is bias. And in this one there is bias and the responsibility lies with the Chair as the overseer. But Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am properly guided.

Secondly, and this is very sad, that somebody can put in writing that in a certain Ward, people prefer private services to public service. And the saddest part of it again is this; that it would seem both the CEC and Committee on Agriculture don't know that the area they are referring to is the largest area in this County under irrigation and that what is called Bunyala irrigation scheme is only 25% Bunyala and 75% is Usonga. And therefore, the 1,200 acres of land that you must cultivate in Usonga cannot be done with four tractors. There is no way four

tractors would have lied idle in Usonga because the four tractors cannot do even 1^{1/4} of what is required to be done in Usonga. Worse still, when you talk of an area that is irrigated, am not an agriculturalist, but it's an area which is under water, it's a wet area. We must all know that you don't cultivate that place with an ordinary tractor; you will need a tractor equipped with a rotavator. So, what should have been said is this, was there a rotavator in Usonga or did you take tractors that don't work? What is done at hon. K'owii's area cannot be done in Uyoma because Uyoma is dry most of the time. And you can use these things we use to dig roads to do the farms in Uyoma. You can't take the tractor that was in Uyoma and take it to Usonga and say the tractors are lying there.

Hon. Owii: Mr. Deputy Speaker, a point of order.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: What is your point of order, hon. K'owii?

Hon. Owii: It's not a point of order; it's a point of misinformation that is coming from hon. Madialo. We cannot use the machines that we use to make roads to plough our farms Mr. Deputy Speaker. It has never been tried even in Uyoma and I believe it cannot be tried even in Usonga.

(Laughter)

That is misinformation, Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Madialo, proceed.

Hon. Madialo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are talking about relief food. Was it donation or relief food? But I do know there must have been maize distributed to families that have aged members. But those were food donations because relief connotes that there is a disaster. Was there a famine disaster in Siaya, hon. Members? And was there anywhere where people were dying from hunger, hon. Members? Seeds might have been provided; in fact the ones for Usonga were carried on my own transportation cost. But Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not know whether the CEC for agriculture in conjunction with our Chair might have appreciated that what happened---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: In conjunction with the Committee on Agriculture, not the Chair. Withdraw that statement.

Hon. Madialo: Statement withdrawn Mr. Deputy Speaker. The problem is, it's signed by the hon. Joseph Agoko.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: He signed that on behalf of the committee

Hon. Madialo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this maize and millet or whatever grain that was being purchased was a purchase arrangement to take away from farmers their harvest, then it was purchased and given out to select persons. We have it captured here that there was relief food and my place got 25bags. How do you give 15,000 people 25bags? And Mr. Deputy Speaker, am saying that this report has no strategy to the extent that I do not know whether other Wards are misrepresented, but if I go by the Ward I represent, then the fact alone that they---I don't want to use the word they didn't know what they were doing, but I would have expected that it be captured here. What grains they were promoting and Mr. Deputy I say so because I do know that

the County Government and no lesser person than the Governor himself together with the CEC and the Director of Agriculture, US-Aid, Bidco and EABL have been to Usonga in the last four months, five times to promote barley, rice and provide market. Now, these people, if they are unable to capture that here, did they even go there?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, may I sit by stating that when you tell people we are going to have 13 tractors, we are going to have 12 or 10 tractors, you must tell us also how much land you intend to till. Because we are not just buying or hiring tractors in a vacuum, we are hiring those tractors for certain jobs and those jobs must be described so that there is justification for the expenditure. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will therefore join the hon. Booker in rejecting this report

Hon. Odinga: Thank you, hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir. First of all, I wish to indicate to you that am a bit confused. Not that I don't understand what is going on, but because the final report before me is confusing based on the following reasons:

I assumed that this was the response to a Statement made by hon. Muhulah, on 8th February, 2015. But, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, take a look at the first page. It says that -Report of the Committee of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on status of Agriculture, Tractor Hire Services, procurement and distribution of seeds and fertilizer. Then they leave it there. It is a status report, this is not a response! Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reason is, the next statement after that says- and fertilizer in the financial year 2014/2015 and then it proceeds and says -and Agri-business funds collected in the financial year 2013/2014. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you allow me, I will proceed to page three which clearly indicates the areas that hon. Muhulah requested or wanted to seek more clarification on, it is listed from number 1 to number 8. The number of tractors available and their working conditions, number of tractors allocated per Ward, all are here Mr. Deputy Speaker, and I don't need to go over them again. But if you go to details, the report is telling us what has happened between 2013/14 and also giving us a report of the current financial year. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I said, if you look at the date, it is 25th February, 2015 and the report is saying it is for the financial year 2014/15. We all know that the financial year for the government starts in July and ends in June. We are in February.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Which date are you referring to, the one on the cover page?

Hon. Odinga: Yes, the cover page

Hon. Deputy Speaker: But this one is simply referring to the date when this report was presented or tabled in the Assembly.

