

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SIAYA

THE HANSARD

Second County Assembly – Fourth Session

~~SPECIAL SITTING~~

Thursday, 28th January, 2021

SPECIAL SITTING

The House met at the County Assembly Chambers; at 10.00 a.m.

ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

[His Excellency the Governor (Cornel Rasanga Amoth) escorted by the Speaker of the County Assembly (George Okode) and accompanied by the mace entered the Chamber at 10.00 a.m.]

[His Excellency the Governor (Hon. Rasanga) took the Chair]

[The mace was placed on the Table]

PRAYERS

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, while upstanding will we get prayers from Apostle James Opiyo.

(Prayers were then said by the Apostle)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

WELCOME TO VISITORS

Hon. Speaker: Before the convocation, I would like to invite Members to appreciate the following VVIPs who are within our midst this morning. We have the honour to be visited by the First Lady Madam Rasanga, The Deputy Governor His Excellency Okumbe, Members of the County Public Service Board and Members of the County Assembly led by

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the County Public Service Board Dr. Achoch. Will you be upstanding as we recognize you and Members of the Siaya County Assembly Service Board and the County Secretary and all other CECM²s who are here and dignitaries that are visiting today will you acknowledge all of them.

(Applause)

CONSIDERATIONS OF NOMINEES FOR THE POSITIONS OF CHIEF OFFICERS

Hon. Speaker: Pursuant to the provisions ~~of~~ section 45(1), of the County Government Act 2012, the Governor of Siaya County, His Excellency Governor Cornel Rasanga Amoth nominated and submitted names of various persons for the positions of Chief Officers for vetting and approval by the County Assembly in respective dockets.

In his letter dated 26th January 2021 the following names were submitted for consideration by the Assembly in accordance with section 45(1)(b) of the same Act, namely:

1. Joseph Onyango Omondi - Governance and Administration
2. Denis Ariango Nyonje - Finance and Economic Planning
3. James Onyango Odongo - Public Works, Roads and Transport.

In accordance with Section 8 of the Public Appointments (County Assembly's Approval) Act 2017 the issues for consideration by the County Assembly in relation to any nomination shall be:

- a.) The procedure used to arrive at the nominee, should bring the criteria for the shortlisting of the nominee.
- b.) The Constitutional or statutory requirements relating to the office in question
- c.) The suitability of the nominee for the position proposed having regards as to whether the nominee's credentials, abilities, experience and qualities meets the needs of the bodies to which the nomination is being made.

Further, the EACC advises the County Assemblies to forward to the commission the names of the nominees for appointments to the Committee to the county public offices requiring approval for integrity verification pursuant to section 4(2), (4) and section 44(2) of the Leadership and Integrity Act 2012.

Having duly received the nomination, I direct as follows:

1. The Office of the Clerk verify preliminary compliance with a view of establishing admissibility and cause notification for approval within 7 days.
2. I hereby direct the vetting of nomination to the following respective sectorial committee
Joseph Onyango Omondi – Committee on Governance and Administration
Dennis ~~Onyango-Ariango NyO~~onje – Committee on Finance and Economic Planning
James onyango Odongo – Committee on Public Works, Roads and transport for consideration in accordance to the applicable laws.
3. A report of the vetting of the nominees to be laid for debate in the House as soon as practically possible. Noting that to these substantive positions is long overdue. The House is accordingly guided.

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BUILDING BRIDGES INITIATIVE (CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BILL), 2020

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, pursuant to Article 257(5) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) has submitted the Building Bridges Initiative (Constitutional Amendment Bill) 2020 to the County Assembly of Siaya for consideration.

Article 196(1)(b) of the Constitution of Kenya 2020 read together with section 87 of the County Government Act 2012 and Standing Order 129(3), provides for ~~P~~public ~~P~~participation and involvement in the legislative and other Business of the Assembly and ~~it's~~sits committees.

Accordingly, I hereby draw your attention to the Public Notice on the public hearing on the draft of Building Bridges Initiative Constitutional Amendment Bill 2020 appearing on today's Nation and Standard Newspapers courtesy Siaya County Assembly.

In compliance with the applicable laws, I hereby direct as follows:

1. The Bill be committed to the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration
2. The Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs is hereby directed to expedite the process of consideration of the said ~~B~~ill in accordance with the relevant laws
3. The Report on the Building Bridges Initiative (Constitutional Amendment ~~B~~ill) 2020 be tabled in the House as soon as practically possible to allow the House to focus on its usual Business thereafter.

The House is accordingly guided.

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, you will recall that I gave notice of today's Special Sitting to the Members of the County Assembly by Gazette Notice 494 which was published in the Kenya Gazette on Friday, 22nd January, 2021 pursuant to section 30(2), (j) and (k) of the County Government Act 2012. The county Assembly Standing Order 19(1) and (2) and upon request by the County Executive vide a letter dated 5th of January 2021 that the Governor shall address the Special Sitting of the County Assembly on Thursday, 28th of January, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Section 30(2)(k) of the County Government Act 2012 obliges the Governor to deliver annual State of the County Address. Accordingly, the address by the Governor should contain but not limited to the following:

- a) A report on the measures taken on the realization of the national values referred to in Article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010.
- b) An annual report on the implementation status of county policies and plans pursuant to section 30(2)(j) of the County Government Act 2012

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- c) A report of the performance of County Executive Committee and Public Service to the County Assembly for consideration pursuant to section 47(3) of the County Government Act 2012
- d) A report on citizen participation in the affairs of the County Government pursuant to section 92(2) of the County Government Act 2012
- e) Any other information that the Governor may deem fit

e)

Based on the above statutory requirements, it is evident that the State of the County Address can only be delivered in the Assembly to give it legitimacy for consideration by the House. Therefore, it goes without saying that the contents of such an address when delivered outside the Assembly remains foreign to the Assembly and therefore cannot form part of business of the Assembly. It is for this reason that the President under Article 132(1) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 addresses Special Sitzings of Parliament once every year and may address Parliament at any other time.

Under our Standing Order 19(1) the Governor shall address a Special Sitting of the Assembly once every year and may address the House at any other time. At the conclusion of the Governor's address, the Sitting shall stand suspended or adjourned as the Speaker may direct until such a time or such a day as may be specified by the Speaker.

