

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SIAYA DEBATES

## REPUBLIC OF KENYA

### SIAYA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

#### THE HANSARD

#### Second County Assembly-Second session

**Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2018**

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2.30p.m.

*[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Andericus Odongo) in the Chair]*

#### PRAYER

#### MOTION

#### FISHING INDUSTRY

Mr. Speaker Sir, aware that there are enormous challenges bedeviling the fishing industry in Siaya County including but not limited to; the use of non-authorized/non-recommended fishing gears; use of poorly built and weak fishing boats/equipment; constant insecurity and losses of fishing equipment, inadequate market of fish and fish products, not to mention the constant accidents in the lake.

Further aware that the Fishing Industry contributes immensely to the Siaya County Economic basket by offering thousands of employment opportunities, millions of shillings in terms of revenue, amongst other benefits.

Noting the contributions of the County Government of Siaya, in the Crops and Dairy Farming Sectors of the County Department of Agriculture, concerned that the Siaya County Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2017 had been passed by the County assembly, assented to but yet to be published into an Act.

Noting that there is need to provide for the sustainable utilization, management and development of Fisheries, Aquaculture, and other Aquatic resources within the County, this House resolves that the County Government of Siaya develops and submits to this House for consideration within 21 calendar days, a comprehensive policy to comprehensively support the fishing industry through subsidies such as recommended fishing gears/equipment, structured marketing and enhanced security and County law enforcement mechanisms.

I call upon Hon. Edwin Odhiambo to second.

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**Hon. Odhiambo:** I second

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Odawa, Member for Sigomre.

**Hon. E. Odawa:** First of all I want to appreciate Hon. Willis, MCA for West Yimbo for being concerned about the plight of the people of his Ward. Secondly, in my opinion, in terms of the fishing gears, the prices are dependent on the market forces, but I think it's possible for the County Government to subsidize for our fishery activities.

The national Government has failed the Community in the lake region in identifying fish as a cash crop and subsidizing the fees for the fish industry. I also want to add that in his submission, he should have included cage fish farming, which is a very integral part of modernized fish farming, and my good colleague Hon. Willis, I think you should include that in your submission, it's important, so that we can have economic and viable fish farming, other than going to fish in the lake, which is basically chancing on what we are going to catch, etc.

In terms of security in the lake, this is a duty of the National Security, and I think it squarely failed in the National Government docket not the County Government docket; hence the County Government can only assist in beefing security in the lake. So maybe I would suggest that you take it up with your MP to bring it up in the National Assembly for consideration, so that the National Government to consider having a navy force or a patrolling system in the lake.

The other suggestion I have is that I will request you to consider having a ring road around the lake shore so that we link all our beaches hence that will improve on the accessibility of our beaches and making sure that our fish get to the market before perishing

Lastly, I would advise that you also include forming cooperative societies for fishermen in the various areas; but if they are there, they need to be strengthened in order to enhance their effectiveness. I support!

**Hon. Wandera:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand to support the Motion. I have observed with concern the challenges herein and also the call for support from the county government.

Agriculture is the economic mainstay of Kenya and for Siaya as a matter of fact and I would have loved to see these issues being looked at widely. We should lay more emphasis on agriculture.

Apart from the lake, we should also encourage fish pond farming because there are a number of fish ponds out there that dried up. We also have ox-bow lakes; or what do call them? Are they called ox-bow lakes? Yes! Like the one at Hawinga and we also fish in rivers-----

*(Hon. Olasi rose on a point of order)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Olasi!

**Hon. Olasi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the Member of Sidindi Ward to lecture us as if we are his pupils? He keeps on asking us questions; from what source does he expect us to get the answers? This is not a lecture hall!

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**Hon. Wandera:** I know it is a tradition that whenever the Member for Sidindi stands, points of order become too much.

*(Laughter)*

I am not lecturing Members, what I am saying is that we have fish ponds in various parts of the county including Siding Ward and in some valleys and rivers and many other water basins, but all these fish ponds have died natural deaths. So, if we want to enhance the fishing industry, we must address these challenges identified by Hon. Willis.

*(Hon. E. Odawa rose on a point of order)*

**Hon. Odawa:** It is very wrong for the MCA for Sidindi Ward to assume or presume that fishponds are living things that die natural death.