Hon. Odinga: That is what I am referring to Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes

Hon. Odinga: What I am saying is, if you look at the report, the date indicated is today, February, 2015, but the report is talking about a whole financial year from July 2014 to June 2015 which we are yet to. So, this is why I am saying that this is a status report---

(Hon. Awino stood on a point of order)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Zilpa?

Hon. Awino: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker; this is a point of information. On the issue of 2014/15 not having ended, I think the committee on page 9, on that table up there, No. 3; it says 2014/15 long rains- they have given acreage, amount and then the remarks say, land preparation is ongoing and the figure keeps on increasing. So, it's not saying that the whole year, receipts and expenditure have been realized but it keeps increasing, meaning it's ongoing. So, I think that should answer the issue raised by hon. Jack. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Zilpa. Hon. Odinga proceed.

Hon. Odinga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think it is misleading for a hon. Member to pick an item in a report. If you post this report on the website, what will someone read? That this is a status report for 2014/15. If at all it doesn't go into details, it's dwelling on one item that indicates that it's an ongoing process, and then the thing is that this is a status report which is talking of what happened in 2013/2014 and continuously talks of what is happening in 2014/2015. This is not a response. Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are not hitting at each other because we know very well that---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Of course we are not hitting at each other. You proceed with your contribution, nobody has complained.

Hon. Odinga: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker; I want to categorically say---

Hon. Owii: Just a point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Are you feeling threatened, have you been hit at hon. Owii?

Hon. Owii: We don't stand when we are threatened; we only stand when we have issues.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Ok. You raise your issue, are you standing on a point of order or you want to proceed?

Hon. Owii: Point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I want to inform the hon. Member who is on the Floor that if at all there is one person who decided to misinform this particular House on what we intended to have for a report, it is actually what we have in the Order Paper. That is what the team of hon. Agoko is trying to respond to. Not what actually was brought up by the hon. Member. So, hon. Agoko is responding to this particular Motion, not exactly what was requested by hon. Muhulah. Thank you very much.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Don't you think you are bringing more confusion, hon. K'owii? The report must be aligned to the Statement that was made by hon. Muhulah. So, if you can come up with a report that was not requested, then don't you think that is total confusion?

Hon. Owii: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Motion is misleading then, because it is what is telling us what we are discussing right now. Not that particular report.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Can I get a copy of the Statement that gave birth to this report?

Hon. Owii: Let's just give you the Order of Business.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I have that.

Hon. Minami: Mr. Deputy Speaker, could you allow me to help hon. Owii to know what we are talking about?

Hon. Deputy Speaker: You are not allowed. Hon Odinga proceed.

Hon. Odinga: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as you can see, the office of the Majority Leader is also confused.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: And you know, this is not a report from their office, this is a report from the Committee of Agriculture. You can proceed.

Hon. Odinga: That's why am saying that if the Majority Leader's office can be confused, what about us, other Members?

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Odinga proceed.

Hon. Odinga: What I was saying is that if you look at page 3, the introduction part of it---

Hon. Onduru: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member on the Floor of the House is not properly dressed.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Onduru, who has given you the chance to speak? You must respect the Chair. Nobody has given you a chance to speak!

Hon. Onduru: I apologize.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Ok, then sit down. Hon. Odinga proceed.

(Laughter)

Hon. Odinga: Thank you, Mr. Chair, for your protection. I was saying that when you look at page 3---

(Hon. Onduru stood at his place)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Onduru, you have something?

Hon. Onduru: Yes, I have. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to draw to your attention that the hon. Member on the Floor is not properly dressed for this House.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Chair: Hon. Odinga, can you rise up so that the Chair can see you. The Chair would want to see your code of dressing.

(Hon. Odinga rose up without a neck tie)

Ah! Hon. Odinga, what the hon. Member has raised is true. You are not properly dressed in this Assembly.

Hon. Odinga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir just allow me---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Odinga, you are not properly dressed, and therefore, the Speaker cannot continue listening to you.

(Applause)

Hon. Odinga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I even have a letter confirming that I have a problem with my neck---

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon Odinga, liaise with the Serjeant- at- Arms, so that we can verify your letter, if you are indeed---

(Laughter)

(Hon. Odinga walked out of the House)

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Were.

Hon. Were: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I have had the opportunity to look at this report and it is a boardroom report presented by a team that had gone for moon hiking.

(Laughter)

(Applause)

You know, I expected the Agriculture Committee to oversight, not to be an appendage of the CEC. I have looked at the report, they are talking of strategic reserves of various stores in the six Sub Counties and they are not telling us whether the maize that is stored in those various stores are available. We are in the know of the sorrowful state that the agriculture sector is undergoing and for a sedentary team to purport to oversight; to present a report to this Assembly is an insult. I ask myself several questions whether the Chair of Agriculture Committee ---

(Laughter)

Was doing his work in this Assembly, and his body language and posturing was telling that the narrative was a lie. It is a concoction manufactured in hell!