Under Standing Order 21(3), 4 as soon as practicable thereafter a Member may lay the address on the Table of the House but the debate on the Motion shall not exceed 4 sitting days.

I also noticed that there is need for such an occasion to be open to the general public both physically and virtually. As we may observe the traditions of the delivery of the county address in the Chamber, today I appreciate the innovation that has ensured that members of the public have gathered within the precincts but outside the chambers to follow these proceedings.

Going forward I will spearhead future innovations or legislations to ensure that State of the County Address can alternatively be delivered on a rotational basis in the 6 sub-counties by the Assembly gazetting Special Sitzings in appropriate sub-county venues commonly known as *Bunge Mashinani*

Last but not least I wish to thank everyone who has turned up for this special occasion, the Clergy, political leaders, representatives of the county government and national government, the CECMs, the civil society groups, the First Lady, Deputy Governor and members of the general public.

Lastly, as we all are aware, we are operating under difficult times due to the ongoing global Covid19 pandemic. May I call upon Members and everybody to be vigilant and adhere to existing directives and protocols on Covid19 for control and prevention.

I now welcome His Excellency the Governor Cornel Rasanga Amoth to deliver State of the County Address

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THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS

His Excellency the Governor (Hon. Cornel Rasanga): Mr. Speaker, —Sir, distinguished Members of the County Assembly of Siaya, invited guests, and the great people of Siaya County,

THE RATIONALE

1. It gives me great pleasure to address this ~~H~~ouse of Honorable Members and the people of Siaya on the State of Siaya County for the period starting **July 1st 2019 and ending on June 30th 2020.**
2. One of the objects of devolved governments according to The Constitution of Kenya 2010 Article 174 (a) is to “*promote democratic and accountable exercise of power.*” Article 183 (3) of the same Constitution provides that “*The county executive committee shall provide the county ~~A~~sssembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the county.*” Indeed, this is one of the most important functions of The County Executive Committee that I head.
3. Further, The County Government Act (2012), Section 30 (2) (k) stipulates that the County Governor shall ‘*deliver annual state of the County Address containing such matters as may be specified in county legislation.*’ Section (47) (2) (3) and (4) of the same Act provides that ‘*the Governor shall submit the annual performance reports of the county executive committee and public service to the county ~~A~~sssembly for consideration*’ and that such ‘*reports will be considered public documents.*’ It is in this light that I make this address outlining the progress of Siaya County as at June 30th 2020.
4. The address documents progress made by Siaya County in the implementation of County Integrated Development Plan (2018 – 2022) through Annual Development Plan for the Financial Year 2019/2020, Annual Programme Based Budget for the Financial Year 2019/2020 and annual work plans for the said year.
5. The County programmes in this address were implemented under 10 portfolios and two agencies including the ~~Publie~~Public Service Board of Siaya and the Siaya Municipality Board.

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6. Allow me to share with you our resource envelope for the year under review. It is notable that the total projected revenue for Siaya County in the year 2019/2020 was **Kshs. 9,223,350,139.00**. This comprised of an equitable share of **Kshs. 5,673,000,000.00**, conditional grants of **KShs. 715, 544,467.00**, Own Source Revenue of **KsShs. 420,000,000.00** and Balance Brought forward from the Financial Year 2018/19 of **KsShs. 2,414,805,672**. However, the actual money received in the Financial Year under review was **KsShs 7,928,405,516**. This comprised of an equitable share of **KsShs. 5,293,842,300**, conditional grant of **KsShs. 531,034,010**, Own Source Revenue of **KsShs 184,249,749** and supplementary estimates being balance brought forward from the Financial Year 2018/19 of **KsShs. 1,919,279,457**. In total the actual overall expenditure for the 10 sectors for the period under review was **KsShs. 5,956,978,915** being **78.93%** of the total projected revenue.

INTRODUCTION

7. In order to be systematic and address all relevant thematic areas, ~~this~~ Status of The County Address of 2020 has classified county programmes under three main pillars.
8. The first pillar is composed of **ENABLERS** which summarizes our progress in the areas of governance and administration, lands, information and communication technology and roads and public works programmes.
9. The second pillar which is the **ECONOMIC** pillar will speak to the performance of my government in the respective areas of **A**griculture, **L**ivestock and **F**isheries, **T**ourism, **E**nterprise and **I**ndustrial **D**evelopment and **F**inance
10. The third and final pillar is the **SOCIAL** pillar which will detail our performance in the **E**ducation, **H**health and **S**sanitation and **W**water, **E**environment and **N**atural resources sectors of our economy.
11. The three pillars will review **S**sectoral performance against approved targets, the challenges we experienced during implementation and our recommendations to improve future performance. I will also share in this address highlights of the lessons learnt by my Government as the main implementing agency.
12. Further, I seek to address myself to some cross cutting issues that have had direct impact on the performance of my government including our involvement in regional blocs, the impact of COVID-19 on our economy and our plans to build back better. The envisaged constitutional reforms through the Building Bridges Initiative will not skip my attention.
13. It will be recalled that all these progress was achieved in the backdrop of the Kenya National Government's Big Four Agenda as espoused by President Uhuru Kenyatta in

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his second term plans, Kenya's Vision 2030, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and The Siaya County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022).

DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE - ENABLERS

14. The **Department of Governance and Administration** has the overall mandate of providing leadership across the whole government that has continued to steer the county in delivering on the County Integrated Development Plan of 2018-2022, the County Annual Plans and County Program Based Budgets.
15. The salient achievements recorded by the Governance and Administration sector during the period under review included the reconstitution of the Siaya County Public Service Board, the establishment of Governor's Service Delivery Unit, the hosting of the Lake Region Economic Bloc Summit Convention and the construction of the Siaya County Headquarters Annex. The Department also strengthened institutional frameworks through policy formulation and origination of ~~bill~~**Bills** for legislation by the Assembly. This was coupled with the coordination of various public participation activities that contributed to sharing of government policies and plans with various stakeholders in the period under review leading to increased civic awareness.
16. While the re-constitution of the County Public Service Board following the expiry of the term of the previous board members saw us bring on board six new board members to enhance service delivery, the establishment of the Governor's Service Delivery Unit has provided cross-cutting services to departments and helped unblock service delivery bottlenecks.
17. Working with the County Assembly of Siaya, the Governance and Administration Department also oversaw the enactment of Enforcement and Inspectorate Act, Lake Region Economic Block Act and the County Emblem Act into laws that will radically change the way we perform locally and regionally as a County on the important aspects of service delivery. The Siaya County Village Administrative Units Act was also initiated during the period under review and has now been published as law. Its implementation will be phased out appropriately.
18. The specific directorates of ~~P~~**Public** ~~P~~**participation**, communication, governance, administration, human resources, monitoring and evaluation, Governor's Service Delivery Unit and the team of advisors under the Governorship all ensured that the whole governance infrastructure across the departments were operating within the County Integrated Development Plan while entrenching devolution down to the local levels of Government.
19. Overall, the department under review also provided leadership in the assessment of Kenya Devolution Support Programme, which earned the county additional funding under the programme with the support of the World Bank.
20. Without a doubt, the construction of the Siaya County Headquarters Annex will alleviate office shortage for staff and also improve the image of the administrative headquarters. Citizens have difficulties locating government services in the absence of adequate office spaces. This magnificent building has since been completed and was

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recently officially commissioned by the Cabinet Secretary for Devolution and ASALs, Hon. Eugene Ludovick Wamalwa who equally lauded our efforts.

Mr. Mr Speaker, Sir,

21. During the year 2019/2020, the **Lands, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development** developed a final draft of Siaya County Spatial Plan and submitted it to the Cabinet for approval. This document is a first of its kind and will guide county development and resource allocation in all public land in the County moving forward. Within the **Financial Year** under review, 310 house architectural development plans across the County were approved by my government, enhancing appropriate housing and safety in construction within the County. Notably, three markets including Boro, Nyamonye and Sega were fully surveyed and planned during the reporting period.
22. The Yala Swamp was also surveyed to determine its exact size and the development plan approved thereby providing the much needed guide to resource utilization by locals and investors within the county. Additionally 51.73 acres of land was purchased for public use and investment out of a target of 70 acres within the financial year. In order to improve staff housing status, the department completed construction of a fence and four door washrooms in Yala Township with another similar project on-going in Ukwala Town.
23. In addition, the Lands sector also established the Siaya Municipal Board as required by law bringing together a team of professionals to guide the strategic development of The Siaya Municipality. During the 2019/2020 period, the said Siaya Municipality received support from the World Bank to undertake a regeneration project of Ahindi Garden and the construction of Governor's park in Siaya Town. The two projects have since been completed providing the municipality with improved scenery for public recreation.
24. The Siaya Municipality Board also commissioned and concluded consultancies for a Feasibility Study, an Environment and Social Impact Assessment, Topographical Survey, Preliminary and Detailed Engineering Designs of Non-Motorized Transport Facilities, Storm Water Drainage and Parking Lots in Siaya Town to form a road map for implementation of projects within Siaya Municipality. The developed designs of Non-Motorized and Parking spaces if implemented will significantly improve the town aesthetics as well as enhance county revenue.
25. To implement Siaya County Valuation Roll, The Siaya Valuation and Rating ~~Bill~~ **Bill** 2019 was developed and public participation has so far been conducted at Sub-County level and ward levels for validation. This ongoing process will see us improve our land administration processes significantly upon its conclusion.
26. Notably, the delineation of proposed Urban Boundaries of two urban centers in each of the six sub-counties was kicked off in 2019/2020 and will be completed in the 2020/2021 Financial Year. The committee undertaking the exercise is already properly gazzeted and commissioned for the assignment. The urban centers include Siaya and Nyadorera in Alego Usonga Sub County, Bondo and Usenge in Bondo Sub County, Yala and Akala in Gem Sub County, Madiany and Ndori in Rarieda Sub County, Ukwala and Sega in Ugenya Sub County and Sigomere and Ugunja in Ugunja Sub County.

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27. My Government envisions a premier county in infrastructure and energy. We aim at providing quality road network system within the county while efficiently utilizing energy resource for sustainable socio-economic growth and development.
28. It is against this background that, **The Public Works, Roads, Energy and Transport** Department reported improvement in road accessibility with the opening of 185.5 Kilometers of new roads against a target of 150 Kilometers. We also oversaw the grading and gravelling of 457.2 Kilometers of existing county roads against the annual target of 450 Kilometers. During the period under review, some six box culverts were also constructed in Luanda, Konga_o-Ndira, Nyamasare-Kamunya, Muhondo, Sesse and Linao across various parts of the County to ease access and facilitate movement through previously landlocked areas of Siaya County.
29. Apart from successfully supervising the construction and renovation of over 250 buildings within the year 2019/2020, my Government also conducted pre-feasibility studies for key projects under this sector including Kalkada – Luhano Bridge across River Nzoia, Opoda- Bondo Township Road and Rabango –K’Odiaga Road. The execution of these flagship projects are at different stages of processing and are key targets in the 2020/2021 Financial Year.
30. The large scale opening of access to various rural parts of the county through such a comprehensive road network has ensured that traders and small scale businesses have a broader access to local markets which were previously inaccessible due to poor road networks. This has improved local incomes tremendously. Boda Boda Operators have also registered reduced losses towards repairs and maintenance as a result of motorcycle breakdowns that were previously associated with poor road networks. Public institutions including hospitals, schools and even markets are now easily accessed. Our target area for greater focus in the future will be more durable road maintenance technologies which we are already exploring with partners.

30-31.

DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE – ECONOMIC

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- 31-32. The **E**conomic pillar of our development aims to improve the prosperity of the citizens of Siaya through an economic development programme, covering all the six sub-counties to ensure wealth creation at the county level and contributing to the realization of national goal of raising the Gross Domestic Product growth rate to the region of 10 percent in the next 10 years. It is this economic pillar that houses our departments of Agriculture, Tourism, Enterprise and Finance. Allow me to start with the Agriculture Sector.
- 32-33. In the period under review, **The Agriculture, Irrigation, Food, Livestock and Fisheries** sector was at the center stage of the implementation process due to the importance of food security in all the other aspects of government. This is why the department increased the number of farmers reached with extension services by 10% from 72,235 farmers in 2018/2019 to 79,924 farmers in 2019/2020. These extension services were offered through barazas, field and individual farm visits, field days, seed fairs, seed distribution meetings and International Commemorations like World

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Food Day. The various educational packages shared were targeting farmers specializing in various value chains during these reach outs. To enhance extension staff mobility, the Agriculture Department acquired five (5) motorcycles during the period under review. These extensions services have significantly increased the output of production & value chains, however

33-34. The County Government also implemented seven water pan projects with the support of the World Bank and disbursed funds to micro-projects under World Bank funded Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Program and Kenya Devolution Support Program. Our farmers are now practicing robust horticultural farming along the banks of these water pans apart from fish farming within the farms. This has significantly boosted our food security efforts within the county so far. (Market gardening, reduced import of horticultural products, small irrigation)

34-35. To further strengthen agricultural institutions, the Agricultural Subsidies Bill (2020) was also developed during the period under review and is awaiting enactment into law.

35-36. During the year under review, the Agriculture Department also disbursed some KShs. 29,900,000.00 to micro-projects in the county in partnership with the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project to support farmer groups improve on their various value chains in the fishing, livestock, horticulture, poultry and related sectors.

36-37. To inject science into our agricultural practices as a county and reduce dependence on luck to enhance our output, my government also constructed an integrated diagnostic laboratory in Siaya town during the Financial Year. The construction of a rice drying floor at Muluwa Siriwo Rice Scheme in Usonga ward during the Financial Year will also benefit our rice farmers in increasing output and reduce wastage that has characterized their efforts

37-38. It is worth noting that our tractor hire services initiative in the previous years has led to increased demand for mechanized agriculture. This has increased the number of private tractor hire services in the county leading to some 543.25 acres of land being ploughed during the period under review.

38-39. The Agriculture sector also established some 2,650 acres of sorghum. This acreage of sorghum together with our partnership with the East African Breweries Limited saw us harvest at least 24,390 acres of the drought resistant sorghum in the period under review.

39-40. Through the Siaya County Certified Seeds Subsidy Initiative, we procured and distributed 8.75 tons of assorted and certified seedlings to farmers including maize, sorghum and green grams and 3,750 mango seedlings. Under the seeds subsidy initiative, The Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project with whom we partnered also provided 2 tons of sorghum and tomato seeds in support of the program. We also managed to distribute 2300 grafted mango seedlings to farmers benefiting some 115

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households in Gem Sub County. Some 4,200 acres of sweet potato have also been planted throughout the County during the period under review.

40-41. My Government distributed fifteen (15) High Powered engine water pumps in South Gem and South Uyoma Wards to promote irrigation across the County. Hundreds of acres of land is currently under irrigation as a result leading to increased food production.

41-42. At this point in time, let me appreciate the World Bank with whom we have partnered to register success in a number of projects under the agriculture sector. Through the World Bank supported Kenya Climate Smart Project, Kenya Devolution Support Project and Agricultural Sector Development Support Program we have seen increased investments in all the value chains that have transformed lifestyles in thousands of households across Siaya County. The value chains include aquaculture, mangoes and poultry.

42-43. The Kenya Devolution Support Project saw us construct five water pans in the County including Koga, Sandholf, Uranga, Futro and Nyalnawe through to completion in the period under review. In addition, Adhiri Water Pan in Rarieda and Miruka Water Pan in Bondo supported by World Bank under the Kenya Climate Smart Agricultural Project were also completed. Consequently, horticultural production by local farmers was enhanced at the pans courtesy of collaborative efforts with Agriculture Sector Development Support Program and Kenya Climate Sector Agriculture Project through establishment of farms around the water pans as guaranteed water sources.

43-44. To increase milk production and boost the activities under Cooperative Societies in the County, some 38 dairy cows were distributed to 38 groups in South Gem, Yala Township and Yimbo West wards within the County. Separately, some 82 dairy goats were also procured and distributed to 82 farmer groups across the County. These have all registered increased milk production while ensuring constant nutritional support to the beneficiaries significantly.

44-45. Poultry promotion remains core to my government initiatives because at least every household is involved in its production. It is against this background that some 8,547 month-old chicks were procured and distributed to 224 groups in Yala Township and Yimbo West electoral areas. I encourage other members of the County Assembly to work with their constituents to prioritize funding in this area of importance in the subsequent budgetary circles.

45-46. As part of our efforts to improve infrastructure in the fishing industry, we successfully completed the construction of 20 fish landing Bandas and handed them over to local Beach Management Units. In addition, some 17 toilets were constructed at the fish landing sites across the Siaya fishing belt and one patrol boat procured for use by the Beach Management Units. These interventions have improved hygiene at the fish landing points. The sector also conducted Lake Victoria Fisheries Frame Survey with support from the State Department of Fisheries. Our increased surveillance efforts in Lakes Victoria and Kanyaboli resulted in the removal of no less than 5,500 assorted destructive fishing gears within the period under review. The

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construction of the fish bandas have improved fish handling which has increased the amount of revenue we now collect from the sector.

46-47. On Veterinary services under the Agriculture sector, licenses were issued to some six new slaughter houses and twenty new slaughter men. Over 17,130 carcasses were also inspected in slaughter houses. We also carried out 15,000 vaccinations against foot and mouth disease and 96,543 vaccinations against Rabies and New Castle Diseases. High level surveillance visits due to alerts on Rift Valley Fever around Lake Kanyaboli and Yimbo areas were also conducted. In addition, we trained over 200 farmers on Rift Valley Fever apart from conducting Fixed Time Artificial Inseminations in collaboration with other stakeholders. As part of disease control, the sector also administered targeted vaccinations

47-48. While we note challenges under the sector, the various interventions we have put in place have significantly improved agricultural production and food security in the county. Today, we can report that the food especially cereals that used to be supplied to the county from outside has significantly reduced.

48-49. During the period under review, the **Enterprise and Industrial Development** sector-initiated market infrastructure improvement development projects to ensure robust trade while strengthening cooperatives movement through audits, trainings and development of by-laws. It will be remembered that the Cooperative Development Fund ~~B-HH~~Bill was also approved by the cabinet and forwarded to the County Assembly for enactment into law during this period. This remains work in progress.