**Hon. Wandera:** You know, language is a problem. This is not our mother tongue! We have inherited this language. What I mean is that those fishponds are no more. I was saying that if the county government could intervene so that the fish ponds are resurrected; I know that is another word which some people will not be happy with.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Member, continue!

**Hon. Wandera:** May we add to this Motion the idea of fish ponds in various parts of the county. Thank you

**Hon. Otiato:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. This Motion is timely for us who come along the lake. As a county, we have been keen on subsidizing seeds, but ignoring fishing which is the main economic activity that employs a huge percentage of the people of Siaya.

There is no clear reason as to why the county government is hesitant in investing in the fishing industry. That is why in the previous Finance Bill, there was even a proposal to tax people in the fish industry yet there is nothing being done by the county government to support the industry. We cannot even support small scale farmers trying their hand into this industry

I took time to read some research about fish caging and we are underperforming. We are hardly using three percent of our capacity yet we have a goldmine that can feed the whole of this county.

The Siaya County Fisheries and Agriculture Bill, 2017 was passed by this Assembly and assented to yet it has not been implemented. The CECM of this Department should tell us why the Act is not being implemented. As we develop the agriculture policy, it should be in line with the law which was passed.

We need to have an elaborate agriculture development plan that encourages fish farming. The market is very much available, but can we satisfy it? It is not about the fish ponds or fish caging alone, we need a comprehensive policy on fishing in general.

We cannot be dealing with a group of people who cannot identify what is good for Siaya so long as they get what to eat. But with this Assembly having the responsibility of approving

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allocations, I think we should not even contemplate looking at other budgets without looking at how these farmers are going to be affected.

In the past, I have observed that for example in Yimbo East Ward, you give me an allocation of about Kshs. 2million for artificial insemination yet I don't even have one cow in the whole Ward. So, what am I going to do with artificial insemination yet we have fish cages that can be supported in the Ward?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support!

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to commend the Motion moved by Hon. Willis Ochieng' on behalf of the Agriculture Committee. We are privileged to talk about this because we come along Lake Victoria where fishing is taking place and so it's like we are the most affected people. The only bad thing is that the machines stop functioning well when we want to talk.

Fishing had been overlooked when everything was still under the national government. We thought things would change with the coming in of devolution, but that has not been the case. This is the reason why I want to thank the Mover of this Motion for remembering our fishing community in this county.

We cannot say that fishermen are poor; in fact, those who are rich in this county are fishermen, but they lack protection. It is the leaders who will guide everything in this county in terms of security and even in empowering those who are doing any activity, now that agriculture has been devolved and fishing does not take place in the City that is Nairobi and now the County Government has it at hand.

I would request that as much as it is in black and white about the policy, I want to encourage this House and I know that it has been mentioned by Hon. Member for Yimbo East that the population which depends on the fishing industry is about 75% of these County and I am sure that when I was young the people from Alego would arrive at the beaches at around 8.00 am in the morning so that they get fish to buy as well as sell.

I want to tell this House that the fishing industry is what has made Bondo town to be what it is today and the headquarters ought to be there only that Siaya has a bigger name than Bondo. I would request that the County Government takes care of the fishermen in Lake Victoria like for instance in Uganda the fishing industry is the most respected industry in the Country given that it's also the most empowered industry as well as in Tanzania.

I think it is not the same in Kenya because those who are in power are not from around the lake region and therefore, they do not receive money that comes from the industry.

If I am to say, the brightest people as well as leaders of this Nation all come from the lake region and I can confirm by mentioning a few. I want to request the County Government that as much as they have been looking into the affairs of crop farmers as well as dairy farmers I also want to urge them to look at the security of the fisher men because the nets they use is very expensive for example one piece of net goes at Kshs. 4000 and they need like 80 pieces of that to have a complete fishing net.

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So when they leave them in the lake at night they are not sure if they will get them in the morning therefore am requesting that the security officer patrol the lake the same way our neighbor Uganda does. In fact, in Uganda it is the army that patrols the lake even during the day.

I also want to say that fisher men have suffered and this is due to factories in Kisumu because the “Wahindi” buys fish at the price that they want because they know that the fishermen do not have anywhere else to take their fish and as we all know that fish is perishable. So I would request the County Government to fast-track the policy so that we have a number ice plants that were sponsored by European Union. The ice plants are not operational and yet they have cost us 30 million.....

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Member for West Alego, Hon. Judy.