(Applause)

(Laughter)

At a time when this County is in a crisis, somebody should have been brave enough to tell us the truth.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: What crisis hon. Were?

Hon. Were: But you see, there is public complain when someone talks about unavailability of tractors.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: You know---

Hon. Were: You allow me time to talk!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: You know to be in crisis means something else---

Hon. Were: You allow me time to talk!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The Chair is guiding you. When the Chair speaks, you must respect.

Hon. Were: All right.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: So, when you talk about being in a crisis, that is too dangerous. I don't think this County is in any crisis at the moment. Proceed Hon. Were.

Hon. Were: I honour your opinion, but you see, when I talk about a crisis, it is rather a relative term because of the precipitating factors. Time is going; this County is not moving because of a team that is not caring. I am being given information here that there is a tractor that is being shared; it has been working in Yala and North Gem, and it is close to me, I have never seen that tractor. Already the public is complaining all over because no work is going on in North Gem and it's a concern that somebody is sabotaging this County. I don't know why the CEC was able to hypnotize the group and they decided to sit in the board room, write a report that has got no value. It is a report that this Assembly should reject in its entirety. Thank you.

(Hon. Odinga walked into the House putting on a tie)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Omwende. I can see hon. Odinga is back and thanks to God he has recovered miraculously.

(Laughter)

Hon. Odinga: Can I continue from where I left?

Hon. Deputy Speaker: No, you had already exhausted your time. Hon. Omwende proceed.

Hon. Odinga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that would be so unfair to me. As you know---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I may consider you later, but now it's Hon. Omwende's time.

Hon. Omwende: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. If there is a report that has been tabled in this Assembly that has not reached the threshold to be discussed, it is this report.

(Applause)

From this report it is clearly indicated that some Wards are going with flesh in their bags while other Wards are going with a bag of bones. It is very sad. I see people laughing, but this is not a laughing matter! Surely, like in my Ward, Sigomre, about the number of tractors available and their distribution, I will be very specific, that is Ugunja Sub County. It is said that Sigomre had one tractor that is working. Mr. Deputy Speaker, my constituents are really longing for this tractor up to now and somebody somewhere is saying that Sigomre has one tractor, where is that tractor? It is very unfortunate.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this report is quite confusing. If you look at the introduction part, No. 3, acreage ploughed in 2014/15, then there is also availability of funds collected in 2013/2014, specific details of their bank account and its signatories. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I seek for your guidance, this report is so confusing, why don't you give us direction because to me this thing doesn't give the tangible information that the hon. Muhulah was really longing for. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Angul.

Hon. Angul: Thank you very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I would just like to identify a figure on page 11 that is very much misleading, on the refund of un-ploughed parts. As I speak now, in the financial year 2013/2014, there were about five people who had paid in my Ward and as the report comes in here, it states that the money had been refunded while up to today, at the time am speaking, there is no money that has been refunded to the farmers. So this report is---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: You are referring to page 11?

Hon. Angul: Yes, page 11 on Refund of un-ploughed parts- Ksh. 77, 550. As I speak now, in my Ward there were about 5 people who paid during the financial year 2013/14 and they have not been refunded the money, neither have they been ploughed to. So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, as other Members have stated, this report is misleading us. It's not giving us the correct views on the ground. So---

Hon. Agoko: Mr. Deputy Speaker!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes, Chairman.

Hon. Agoko: Kindly, I just beg the Chair to direct that hon. Angul identifies these farmers so that I also capture. I would also want to know the particular farmers as I also engage further.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Angul, it's important that you give us concrete facts. You know when you talk about farmers in your Ward whose monies have not been refunded, we wish to know who are the farmers and perhaps if they have presented their complaints in writing. That would be more concrete than just throwing that farmers have not been refunded.

Hon. Madialo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, point of order.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Madialo, what is your point of order?

Hon. Madialo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, would it be in order for one Member to identify those whose money is still lying with the County Government while every Member has people who paid and whose farms have not been tilled since 2014? Mr. Deputy Speaker, would it be in order for the identification of the individuals to be brought in while it was not part of the issues that were raised by hon. Muhulah? And would it then be in order for the Chairman to seek that every Member brings the names of those whose money is still lying with the County Government, so that if the hon. Angul is to be addressed in the manner he is being asked to raise the issue, then everybody be allowed to raise the issue at the same time.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Madialo, at some point it will be necessary because so many people will be complaining. If at all there are people or farmers complaining that they have not been refunded, then it will be necessary that they present us with those names so that we can see how to help. Otherwise people will be complaining outside but without giving the names to the Committee, we may not ascertain who exactly is speaking the truth. Hon. Angul, proceed.