49-50. The Enterprise and Industrial Development department facilitated 16 Small and Micro - Enterprise Exhibitors from Siaya County to attend The East Africa Jua-kali Exhibitions held in Kigali- Rwanda to promote trade development and investments. The team showcased the products and innovations from Siaya County in the East African Cooperation market. As a result of successful exhibitions at Kigali Jua Kali Trade Fair, Jua Kali Traders from Siaya County secured orders and signed contracts to supply an assortment of goods and wares amounting to ~~Ks~~**Shs. 4,640,000.00**

50-51. My government installed up to 33 high mast floodlights in various market centers in the County. This has significantly enhanced the security in most of our market centres. Plans are in place to ensure all our market centres have the high mast floodlights. The lights have also increased the trading hours among the Abedo Women across the County. Our mothers can now work in the shambas in the morning and proceed to sell their wares in the afternoon up to late in the evening without worrying about the darkness. This has translated to better household income tremendously. The intensive work schedule is also contributing to family planning indirectly.

51-52. On modern markets construction, phase one of Ramba Market in Siaya Township ward was completed during the period. The construction of Bondo Market in North Sakwa is on at 70% towards completion. Yala Market in Yala Township Ward is at 65% towards completion and Sigomere Market in Sigomere Ward is at 75% towards completion. Meanwhile, murmuring and fencing were undertaken in 10

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market facilities within the County. We also managed to improve and refurbish 6 market sheds and constructed 9 Boda Boda sheds in selected wards aimed at providing a conducive business environment for small scale traders who form the back bone of our economy.

~~52~~53. These modern market interventions together and high mast flood lights are providing the Abedo traders with increased space, security and sanitation for their wares while guaranteeing increased sales at the same time. Mr. Ezekiel Wanjero, the Chairman of Siaya Modern Market who deals in small fish known in dholuo as **OMENA** agrees that the situation was worse before with night runners intimidating traders a lot. The Abedo Industry will never be the same again due to the extended hours of trade and the assured security according to Mr. Wanjero.

~~53~~54. In order to strengthen solid waste management in the enterprise sector, some 2,260 casuals were recruited on a three months non-renewable contract to ensure enhanced sanitation in the 240 market centers across the County. Additionally, seven clean-up days were conducted with the volume of waste collected and dumped reaching an all-time high of 18,720 tons against the target of 18,000 tons. These initiatives resulted in enhanced conducive business environment based on public health protocols and reduced disease incidences and outbreaks across the county in comparison to previous financial years.

~~54~~55. Cooperative Development and Management is one of the main functions of the County Government. The sub-sector registered notable achievements during the 2019/2020 financial year with 26 cooperative audits having been undertaken alongside the inspection of six other Cooperative Societies to ensure compliance with Cooperative Society requirements. Additionally, 15 new cooperatives societies were facilitated for registration and another 9 dormant cooperatives were revived. The sub sector also facilitated the development of 107 by laws for various Cooperatives while holding 29 pre cooperative trainings. Up to 38-member education forums were also held for established Cooperative Societies across the county and 39 committee trainings conducted during the period under review.

~~55~~56. In order to enhance Fair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection within the County, some 3, 023 weighing and measuring instruments in use for trade were inspected and verified depicting 80.6% compliance. Separately, 8 awareness campaigns were conducted through the newspaper and at the stamping stations for improved compliance to fair trade practices.

~~56~~57. During this performance period, under the supervision and coordination of my government, over one thousand cotton farmers were also directly paid **KsShs. 7.5 million** through Uyoma Farmers' Cooperative Society. These farmers were previously exploited by middlemen before we re- organized cotton marketing through this Society and the farmers are now getting value for their cotton leading to improved yields.

~~57~~58. Under Liquor licensing, my officers held no less than 12 meetings with operators apart from conducting 6 awareness campaigns and 18 inter agency inspections to improve compliance with Siaya County Alcoholic Drinks Control Act 2016 among the operators.

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Mr. Speaker Sir,

- ~~58-59.~~ The **Tourism, Arts, Sports, ICT and Cultural** sector is mandated to promote tourism in the county, preserve county cultural heritage, promote use of Information and Communication Technology, and facilitate sports and arts talent development
- ~~59-60.~~ The sector remains key to our performance as a County. During the period under review, the sector saw major achievements in sporting and cultural activities such as the hosting the 93rd Edition of the Kenya Music and Cultural Festivals bringing over 14,000 visitors to Siaya County.
- ~~60-61.~~ Within 2019/2020, Siaya County also participated in the '*The Jumuiya ya Afrika Mashariki Utamaduni Festival*' held in Daresalaam, Tanzania.
- ~~61-62.~~ The sector also sponsored a cultural exchange program which saw a delegation of Luo Council of Elders visit the King of Padhola in Tororo Uganda with the objective of promoting collaboration around cultural preservation and development.
- ~~62-63.~~ The department further executed an art talent search aimed at tapping and nurturing arts talents to create a rich and vibrant industry for the socio-economic development of the County with winners being linked to established talent development institutions Countrywide.
- ~~63-64.~~ In an effort to increase bed capacity for tourism in the County, the department also initiated the homestay concept in regards to development of tourism. My Government has since organized capacity building of the existing and new homestay owners across the county in conjunction with the Tourism Regulatory Authority and the Kenya Community Based Tourism network.
- ~~64-65.~~ The 20,000 seater Siaya County Modern Stadium which is work in progress is a major flagship project for my government. By the close of the financial year under review, the Construction of Siaya County Modern Stadium, was at the 65% level of completion. The work already done included construction of the sub structures, public terraces and superstructure of the main pavilion plus compacting of the playground and 8 lane athletic track. We have projected that phase one of the works will be complete in the next four months providing our sports men and women an opportunity to test their talents and boost sports tourism with its related benefits to the county.
- ~~65-66.~~ The County Government of Siaya also identified and nurtured 80 sport talents being 40 males and 40 females, through Kenya Youths Inter-county Sports Association games in Busia. During these games, Siaya emerged the champions in ladies' basketball and 3rd in Ladies' Volleyball. Out of these, 50 talents were scouted for elite training and placed at the Kenya Academy of Sports in Nairobi.
- ~~66-67.~~ Siaya County also supported 17 community sports events spread across the county including Migwenya Sports & Cultural Festivals with assorted sports equipment and awards as part of sports talent promotion.

