

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

### THE HANSARD

#### Second County Assembly-Fourth session

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

The House met at the Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

*[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Booker) in the Chair]*

#### PRAYER

#### STATEMENT

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Yes, Hon. Charlton Andiego, MCA Central Sakwa Ward.

**Hon. C. Andiego:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it's the norm that Statement requests in this House usually take 4 days but I have an urgent one which I would request the Committee of Health to look into very fast so that our CHPs can get them very fast.

That aside; Pursuant to Standing Order number 41 (2) c, I rise to seek a Statement from the County Chief Officer of Health on the status of the payment of Community Health Workers in Siaya County.

In the Statement the CO should;

1. Give a detailed status report of the delayed salary payments and submission of statutory remittance to over 5 months of Community Health volunteers in Siaya County
2. The CO should also explain the measures put in place to avert a recurrence of such setbacks owing to the fact that the CHPs are officers and are at the forefront of averting such pandemics as the Corona virus.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Any Member from the Health Committee?

**Hon. Oyugi:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have heard the Statement and as a Member of the Health Committee, I shall relay the message to my Chair and because of the urgency, we shall endeavour to respond to it as soon as possible.

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**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): What is your Point of Order, Hon. Olasi?

**Hon. Olasi:** Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious Statement unlike other Statements. What Hon. Andiego is trying to put across is a concern. I believe every Member in this House, in one way or another has been approached by this particular group of people.

Given the condition that we have worldwide, the situation of Covid-19, it is these health workers that are the first soldiers and they are in the first line of this particular area. So we cannot take such Statement for granted, a Member of the Health Committee talking about two weeks! I think the two weeks are 2 months.

If this thing can be reduced to one week and some seriousness be seen, then that is the best. Otherwise for me, two weeks is too much.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Thank you, Hon. Whip, take your seat. Hon. Judy?

**Hon. Oyugi:** I just wanted to make a clarification. I said within two weeks can even mean within 2 days, 3 days. It will not take long.

**Hon. Olasi:** Point of Order, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Chair we need to be specific, and not to be vague, that within 2 weeks can even mean one day, and the Hon. Member who gave out this Statement started by saying we have not been serious, but he was requesting the House if not the Committee to be serious even a little bit.

Then the Honorable Member on behalf of the Committee is saying within two weeks, and then she is even challenging my statement that within two weeks can even be two days. Let them be specific. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Booker):** Thank you very much, Hon. Olasi. I think it is imperative that we, Hon. Andiego just give the Health Committee two weeks because it is always a norm that when we write to them, we give them two weeks, so just allow the Health Committee the two weeks so that they can give you a good feedback. I think I have made a ruling.

*(Members talked out of Order)*

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): I will accept point of orders but not on the issue of Statements made. Yes, Hon. C. Andiego.

**Hon. C. Andiego:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to talk about this Statement, but I want to say that the other day when I made a Statement about the Corona Virus that was on 15th March this year before the pandemic hit us hard I think it is hon. Adala and the Health Committee who told me the pandemic is a worldwide thing so it was not a must they should handle it.

The other day when the President was releasing his speech, Siaya was noted to be the one that had the least bed capacity, yet my Statement was on the preparedness of this County to combat the said virus.

On matters Health, the CHPs are really working hard on the ground in terms of this pandemic. I know you made a ruling that there would be no consultation, but okay, I was saying

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that I made a Statement here on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March this year, which up to date I have never received a response.

I received a response the other day when I was watching news, when the President was saying that the preparedness we have is a 10 bed capacity and the 9 are occupied, the one remaining can be either yours or mine, but I would like to state it here that matters of Health are very serious and we should not take it as a norm that Statements are made up of stories. We can call the CO.

**Hon. Olasi:** Point of Order, Mr. Speaker

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Yes, Hon. Olasi

**Hon. Olasi:** Mr. Speaker, allow me to bring the Hon. Member up to speed that the Statement that was made by His Excellency the President was on 6<sup>th</sup> of this Month, so just be specific and say that our County was named as an example.

So when we are saying two weeks are too much, we are making reference to the day His Excellency the President gave an example of our County. Thank you. Continue Honorable Member.

**Hon. C. Andiego:** Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I am still stating that matters Health are very pertinent as much as it has always been a norm to bring a response after two weeks. The other day the Chair said that we can always as a House bring the CO, because the other day I was making a Statement on the Corona Virus and the Chair asked me not to include the CECM because we don't recognize the CECM of Health that is why I am saying the CO or the Director.

I know now they are focusing on the Corona Virus Pandemic, but as a House we can write to them so that they can come here and tell us the status of CHPs, because they are in our Wards. They are in our health centers.

They are helping our Mothers and even our old men and us in the village. So I think it is a matter of urgency and we can call the CO to ask why these people have not been paid for 5 months and counting. And why was their last remittance for NHIF October last year? I think this would do us and these people a great good as the people of Siaya. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Thank you very much, we shall consider that.

**Hon. Omwende:** Point of Order, Mr. Speaker.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Yes, what is the point of Order, Hon. Omwende?

**Hon. Omwende:** Mr. Speaker, we are in an error where sometimes the De jure Leadership does not help. I believe and trust that the Assembly also has got those guidelines, but I will not dwell much on that because the Constitution already dismissed it too.

My issue over this Statement given is that we are not raising this Statement for formality. These Statements we are raising are for great impact.

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Yes, Hon. Judy

**Hon. Oyugi:** Can the Honorable Member substantiate on the matters dictatorship, and what is he referring to by talking dictatorship?

**Hon. Omwende:** Mr. Speaker I used simple languages for that Member to understand. The term 'de jure'..

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**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Hon. Omwende who did you refer to as a dictator? Are you trying to say the Honorable Speaker is a dictator? You are out of Order!

Hon. Members, on Thursday the Honorable Members will be meeting the CO Health and the County Secretary. So I strongly believe that if we have issues that are very much into us, we will deal with it on Thursday, Hon. Andiego take note of that. Thank you. I have made a ruling on that.

*(Members talked out of Order)*

**MOTION**

ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Speaker** (Hon. Booker): Hon. Members there being no other Business will you be upstanding for adjournment.

Members there being no other Business this House stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2020 at 9.30 a.m. in the Chamber.

The House rose at 3.46 p.m.