Hon. Angul: Mr. Deputy Speaker, as I speak now, I think this was a report of 2013/2014. And I think the Committee went on the ground and identified that this was the total figure that was refunded. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I represent East Asembo Ward and as I speak now I know the money has not been refunded back to the farmers in my Ward. So, it is not malice, neither am I talking of something that I don't know, I know the farmers in my Ward. It is stated here that 23 acres have been ploughed in East Asembo, but as I speak now, that may not be true because the tractor that has been given in my Ward has been having break downs every now and then. Even today in the morning as I was coming, it broke down! It came yesterday, today it broke down. So, I will end my submission there, but the Chair should actually check the accurate figures from the CEC. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Maurey. I will take two from each side then we conclude.

Hon. Asewe: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I would like to help you give direction that a report of a committee is to give the information they have gotten. Whether negative or positive, we should give it to the House. Now, a case where a tractor is broken down somewhere, I don't think it's the mistake of the committee. It is the mistake of the implementers. So, it would be very wrong to reject the report wholly because some of the mistakes that we are seeing here are not the mistakes of our committee and we need clarification from the CEC of that Ministry.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, when I went through the whole thing, there are things that are not correct and some are not true, but things like let me say the accounting department, the figures that were given to the committee came directly from that department that was implementing. If there is any information that is not correct and we require a true position, then the CEC should be summoned to come here and clarify. Otherwise, the committee should not be blamed wholly. What they have done partly is ok, though some areas need clarification from the CEC. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Walter.

Hon. Okello: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Allow me to say from the onset that going through this report; I have wanted to be the devil's advocate and support the committee, but having benefited from the kind guidance of a colleague, I wish to restrain myself to giving just an observation. But to put to rest the kind of confusion that is coming up, Mr. Deputy Speaker, it will be incumbent upon your good Chair to give guidance on whether the report as it is, is supposed to be a report or as I have been guided accordingly by my colleague, if it was supposed to be a statement from the CEC on events.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, to say that we reject the report as it is would be to deny that we don't want to hear the perception of the CEC and the status of agriculture in the County as it were. Again Mr. Deputy Speaker, to support or admit this report, will be to admit that East Gem for instance, represented by hon. Booker, has received 5 sacks of maize in an emergency or starvation that all of us are not aware of. Again, to admit that, will also be to admit that in Siaya County, there is a Ward called South Alego which apparently received 20 bags, yet East Alego has also received a certain number bags Mr. Deputy Speaker. It will not be objective Mr. Deputy

Speaker, to support or reject this report as it were yet it is the same report, there are valuable and important things for purposes of information that are useful to us as Members and also for charting the way forward. There are critical issues the hon. Muhulah raised and this House discussed at length. Issues of agricultural policy, issues of tillage, issues of SWOT analysis and the benefits of these tractors hired. Issues which ought to have come out in that report, if that was the intention of this report, but they are glaringly missing Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I wish to suggest humbly that you guide the Agriculture Committee to present this as a statement from the CEC, because if you look at the conclusion and the recommendations, the Committee recommends that; No. 6, that the CEC of Agriculture to attend a Committee of the Whole House to share with Members on issues of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Department. That is the kind of forum that will enable Members to engage the CEC so that she can answer first hand some of the questions which we might be wrongfully throwing at the Chairman's desk this afternoon.

Finally, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to add my voice on an issue that was raised earlier by the hon. Booker that as Members or Chairmen of Committees present reports, it is assumed that they have taken ownership of the reports that they are presenting. It is therefore a contradiction when the Chairman in his presentation, a number of times withdraws himself and says that those are not necessarily the views of the Committee. Kindly guide us and let the Members of the Committee be absolved where they need to be absolved, but let the issues being raised here find the right forum for clarification and for advice. Thank you.

Hon. Awuor: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I am on my feet to debate on this report. I have looked at it critically and it's quite unfortunate because I represent a Ward called Yala Township and if you look at the report, it is said that Yala Township Ward has one tractor which has broken down. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think that's not right, because I represent that Ward and there has been a lot of complains over the same, so I think that is not true. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have looked at what the County Government received in terms of bags which were meant for relief and it is a concern that the relief was specifically given to majorly two Sub-Counties; Bondo Sub County and Alego Usonga Sub County. I have heard hon. Booker denying and saying that he was not aware of the 5 bags which were given to his Ward.

Secondly, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we need to also get clarification on how and when, if the Executive has relief food, when is it given, how is it given or is it an expense that the Executive, the Governor for example just decides that I am giving this bag to Alego Usonga Sub County, because I have seen in this report Mr. Deputy Speaker, that all Wards in Alego Usonga Sub County are benefiting. I don't know whether there was a disaster in the 6 Wards. You will find South East Alego getting 139 while Ugenya, Ugunja, Rarieda and Gem got none. How is that done Mr. Deputy Speaker? I think these are issues that from the onset we need to know because we cannot keep food. For example in Nyawara, there was a store which kept 306 bags of maize and you cannot just dish out the bags that you kept for other areas, but if there is a disaster, I think there must be a declaration Mr. Deputy Speaker. So, these are issues that we really need to know.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, parading 5 tractors, my friend, the hon. Madialo has said **NO**, these tractors were never paraded within his office. But surely, how do you parade 5 tractors when other Wards have none! I think that is madness Mr. Deputy Speaker. These are issues that need serious attention and address because we represent the people and things need to be done in the right way. There is this issue, on page 11; that the treasury has been delaying with payment of fuel and that has really affected the ploughing of farms in time. I think this issue needs to be addressed. We should not accept that, right there have been delays, so the County Assembly has accepted that the treasury can just keep on delaying and we are happy that that is okay. Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is not acceptable to me and I want to urge the House not to accept the same. I think for the time being Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to put my humble request to the Chairman and the Committee on Agriculture that they humbly withdraw this report and work on it properly and tell us the time that we would--- Maybe they were never given enough time. So, I want to humbly request the Chair to ask for permission from the Chair and withdraw this report and go and work on it.