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~~67-68.~~ In December 2019, Siaya county participated in the East Africa Local Authorities Cultural Association games in Kampala Uganda producing 9 staff who helped Kenya win position one in football, chess, scrabble and athletics.

~~68-69.~~ The sector under review also carried out Sports stakeholders' fora in the 6 sub-counties with the objective of collecting views in regards to the development of sports policy and management.

~~69-70.~~ Under Information, Communication Technology, the department supported and maintained a number of ICT systems in an effort to improve service delivery. The systems included the Integrated Personnel Payroll Database, the Integrated Financial Management Information System, ~~theand the~~ Revenue Collection System, the Hospital Management System, the County Website and the County E-mail system. The provision of reliable, high bandwidth capacity Internet connectivity to county departments and user-support was also noted.

~~70-71.~~ The **Finance and Economic Planning** sector provided leadership to planning and budgeting process culminating in the production of Annual Programme Based Budget for the Financial Year 2020/2021. Other areas of achievements were project procurements, coordination of financial resource mobilization which saw the county receive 85.96% of the target budget for the financial year.

~~71-72.~~ The department ensured that the procurement opportunities reserved for youths, women and persons with disabilities were awarded accordingly with the groups getting at least up to 37% of all procurement opportunities tendered during the financial year **2019/2020**.

~~72-73.~~ On the key function of financial resources mobilisation and management, the County Government through the finance sector provided leadership on financial resources mobilisation and management as earlier mentioned. In order to cushion the Boda Boda Industry and enable the industry flourish, my government exempted them from levies during the period under review. This has seen the industry grow in numbers and financial value according to the Chairman of Siaya Boda Boda Association Mr. Joseph Odhiambo also known as Achola. We are in discussions with the industry on how best to ensure we continue providing the necessary services while also mobilising resources from the industry to boost the county coffers. This will be in their best interest.

~~73-74.~~ The Financial Sector also provided leadership to mobilisation of development partner support in various departments during the period under review. As a result, the County realised conditional grants support estimated at **KsShs. 531,034,010.00**. Development partners supporting the county during this period included the World Bank under the Kenya Climate Smart Agricultural Programme and Kenya Devolution Support Programme among several others as detailed under each and every sector.

~~74-75.~~ In order to ensure compliance with accountability rules and regulation as set out in the law, the sector prepared 17 statutory reports and maintained 10 books of accounts while updating 30 counterfoil receipt books and securing 30 accountable documents within the sector.

~~75-76.~~ The County Government of Siaya complied with the budgeting cycle requirements by issuing Circular on budget, and development of the County Annual

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Development Plan, County Budget Review Outlook Paper, and County Fiscal Strategy Paper. The county factsheet was also updated.

~~76-77.~~ 77. In order to further meet the requirements of the law, we managed to establish the County Budget and Economic Forum as enshrined in the County Government Act 2012 with a view to strengthening our budgetary systems while bringing together the relevant stakeholders to make this possible.

DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE – SOCIAL PILLAR

~~77-78.~~ 78. The **Education, Youth Affairs, Gender and Social Services** sector focused on early childhood development education, vocational training of the youth, addressing gender and children issues and provision of social services.

~~78-79.~~ 79. As a result of our investments in the early childhood sector, the enrollment of learners increased by 2.4% from 88,000 to 90,104 learners in both public and private schools. During the period under review, up to 24 Early Childhood Development Education model blocks were completed with 12 of these being fully equipped for operations. The School Feeding Programme was also piloted in 27 schools in West Alego Ward and East Asembo with a total of 5,304 learners successfully benefitting from the programme. Increased enrollment, retention and better performance of most pupils were reported as a result of this school feeding program. We therefore seek to continue and increase its coverage.

~~79-80.~~ 80. Through deliberate approaches by the County Government in partnership with the National Government to strengthen vocational education and training development, the learners in Vocational Training across the County increased by 1.8% from 2,724 in the previous financial year to 3,224 during the period under review. Up to 10 Vocational Training Centers were equipped with modern tools and equipment under these initiatives and partnerships.

~~80-81.~~ 81. As a long term measure, we are working on a partnership between the Jua Kali Industry and The Siaya Institute of Technology among others to encourage Jua Kali artisans to transition into formal training that will lead to trade tests and certification by the institute upon completion of their training. In this arrangement, Jua Kali artisans will continue to undertake practical training in our local Jua Kali shades but supplement that with theoretical training in local training institutions like Siaya Institute of Technology. Such trained and certified artisans will easily acquire tenders from the County Government under the 30% tenders reserved for youth, women and Persons with Disability. They will also qualify to bid for professional assignments beyond the County making them competitive in the job market.

~~81-82.~~ 82. To strengthen institutional frameworks and facilitate general administration and support services within the education sector, my government also initiated the preparation of the Bursary Policy, Scholarship Policy, Vocational Training Centre Policy and Youth and Gender Policy. These remain work in progress and should be concluded in this financial year.

~~82-83.~~ 83. The social security and services sub sector has supported celebrations for women and persons with disability on gender, rights, social and economic empowerment approaches to improve their livelihoods during the period under

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review. In addition, 1,851 youths benefitted from the positive behavior change program. Under the responsible parenthood & enhanced leadership capabilities program, 500 parents benefitted through deliberate forums organized in this regard. As a result of these initiatives, parents and pupils have recorded positive behavior change communication between and amongst themselves ever since.

83-84. Our collaborative networks and partnerships saw the County Government receive financial, moral and technical support from the National government on the preprimary standard policy guidelines. A host of Non – Governmental Organizations were equally involved in terms of additional technical and financial support for a variety of activities such as teacher training workshops, youth training, women empowerment and persons with disabilities support frameworks.