**Hon. Okumu:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would request to know because the Motion is talking about conservation of fish and protection of fishermen yet the Member who has just spoken is talking about protection of fish, which way do we go?

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Odhiambo!

**Hon. Odhiambo:** I think the Hon. Member might not understand the language and that’s why I will say that he is not wrong, he is just right. We are talking about fishing industry and its people who go to fish not cows!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Odhiambo, I think you need to withdraw your statement because Hon. Okumu stood on a point of order, and that is an indication that he was listening to what you were saying.

**Hon. Odhiambo:** No, I was not talking of the English language.....

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Olasi!

**Hon. Olasi:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, as a son of a fisherman **Gabriel Okoth Olasi**, the language of a fisherman is not easy to understand so when Hon. Odhiambo talks of a fisherman’s language he is in order. He is not abusing anyone. So when Hon. Judy asks about things that he doesn’t understand we are not talking of English language but fisherman’s language.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Olasi, but let Hon. Odhiambo elaborate for us what he meant because we do not understand.

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Exactly! And am thinking that is when Hon. Mboha has realized that he doesn’t understand me and I think that Hon. Olasi has also just repeated that. I am talking of the fishermen’s terminologies.....

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** So its fisherman’s language?  
Proceed!

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Yes, not the language I was speaking here.  
I was talking of the storage facilities where the European Union, for Hon. Members who do not understand these are the facility that has ice or what we also call the cooling system.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Judy!

**Hon. Okumu:** Point of order! Is the Member giving a lecture or giving a statement? I think that we needs to go to the Motion because even if it the language of the fishermen but he is

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now boasting and giving us lectures. I think points should be shorter because when you prolong your contribution people get tired or bored of you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Olasi!

**Hon. Olasi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Standing Orders allow us fifteen minutes to contribute and therefore, I think Hon. Odhiambo is still within his time. If you don't want to understand kindly walk out because ....

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Olasi, take your seat!

Yes, Hon. Otiato on a point of order.

**Hon. Otiato:** when the other regions are discussing issues in this House we have never interjected but, when we are talking about matters that affect the lake land, is it because we come from the south of River Yala that is why nobody wants to understand us?

I know you will feel bored if you do not understand us, and that is why I am requesting because I know that a Hon. Member of this House cannot sleep but can close their eyes for time being when others are discussing this matter.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Otiato can you allow Hon. Edwin to proceed.

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Okay. Thank you very much I think the people are very keen on understanding this matter and as Hon. Otiato have said you can just close your eyes and put your ears somewhere else. I was brought up by a fisherman and everything I attained was all because of fishing. So given that this is the time when fishermen have been elected to this House to take care of the welfare of fishermen and I would request that in as much as the Mover is still the chair to look into what can give the fisherman more bargaining powers such that when the prices go down they can store their fish as they wait for a better price.

There is also a factory that was constructed at the Bondo sub-county with money from the National Government and since it was constructed it is now 10 years, it is not working and someone has just decided to take a room for laundry purposes yet this thing was built to change the lives of fishermen in L. Victoria.

*(Applause)*

So it is very important for the County Government to look into the issue even though they were not involved in the construction process of the facility. Therefore, I want to request the County Government Siaya to put more effort and ensure that the factory is working so that the fishermen can feel better.

Last but not least, I want to say that the policy be Fas tracked and let it be comprehensive so helps the fishermen. I would also like to inform you that L. Victoria is a natural resource because the National Government tried with fish ponds and failed.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Wandera, on a point of order!

**Hon. Wandera:** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I have noted that Hon. Members are moving out as the Motion continues and therefore, we will lack quorum. It is high time we closed the issue.

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*(Applause)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Wandera for that. I wanted to communicate that but, it is in order for Members to stop moving out so that we can still have quorum. Thank you.

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Thank you, I wonder if Hon. Adala was elected to be a time keeper in this House and if he was I will know soon. I want to request through the Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, that there are things that you have to decide on your own. Have you checked the time?

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Odhiambo, you are out of order! We are talking about quorum not time!

**Hon. Odhiambo:** That is what Hon. Adala said.

**Hon. Wandera:** Point of Order!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Wandera!

**Hon. Wandera:** Hasn't the 15 minutes given to the Hon. Member elapsed?

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Not yet, with reasons .....

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Yes! Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Mboha!