Otherwise, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want also to support just one issue that has been contained in this report that the CEC in charge of Agriculture should face the Whole House Committee to give us exactly the picture which is worrying us. Lastly, Mr. Deputy Speaker, if this report is accepted, it will tell the public in this County that some Members of this Assembly are working and others are not. Like in my area where only 1 acre has been ploughed and others like West Uyoma where---I think Mr. Deputy Speaker, if this is accepted, the report will be circulated within the County and it will really show that the Executive does not care about some Wards and therefore we are not working, because people don't know that we are not implementers in this County Mr. Deputy Speaker. I rest my case.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I am giving the last chance and then we proceed. Hon. Members, before I give hon. Andiego a chance, we must not forget the role that we play as an Assembly. When we want a report from the Executive, it means we are sending a Committee to engage the Executive to come and tell us what they are doing or what they intend to do. We don't expect a report the way you need it yourself. Otherwise, it appears that most of us already have a formed opinion of what ought to have been indicated in that report. The Chairman through his Committee is simply informing this Assembly on the findings which he got from the CEC. He did not come up with his own report! He is telling us that according to the CEC, she told us that in Central Gem, for example, one or ten acres of land have been ploughed.

The Chair of Agriculture plus the Committee do not know or they don't have those facts. They cannot go to Central Gem or East Gem to look for the farms that were ploughed, but they are simply giving a report of the findings that they got when they engaged the CEC concerned. Let us not confuse things, there is separation of powers. Let us agree on that. I know in a report, we may have the minority and the majority. A report must not only be suitable to the majority, sometimes a report may be minority based. So we must understand that the report that is given to the House should reflect what the CEC or what the department that was engaged said. With information that you give us, you are simply reporting what you were told and what you

gathered. Otherwise, we don't have those facts ourselves. We are now seated here; we don't know what is going on in the farms. So, the information that we gathered through the Agriculture Committee is simply the information that we got from the CEC plus the department of agriculture.

Hon. Andiego, you can take your chance.

Hon. Andiego: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir---

Hon. Odinga: Point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Andiego, proceed! Hon. Odinga, kindly take your seat!

Hon Odinga: Point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: What information do you want to raise?

Hon. Odinga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I was walking out, there is one thing I saw in this report that would affect all of us in this House. If you allow me, I can point it then walk out.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I am giving you one minute.

Hon. Odinga: Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Why do you want to point and walk out?

Hon. Odinga: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am being called for another meeting, and that is why I have insisted that I must tell the House that there is a statement--

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Okay, proceed!

Hon. Odinga: Thank you. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, look at page 9 of this report, item No. 4.0, Financial Transactions. It says an informal meeting was held in January, 2014 at IFAD Hall with all elected hon. Members of the County Assembly and the CEC of Agriculture and the meeting resolved that an agribusiness account to be opened and the monies collected from agribusiness activities be managed from this account.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we all know that it is an illegality both constitutionally and under the County Government Act, 2012, that all monies should be channeled to one account. And it is said here that elected Members sat at IFAD- I was not among them that sat at IFAD and approved opening of this account. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we will be tying our hands if we allow such a report to go into our records. Thank you.

Hon. Andiego: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker; I am just worried of how small I am because I have been on my feet for long and I could not catch your eye, I am sorry for this. I just want to appreciate the Committee because, Mr. Deputy Speaker, you know information is power and from them we've got information, we have something that we can talk about. I thank the Committee for bringing us this report, you have opened our eyes. I am a representative of the people, and Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are here to represent the views, needs and demand of the people we represent. At times I feel so much pained that I come here and I get a report that is assumed I know, yet I know nothing about. We have really suffered. Mr. Deputy Speaker, so much money is being spent on agriculture and if you go back to our Wards, you may find out that we-- I personally, sometimes part with huge sums of money towards these issues. At times when there are seeds or grains that are being distributed, I'm forced to hire a track to carry maize

from Bondo to my Ward yet money for distribution was allocated. So, the information that we get here will help us.