84-85. The **Health and Sanitation** Sector is mandated to provide health care for all in Siaya County. It is required that we work with partners to fulfill this mandate. During the period under review, the sector had improvements in curative, rehabilitative, preventive and promotive health services spanning across the county in the forms of physical infrastructure and human capacity development. The sector also played a key role in fighting COVID-19 pandemic in its first three months of entry into the county.

85-86. Overall, the County Government increased the number of clients fully recovering from Tuberculosis from 79%, in 2018/2019 to 86% in 2019/20, while pregnant women who are HIV positive and put on Anti-Retroviral therapy remained at 100%.

86-87. As a result of the deliberate preventive and promotive health services and information dissemination by the county health staff, the percentage of HIV positive clients linked to care increased from 90% in 2018/2019 to 92% in 2019/2020 and the percentage of pregnant women who know their HIV status aimed at preventing mother to child transmission increased from 89% to 99%.

87-88. The completion of the construction of a blood transfusion unit at Siaya County Referral Hospital in June 2020 and the procurement of one modern ambulance have served to enhance referrals within and outside the county aimed at saving life. Further, the operationalization of Intensive Care Unit at Siaya County Referral Hospital was completed during the period under review.

88-89. Three modern Maternity theatre complexes were constructed at Ambira, Ukwala and Madiany Sub County Hospitals with the Ambira one fully equipped and operationalized while the other two are due for completion and equipping. It is expected that these modern facilities shall increase access to maternal health services within the county.

89-90. The construction and equipping of a modern radiology unit with a Computerized Tomography scan at Siaya County Referral Hospital was another major milestone in this sector. Our renal unit is also up and running. Similarly, the installation of an X-Ray machines at Madiany and Yala Sub County Hospitals have also served to increase access to diagnostic imaging. Due to these investments, families no longer spend on referrals for these critical services outside the county.

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- ~~90-91.~~ Apart from the construction of 17 new Dispensaries, three ultra sound machines were also purchased for Got Agulu, Sigomere, Madiany and Yala Sub County Hospitals in addition to the construction of two new maternity wards at Nyawara and Ramula Health Centers and the equipment of one orthopedic and rehabilitation unit during the period under review. Four staff houses were also constructed during the period under review to increase ease, proximity and availability of health service providers closer to the health facilities. Due to these expansive infrastructure development projects in the health sector, no citizen now travel more than five kilometers to access health care in Siaya County with all sub locations now having at least one health facility each. This has reduced the costs of expenditure on health by individuals.
- ~~91-92.~~ In order to reduce workload on existing staff while providing better health services to an increased number of Siaya citizenry, my government recruited an additional 193 health service staffs within the 2019/2020 financial year. These human resources are deployed to various health institutions across the County and has ensured timely service delivery to Wananchi.
- ~~92-93.~~ On the legislative front, the health sector saw the development and processing of four Health ~~Bill~~ Bills namely the Reproductive Health ~~Bill~~ Bill, Community Health Services ~~Bill~~ Bill, Siaya County Sanitation and Waste Management ~~Bill~~ Bill which are all at various stages of processing and the enactment of the Siaya County Health Services Act, 2019.
- ~~93-94.~~ While the foregoing achievements are laudable it is important to note that this sector faced one of the greatest health challenges of our times – **the Corona Virus pandemic**. With the first case being reported in Kenya in March 2020, my government, like all others had to prioritize the war against this deadly virus and this came with far reaching adjustments and realignment of government programs as resources had to be rechanneled towards this new global enemy. I am happy to note that the measures my government put in place in this regard have generally yielded good results as Covid-19 status in our county has been favorable with relatively low confirmed positive cases and even lower mortalities.
- ~~94-95.~~ This success story against COVID-19 is also attributable to our gallant health care workers who put their best feet forward to confront this deadly disease that had already demonstrated its disdain for science and skills globally. Special appreciation should go to one such hero, **Leonard Otieno**, a Nurse at our County Referral Hospital who displayed exemplary service in training his medical colleagues and managing patients at Isolation Unit thus earning special recognition by UN Kenya. However, the war on Covid-19 is far from won because the virus has demonstrated ability to reappear through different waves. This calls for continued vigilance and preparedness in all fronts – preventive as well as curative as this health challenge becomes endemic.
- ~~95-96.~~ The need to increase access to clean and safe water and attain a clean, secure and sustainable environment cannot be gainsaid. It is for this reason that my government continued to pay greater attention to the **Water, Environment and Natural Resources** sector.

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- ~~96-97.~~ During the year under review, the water resources development and management programme, saw the sector construct 15 water pans out of the targeted 18 while protecting 33 water springs out of the targeted 43. These helped significantly increase access and proximity to water services by citizens and their livestock.
- ~~97-98.~~ We also managed to drill and equip 46 boreholes with solar pumps, rehabilitated 8 shallow wells, installed 4 rainwater harvesting systems, rehabilitated 4 water supply schemes, and extended 80km of water pipelines in Siaya County. The net effect of the results described above financed under the development budget and the recurrent expenditure on Siaya Bondo Water Services Company was a provisional increase in safe water coverage from 55% to 65% across Siaya County.
- ~~98-99.~~ Under Natural Resources Conservation and Management, 11 tree nurseries were established and 5 new woodlots developed. The 25,000 seedlings distributed to community members from the nurseries and the 5,000 seedlings planted in woodlots are estimated to increase the tree cover by 0.0046%.
- ~~99-100.~~ The Water and Environment sector also recruited 3 new staffs while training 9 officers from other different departments on climate change. A climate change technical working group and a climate change secretariat were established to improve coordination of environment and water matters beyond the stakeholders in the water sector.
- ~~100-101.~~ The Water sector developed and enacted the Water and Sewerage Act, 2018 during the period under review. A prototype Environmental & Natural Resource Management Bill, 2019 is developed and awaiting enactment into law. The County Environment Performance Index, 2019 is meanwhile awaiting validation and a prototype County State of Environment Report and County Environment Action Plan, 2018-2022 were also developed. A Water Supply Policy and Environmental and Natural Resources Policy are prioritized for development in the subsequent review period.
- ~~101-102.~~ Because of the many water projects we are undertaking as mentioned above, my government has significantly increased water availability among the citizenry. It is now rare to find a Siaya citizen travelling for more than five Kilometers to fetch water anywhere within the county. Mrs. Mary Akinyi Ongoje who is a beneficiary of Muturi Water and Sanitation Project in East Uyoma Ward says that the availability of water closer home has saved her from back aches and related sicknesses associated with previous long travels to fetch water.