**Hon. Mboha:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir. I think we have gotten the points from Hon. Odhiambo and now the more he talks the more he is becoming repetitive. I think it is in order for Members to have this matter concluded and there is also something that you need to note; there is a phone that has been ringing in the House and I don't know if it is in order!

**Hon. Olasi:** Point of Order, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Olasi, Hon. Mboha can you seat down!

**Hon. Olasi:** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, this is a very serious Motion to some people. Therefore, how I wish that if somebody has got very little if not nothing at all to do let them walk out. When we talk matters fisheries, we have people who are touched. When someone tells us that we need to conclude! I beg to rest my case by saying that when someone feels bored with matters fisheries kindly allow him to walk out.

**Hon. Mboha:** Point of order!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** What is your point of order?

**Hon. Mboha:** My point of order is, we need to know that it is not all people who come from the lake or around the lake are the ones who do fish business. We also have our residents who do fish business at the lake side; we have people from our Wards who do fish business from the lake side!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Edwin, kindly proceed!

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. If this Motion is a serious Motion, I don't see the reason why some Hon. Members are trying to interfere with this Motion. As much as the Hon. Members are consuming my time we will be here up to six.

In conclusion, I want to ask the mover who is also the Chair that this policy be fast tracked and more so in the Implementation Committee and as a Vice Chair, I will make sure the people of this County who are fishermen their lives will be improved. Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Ousa!

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**Hon. Ousa:** Thank you, very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Let me thank Hon. Edwin, Yimbo West Ward for having brought a very good Motion which is actually touching me most. I am not very happy with the way some people are reacting when such an important Motion is brought to this House.

With confidence, let me tell this House that we are no longer and we will not go and reside along Mt. Elgon or Kisii area or Rift Valley. We found our grandfathers had already settled along Lake Victoria and that is where we get our resource.

It has been a trend in the Luo community that the people who are doing farming, people who are doing business are looked down upon in our society but if you go to Nairobi, maybe you work in a fish processing plant, the raw material used there is from Lake Victoria. Fish business is being looked down and that is why when this Motion is brought some people are talking as if it is not something of importance.

I feel touched because I have been a fisherman for the last 20 years. Fishing is a very important resource that God gave us. If at all what we are discussing in this House can do something to the lives of our people, let it be so. In our present life, the biggest problem we have is employment which if fishing industry is actually improved it can be good.

The problem we have in our County is food security; we are facing a very big problem of economic instability. If at all the lives of fishermen are improved as it is stated in this Motion we will have already solved the problem of economic instability. I am up to support this Motion that if at all the County Government can subsidize fishermen with fishing gears, if they can improvise a method in which we can restore species of fish that we have been having in Lake Victoria, I think the lives of fishermen and Siaya County as a whole will somehow go up. With those few remarks I support the Motion.

I was forgetting, if you go around the beaches, I have been asking myself, if you go to Usenge and find a fish weighing 20 kg, it is now Kshs. 500 per 1kg. There is something in that fish called fish bladder, if the bladder is removed from the fish, the bladder can be sold up to Kshs. 18,000.

Unfortunately, all these bladders are ferried to Uganda and are guarded by more than ten armed men. Let us not be like the Zulu people who use gold stones to play ajua. We are living in a gold zone but we don't know that we are living in a gold zone. Thank you, very much.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Olasi!

**Hon. Olasi:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Allow me to appreciate the Chair of Agriculture for having brought such a Motion to this House. I support this Motion fully. While we appreciate and recognize that the County Government of Siaya has built fish bandas to almost 80%.

How I wish that we have some ECDE centers along the lake shores and that will help our children to major into the business of fishing after going through the normal school. Again allow me to recognize and appreciate that the County Government is putting toilets along those beaches to help our people doing business along the lake.



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Having said that, a Member of the House thought it wise that such a Motion should be concluded before some Members air their views. You will give us direction because I know Hon. Wandera is not in today but Hon. Adala has been good in reading the mood of the House.

You can read the mood of the House but you cannot tell the House to conclude a Business because you have no interest at all, we need to be guided. I stood on a point of order and I reminded some Members that I am a son of a fisherman and Three quarters of people of West Uyoma if not more depend on fishing as a source of livelihood.