The only thing that I am requesting our people is that after getting such information, it is high time that we call the CEC concerned so that we question her and put things in order. We really need to put things in order for this County to run smoothly. A situation where somebody says because she is a CEC or whatever and then decides for us, we will suffer a lot. Ladies and gentlemen, we need to rise up and do the work we were elected for.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, if you check No. 3.0, it is stated that we have 12 County government owned tractors and 8 private tractors, and when you go deep inside on the remarks, the 8 private tractors rose to 14. It is something that brings about questions. There is also a place they said; after consultations with the Members of this Assembly, they agreed that we will provide security for the seeds that will be placed in some stores. I am told to provide security yet I don't know where the seeds are kept. Like in my Ward, I am seeing it is stated that the seeds will be kept at Kopolo, and yet there is no store there. Our office is in a place called Nango where we have security which is being paid for by the County Government.

So, I would wish Mr. Chairman, that as much as we have the information, we are requesting you to invite the CEC so that we have a one on one talk with her, we explain ourselves. Agriculture as you mentioned, is key to our County, but sometimes it is like we are playing with what is important to our lives. When we come to the issues of tractors, somebody will tell you that the acreage that you ploughed in your Ward is 100, yet it has not even reached 50. We need to be serious! When we were preparing the budget, yes it could not match, but we proposed that each and every Ward should have its own tractor that we manage. But if it can't go to 30 tractors, why can't we have 15. So that we say, this week, Elisha has it, next week, Andiego has it. We can manage these things! We need to sit with the Executive and look into how we can also help them. Some of us are very good managers, we have managed so many things for over 30 years and they are successful! Somebody should not sit somewhere and think that we are very poor managers. When given a chance, we can even make it look much better. We are also good in doing such things, so we want to be involved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, what worried me most is when my Ward is getting only 25 bags of whatever they call relief. I don't know whether they were unwanted seeds that were turned to be relief. And somewhere, a certain Ward just like mine is getting 139 bags. What was the criterion? What method did these people use to distribute? Or some people were hungrier than others? We are 30 Wards and all should be treated equally, whether I support you or I don't. If you have your own, then you can call a friend and give, but on this one for the County, we are all equal despite our backgrounds.

Hon. Ngunge: Point of information, Mr. Deputy Speaker!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes, what is the point of information you have hon.Ngunge?

Hon. Member: I just wanted to go back to page 4 of this report and inform hon. Andiego that on the issue of sharing, that might not even be the ideal situation because we are

given a report here that Yala Township shared a tractor with North Gem and only one acre has been ploughed. So, I don't know if it will work well when a tractor is being shared.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Andiego, proceed!

Hon. Andiego: Thank you for the information Madam Nguere. But it can work according to the managers there---there are times they say that there are tractors being shared and yet they are not there. If it is there and well managed, it can work.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am sitting, asking that we need to be serious in our County when it comes to things that are affecting our lives. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

(Hon. Augo stood at her place)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I had indicated that I would give hon. Andiego the last chance but because of gender, I will indulge you.

Hon. Augo: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. First of all, I just want to congratulate the Committee on Agriculture for giving us this report. Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have wanted to know what is happening with agriculture and indeed these people have struggled and finally came out with this report. I am not saying that the report is suitable, be supported and to be adopted, but I am just saying that our eyes have been opened and now we know what is happening on the ground. Just to go to North Sakwa, the acreage which has been ploughed is 139.5-- page 7, the remaining is 5, this is not correct! There is no any acreage of 139 which has been ploughed! There isn't! Hon. K'owii, just let me talk!

Hon. Owii: I'm not talking, I am only wondering.

(Laughter)

Hon. Augo: So, we are not condemning this report, but hon. Members have scrutinized it and have seen where the loopholes and mistakes are. According to me, I am saying that we should bring the CEC to this House to tell us more about agriculture. We want to know where our monies are going because whatever is here is not understandable.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have to be a very serious House when it comes to matters of money in this County. And that is why I am saying that this report is an eye opener! As you have said, our brother and his committee are not supposed to bring their own report, but they are to work with the Executive to bring us the report, because they are the implementers. So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to say that this report should be looked at again and we need the Executive in this House. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. I would be in trouble if I don't give hon. Elisha and hon. K'owii a chance to speak. I will start with hon. Elisha. They have been standing up all along and Members were many who wanted to contribute. Let us hear from hon. Elisha.

Hon. Okuku: Thank you, hon. Deputy Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to offer my services to the County of Siaya. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is difficult to support this report because of the identified, 1, 2, 3 areas.

One, Mr. Deputy Speaker, when you go to page 7, the report indicates that Yimbo East which I represent, the only acreage which has been ploughed is 1 against 39, and when you look at my neighbor, Yimbo West, the acreage which has been ploughed is 28 against 6.8 Mr. Deputy Speaker. But when you go physically and look at Yimbo West and Yimbo East, you will find that where we have land is Yimbo East. Yimbo West is occupied by water, islands and everything. So, when you find that they have only ploughed one acre in my Ward, it is a total joke Mr. Deputy Speaker, and a total mockery to this House.