In this House we pass budgets on subsidiaries or surplus to assist in farming, we have never thought it wise like what my senior Chairperson of Agriculture is putting. We need to subsidize fish gears and if implemented will help our people. We have been buying seeds, fertilizers, hiring tractors, buying tractors just to subsidize agriculture but this particular area has never got enough subsistence as it deserves and I believe it should be.

Secondly all the fish processing plants are either in Kisumu or in Thika and here we talk of flagship projects. How I wish the County would see the sense and put up a fish processing plant along Lake Victoria not necessarily in Rarieda even if it can be put somewhere in Siaya. Surely fish caught in Lake Victoria transported over 600kms to be processed! The County is losing revenue assuming that plant was in Siaya.

Secondly we are losing employment. Our young people could have gotten employment and if only you would pump sense to the implementers.

Hon. Member of West Alego doesn't know let me inform him in this Assembly a Motion was passed to know exactly how Kshs. 3 million was being paid for construction of Nyalagi Fish Banda in West Alego which was procured, built and fully paid within 10 days. That was under fisheries. That one is on record.

If we say we need 500 tons of fertilizers we are not wrong but do we see the impact when you talk of matters fish and fisheries? You will wait even for 3 months. We will not wait to see what kind of hybrid needs to be planted we are talking of immediate results, give the fisherman the correct gear and the following day you get results.

This is where the revenue is. It is owned by the major Sub County giving the highest revenue in Siaya they don't have gold, they don't do farming but they do fishing. I beg to rest my case. Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes Hon. Jane Atieno

**Hon. Atieno:** We have a natural industry and we don't even know about it. This is a God given industry and others are envying us because we have it and we are not using it fully. We were in the national government before devolution we used to say the national government is not supporting what we have in our County but now we have our County and the natural industry but we are not doing anything about it. We are eating fish from China!

Something has to be done about it. We need to subsidize the fish industry so that we can get jobs for our young people so that we can develop our County. Other Counties have subsidized things if it is coffee industry it is subsidized, why not fish industry. Why are we neglecting what God has given us? We were born and found it here and we are not utilizing it.

We request our County Government to ensure that. This is the biggest industry in our County and this is what is going to develop us. We need to guard it with all we have. If we neglect it our children will blame us for having neglected what we were given by God. Let us protect this industry. This is going to get us somewhere. I beg to support the Motion.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Winga.

**Hon. Winga:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand on my feet to talk about the Motion. First and foremost I congratulate the Mover Hon. Willis Ochieng. The thing is we are blessed except we do not know how to use it.

The reason I am supporting this Motion is to ask the County Government of Siaya to support fishing in full because this is where we can generate revenue. I am asking the County Government to support it because of insecurity. Security on our lakes is very poor. If we can get patrol boats for our fishermen, it can be very safe system.

These industries are very much required. Besides our local consumption of fish, the County Government of Siaya can also get market outside for our fishermen. There is oil called Cod liver oil it is got from fish. It helps our health so if we can have market for it outside because these people they get our fish from here take it outside and then get the cod liver oil from it. Why can't we just do it ourselves and we get enough revenue from it. I support

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon Filly!

**Hon. Akoth:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am happy with the Motion that has been brought up by Hon. Willis. We have fishermen and those who are having boats and whatever so am happy the discussion is on my side my fellow Hon. Members when you are discussing such a Motion like fishing be sober.

You are not sober today we just look at it as any useless thing and it is really helping if we look at Siaya the national government has overlooked fishing industry and thrown it away so I have also thrown the national government over that issue I am back on Siaya County.

Lake region is the best provider of cuts that is helping Siaya County. Siaya County should look at Rarieda and Bondo where fishing is practiced with two eyes. I am requesting fishing materials should be provided to those active areas of Siaya County to stop challenges like insecurity,

overfishing and lack of fishing material. I am requesting the County Government to look at it with two eyes. Thank you Hon. Willis for bringing up such a good Motion

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Felix Okumu.

**Hon. Okumu:** There is something we must learn in this House. When the Motion has just started and he has got over 90% support the way this one has done why would we bring in many points. You should save time by proceeding.

**Hon. Kinyanyi:** Point of Order!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Judy you are out of Order! We read the mood of the House and then call on the Mover to reply. Yes Hon. Kinyanyi.

**Hon. Kinyanyi:** Members are not contributing for the sake of contributing. We contribute because we are not the same and equal in nature

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Member that is why I have said that he is out of Order.

**Hon. Kinyanyi:** Allow me to contribute. We want to get the point of each and every Hon. Member whether the Motion is accorded 99.9% but my point is not the same as what Hon. Winga wants to say so it is not right for a Hon. Member to say...

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Your point is gotten allow Hon. Audi to contribute

**Hon. Audi:** I have heard Members of the House especially those that you have mentioned talking as if people of South Gem don't depend on the fish. If you view revenue collection at Akala Market as an outlet of this product  $\frac{3}{4}$  comes from the fish industry we entirely depend on this industry.

Secondly we only need the development of the policy or as to enhance the revenue collection then you also improve food security as fish is one of the most important products that makes other communities think that Luo people are bright because of eating this fish.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Akuno.

**Hon. Akuno:** I am not the son of a fisherman or do I come from near the lake but I have learnt that this House is full of fishermen and have supported the fishermen as far as that but the way some of you are talking and some are abusing one Member here that they are dealing with cows is an abuse. It is not our mistake.

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Point of Order!

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Yes, Hon. Edwin Odhiambo

**Hon. Odhiambo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir; it is not in order for a Hon. Member to put such words in his mouth against a Hon. Member. If you are not in a position to understand what is happening, just keep quiet instead of using abusive words in this Hon. House.

**Hon. Akuno:** One Member in his House said that us we are rich that is lying I know the cartels that are killing this fishing industry for example I cannot afford fish in Bondo and in a country like Germany we can buy 10 fish at Kshs. 1,000 but here in Bondo a piece of fish goes for Kshs. 500 When you go towards the lake you find young boys living in poverty.

A Hon. Member lies to then that they sell fish. Is that in order? I can't blame these people but I always tell people a human being is money and money is wealth I don't know where the rain started beating Siaya County. Our Executive goes around the world looking for investors. Some Hon. Members here even accompany them to look for investors. Why investors? Yet we have a lake here we should exhaust this lake.

I don't think Siaya County should go in search of more investors, for example we have a Country like Finland is a Country almost the size of Siaya County and Finland has more trees and forest cover and its more richer than Kenya. Anyway i support the Motion but one of the one of the Hon. Members said that let the County help us look for market, we are the ones that need to change the system of doing this thing, thank you.

**Hon. Oor:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir; I want to talk about my father being a fisherman in a small river called River Nzoia but this doesn't mean that I don't know about fish but fish is a major income earner in Siaya; we should think about how we can put this thing. I want to tell the Committee of Agriculture and Fisheries; you should go out and benchmark with the counties that re doing better around Lake Victoria. This will help sell our fish outside and how we can collect money to help Siaya County. I support the Motion with my heart.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** May I call upon the Mover to reply.

**Hon. Ochieng:** Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir; first, I would have to welcome all the congratulations that the Hon. Members have sent towards me. Secondly, I want to thank all the Hon. Members for contributing towards this Motion very actively.

Much that has been said here; I will make sure we put them into actions and be implemented and as a matter of fact what is here maybe if I may correct Hon. Ambrose. What I said here is not lack of market but structured marketing; we have got the market now what we want is a structured market whereby our fish will flow very freely and structurally into the market so that our fishermen don't face many problems as they are undergoing now.

I want to say that apart from the fishing gears at the lake, we will consider also the fish cages as a way of empowering our fishermen. The County Government should liaise with the National Government to provide security to the common 'mwananchi' because a fisherman can't come from the beaches where they are fishing to go and acquire security. It would be very easy if it's being pursued by the County government.

There is this element of fishermen SACCO; for us to realize the benefits we must force our fishermen to form SACCOS and Cooperatives. We will have to work on a policy to help monitor on how these programmes are being implemented. On benchmarking; I think if there need be we will have to organize one but I need to put it very clearly that within the four Counties around the Lake there is nowhere we can benchmark.

This is because we want to be the pioneers; we should also find something that other Counties can come and benchmark with us. I want to believe that if these changes are effected within 6months we shall have realized the changes.

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If we can change the management system of the natural resource all the fishermen would be very rich and for that matter if this policy is brought and implemented even the Finance Committee here will not be experiencing the deficit in revenue collection. All along in all the four financial years; the County has not been meeting the target and that has left us with some of the projects not implemented because we are getting less funds; thank you.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

Hon. Members, would you be upstanding for adjournment.

**MOTION**

ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** This House stands adjourned till tomorrow Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.39p.m.