This CEC in charge of Agriculture, just like Members have mentioned, should be called before us Mr. Deputy Speaker, because according to my understanding, I think, she is drawing money in the name of salary and doing a very big disservice to the community of Siaya. We must stop this and we cannot do this by not inviting her in our midst. I think it is high time that we should call her here and inform her that our people need services. You know Mr. Deputy Speaker, agriculture is very fundamental and it is the---

(Hon. Asewe lifted up his hand)

Asewe, I am on the floor! Please obey

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Elisha, Asewe has done nothing that threatens your life.

Hon. Elisha: Mr. Deputy Speaker, protect me, I am seeing his hand up always.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I am protecting hon. Asewe from you because you are the one who looks more harmful to hon. Asewe.

(Laughter)

Hon. Elisha: Okay, Mr. Deputy Speaker, when you look at this report, you find that the maize relief- page 14- in my Ward they brought 43 bags, I don't want to deny this. I saw some bags in my office and I involved the area Chiefs and Asst. Chiefs in my Ward to distribute it. But what worries me is this; what was the rationale of the impact assessment to justify that the 28,000 people that I represent in Yimbo East only needed 43 bags while in some Wards, people got around 139 bags Mr. Deputy Speaker? Again my worry is this; who gave the Executive the authority or approval to go this direction Mr. Deputy Speaker? Everything being done which touches on public funds needs approval!

So, in a nutshell, I want to conclude by saying that it's a high time that we thrash this report. Then two, we call upon the CEC in charge of agriculture to come and face the Committee of the Whole House so that we can put things straight and stop this impunity. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. K'owii, I hope you are not going to summarize what other Members have talked about.

(Laughter)

Give your contribution without repetitions!

Hon. Owii: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. It is always hard to argue with the Chair. I have stood several times, Mr. Deputy Speaker, but you chose to give me the last chance. I may repeat, I don't know.

An. Hon. Member: Don't repeat!

Hon. Owii: You had your chance! If you didn't have, just come back and speak. Mr. Deputy Speaker, there are two things that I wanted to talk about or just seek clarification on. And they are things that would make us not believe the Committee on Agriculture in this report that they have given us. One, we shouldn't just go and get dictation from the CEC and write notes as if we are children in a class, we don't even question! For instance, if we may make a mistake of accepting this particular report, then any sensible person would see this House to be actually trying to promote impunity. If you look at page 11, there is the purchase of storage bags that has been talked about here. Who would buy an empty bag at Ksh. 650? That is sheer corruption! And it would mean that this House, if at all we adopt this particular report, then we are promoting corruption in the Executive!

I believe that even if the CEC was giving information as was required by the Committee, the Committee had every opportunity to ask questions! Why was an ordinary empty bag costing Ksh. 650? They would have asked! And even in their recommendations, they have not said anything about the same! That one would actually show a bit of impunity.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said I had two issues that I felt I would highlight.

The second one was the issue of distribution of--These are not relief food! If they were relief food, then this is the time! They are keeping quite a number of bags, close to 1,483 bags in stores! Why don't they give them out! Why do they only give 5 bags to a whole Ward? And they are keeping too many! For what purpose now! I believe the Committee on Agriculture should have asked why they were keeping too many bags, for what and why they were giving too little. Because I know in some places people are suffering; there is famine in some places. Why are they not making any considerations for those particular places? I have an issue, and this one is a repetition, in fact in almost all sectors. That if there is any consideration, then it has to be Bondo and Alego Usonga. And they just do it! Like now when they were distributing, I don't know if it was relief, but let me use the word relief. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they just concentrated in Bondo and Alego Usonga and they did not consider any other place in the remaining four Sub-Counties i.e. Ugenya, Ugunja, Gem and Rarieda.

I believe those are parts of Siaya County and I wanted to request that because we feel that in their recommendation they should have put that other places should also be considered, I want to request that even without actually recommending the passing of this particular report, whatever is remaining in the stores should now be distributed to the remaining Sub-Counties. Not actually just making consideration of--- I was given only 25 and other places got 0 (zero).

I said I had only two issues which I wanted to address, Sir, and I think I have touched on them. If I made any summary, then I did not intend to, I had to speak about them. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, hon. Owii. I now call upon the Mover of the Motion to respond. But before he responds, as I had said earlier, hon. Members, the report is made up of the facts that were gathered from the CEC and the Department of Agriculture. If we approve this report, then we are saying that we are comfortable with the information that our Committee gathered. If we reject this report, then we are simply sending a message to them that the information that you gave us is inappropriate and you need to up your socks.

We are not disapproving the information from the Committee on Agriculture, let us understand that. We are not discrediting what the Committee on Agriculture did. What the Committee on Agriculture has done is just to facilitate the process of obtaining information from the Department of Agriculture to the Assembly. They have highlighted to us what the department of Agriculture has been doing. It is not their report as the Agriculture Committee, but they have presented a report or facts as per the Department of Agriculture. So, let the Agriculture Committee not feel that we have thrashed their report, that is not your business. Perhaps even the Agriculture Committee Members are not really for that report. You never know! Maybe Members of that Committee are also saying that the facts these people gave us are not appropriate! So, let us not feel that we are doing a disservice or discrediting what the Agriculture Committee has done. If we approve it, then we are saying kudos to the CEC and her Department, and if we disapprove it, then we are saying the information that the CEC and her department gave us was not appropriate.

Chairman of Agriculture, it's your time.

Hon. Agoko: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. First of all, I express my gratitude to Members of this House for their very many contributions as to the issues raised on the report. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am delighted by the response of this House. I want to appreciate the Members because they looked at each word, each statement word by word, sentence by sentence. And Mr. Deputy Speaker, I could not do it any better when I got this kind of information and this is what the implementers in the department have. I did not find any better way to soothe it or to sweeten it before presenting it to the Members.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is my role and the role of the Committee to present to the Members the affairs of the Executive, each and every activity and the way they are conducting things. When it comes to the distribution of relief, it is not within the mandate of the Agriculture Committee to decide on where the relief is to be taken, but it is indicated in this report for the Members to know that out of the strategic grain reserve, so much was released. So, it is for the Members consumption to know that the activity took place and so much was removed. I am therefore putting to this hon. House that we are going to revisit these issues, but I would be very happy in engaging you further so that we ensure that those farmers who paid in 2013 and have not been ploughed for, kindly, I still call upon you Members to help us with the details so that as

we engage the Executive, we also have some facts and figures. So, that we can say, so and so in this particular Ward paid in 2013/2014 and has not been served. And in that regard Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Members will be served better.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I also wanted to put it that--- it is unfortunate that the Member representing Usonga Ward is absent, he has left, but the Committee really engaged the department on the issue of Usonga. We really wanted the facts and figures correct, and they said it many times, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that tractors were paraded beside the Member of County Assembly's office in Usonga on instructions of the Governor for a whole one week. The entire Committee was taken aback that that was done. I cannot in any way not say what was reported to us and I was reporting exactly as it was put to us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, let me thank this House, and I promise to give them a more comprehensive report including their concerns in 14 days. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you.

Hon. Agoko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would request that this House facilitates the Committee so that we can visit certain fields to really confirm-- because the issues we are getting here Mr. Deputy Speaker, I didn't know that we were to go the fields to confirm and verify certain activities that are taking place. But for this regard, it will be important that we go to places like Usonga and really see what is really there and why those people don't need the tractors, because as things stand, I would still bring such a report here that would not please the ears of some of us. I must just say what is there on the ground. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. As I had indicated earlier, whatever decision this Assembly shall arrive at, it should not bother the Committee so much. Because if we reject it, we are simply sending a word to the CEC and her team that we rejected the information that you gave us. If we approve it, then we are telling them, congratulations. And it is not disapproval on the good job of our Committee on Agriculture in this Assembly.

(Question put)

Hon. Agoko!

Hon. Agoko: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I had requested for withdrawal and to get back to the House in 14 days' time.

(Members responded in unison, "YES")

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Agoko, that is very unprocedural. You cannot ambush the Chair when the Chair is putting the question.

(Laughter)

But we are all learning. If the Chair wishes to withdraw his report then I have no reason to object.

(Applause)

Because you can withdraw your report at any stage before the voting is done. So, we will take the report back to the Agriculture Committee. But I don't know why you are so worried, because I had already indicated to you, if it doesn't see the light of the day or if it sees, that should not bother this Committee.

An. Hon. Member: It is not our fault!

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes, we don't manage tractors, we don't manage fertilizers and therefore, if the Assembly rejects the report from CEC's department, that should not bother the Chairman! Do I proceed or---

(Members answered in unison "Proceed")

Hon. Deputy Speaker: No, I just want to get it from the Chair himself.

Hon. Agoko: Mr. Deputy Speaker, as you've put it, I would have just wished that as it gets rejected in the next phase, I get some of these facts and figures, but when it is rejected as of now, it means we shall have lost the agenda. I would wish to engage the Executive further on these particular agendas because the matter is so hot, it is urgent and we need to engage immediately. So, I would humbly request that I withdraw; we don't subject it to a vote for now, but let it be rejected at the next level when we shall have brought other facts.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Okay, I direct that the report goes back to the Agriculture Committee and we get a report. We will give you next week, but on the Tuesday of the other week, we must have this report back. If at all we were going to reject this report, then I was going to invite the CEC in charge before the Committee of the Whole House, but now that you are taking it back, then the CEC will have to face the committee alone.

Hon. Owii: It is better that way

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Owii, you have a Motion. This should be your Motion.

Hon. Owii: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Given that we have exhausted all the business of the day, I want to move a Motion of adjournment of this House: -

That the House be adjourned until tomorrow at 2.30 p.m. and I want to call upon hon. Munda to second.

Hon. Munda: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to second.

(Question put and agreed to)

The House rose at 5.06 p.m.