CROSSCUTTING ISSUES

- ~~102-103.~~ There are other cross cutting interventions that have been necessary throughout the reporting period in order to facilitate the activities of Government while impacting on the life of the citizenry but cannot be domiciled under the above pillars already discussed above.
- ~~103-104.~~ It will also be noted that, The Country of Kenya and indeed, the County of Siaya, has enjoyed a peaceful political atmosphere arising from the cessation of hostilities between the 2017 election opponents for the Presidency which has enabled the implementation process to proceed smoothly. The handshake between the Rt.

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Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga and President Uhuru Kenyatta has seen the Building Bridges Initiative Task Force collect and collate the views of Wananchi during the period under review. These views have since been summarized into a report accompanied by various ~~bill~~**Bills** that are aimed at improving Kenya's electoral landscape significantly. I appeal to this honorable house of the County Assembly of Siaya to approve the report when it is finally presented here so that we usher in the change that will significantly alter the nature of our political, economic and social ethos as a people.

~~104~~**105.** During the period under review, my government significantly strengthened regional cooperation with the neighboring counties under the Lake Region Economic Bloc and the Council of Governors. While Siaya County hosted a Summit meeting of the Governors of the fourteen counties within the Lake Victoria Belt to discuss milestones in the sugar and cotton industry among others, the County continued to participate in the activities of the Council of Governors that bring together all the forty seven counties of Kenya to further entrench devolution.

~~105~~**106.** The Office of The First Lady under the able leadership of Her Excellency Rosella Rasanga has championed the interests of children significantly during the reporting period. Under the Nurturing Care Project which she patronizes, the First Lady has convened multi-~~sectoral~~**Sectoral** meetings bringing together various stakeholders including Members of The County Assembly to speak more aggressively and openly on issues relating to child growth within the first 1,000 days after birth. This culminated in the launch of the activities of the Nurturing Care Project that occurred during the period under review. The project referred to in Luo as **“Nyathi En Mwandu, Miye Mise Motegno”** aims at ensuring that children don't just survive but thrive through a series of activities to help develop their minds, body and soul. Apart from conducting campaigns and convening deliberate forums to educate communities on the interventions, the Office of The First lady also provided nutritional supplements and play materials to established child institutions as part of the project activities. Partners like PATH, K-MET, Longhorn, Child Fund and Catholic Relief Services among others have been instrumental throughout this process.

~~106~~**107.** The County Public Service Board plays a critical role in the human resource procurement processes for effective County Public Service. Without a competent, competitive and professional public service, the achievements we boast of today would have been impossible. Upon the expiry of the term of the very first Siaya County Public Service Board within the period under review, my government, working with the County Assembly, embarked on the recruitment of a new Public Service Board as enshrined in law. The process concluded with the entry of a new board bringing together human resource and all other relevant expertise and representative of all relevant interest groups and the geography of Siaya County. The

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board has since competently handled staff identification, recruitment, training, performance evaluation and appraisals as is their mandate.

~~107~~108. During the period under review, we also managed to create the Siaya Municipality and established the Siaya Municipal Board as required in the law. The Board bringing together diverse interest groups quickly embarked on programs that have since seen the regeneration of Siaya Municipality while working closely with our partners like The World Bank under The Kenya Urban Support Program. Plans to create the other towns and urban centers across the County are well in place and on course.

~~108~~109. My government also reported improved project execution within timelines and of better quality thanks to our deliberate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms of the implementation process under the guidance of the Governor's Service Delivery Unit. The unit ensured that continuous follow-up and monitoring of the implementation process was undertaken within agreed project implementation frameworks and timelines leading to early detection and correction of implementation challenges if any.

~~109~~110. As is by law required, all projects identification and implementation processes involved public participation and engagement of relevant stakeholders throughout. We conducted Public Participation through Participatory Planning, Participatory Budgeting, Participatory Project Management and Sustainability, Participatory Environmental Governance and Development and Participatory Engagements with Non-State Actors, Civil Society and Faith Based Organizations at each and every instant of the period under review. These engagements ensured sustained feedback and enhanced commitment towards project timelines and better outcomes of the implementation process throughout the projects' life cycle. These processes are properly documented and available in our County Website for review.

~~110~~111. I cannot forget to mention the very important role that the Office of the County Attorney has played in supporting the executive. Siaya County Government is one of the counties that established the Office of the County Attorney and appointed a County Attorney even before Parliament passed the Act establishing the Office.

~~111~~112. The Office of the County Attorney has been instrumental in playing the role of principal legal advisor to the County Government including the County Assembly, the Executive Committee, Departments in the County Executive and the County Public Service Board. The Office represents the County Government of Siaya in legal disputes, negotiates, drafts, vets and interprets documents and agreements on behalf of the County Government of Siaya.

~~112~~113. With the establishment of the Office of the County Attorney, we are beginning to witness a reduction in legal costs as the Office increasingly handles legal cases. Prior to the establishment of the Office, most legal matters affecting the County Government were handled by outsourced advocates. This situation is changing. Through the interventions of the Office of the County Attorney we are now more assured that our actions and activities are within the law.

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~~113~~114. The success we have reported would have been impossible without the benefit of partnerships we have enjoyed so far. The departments worked with development partners implementing various services to ensure that we meet and surpass the targets set for the year under review. The Health services in the county benefited from the partnership of World Bank under the Kenya Devolution Support Program, Centre for Health Solutions, Centres for Disease Control, PATH, AMREF, Protopine Kaunty, and Kenya Red Cross just to mention but a few. The Education department received financial, moral and technical support from the National government on the pre-primary standard policy guidelines. A host of NGOs were equally involved in terms of additional technical and financial support for a variety of activities such as teacher training workshops, youth training, women empowerment and persons with disabilities including World Vision, UNICEF, AMREF, PLAN International, Catholic Relief Services, MWENDO, Child Fund, Impact DREAMS, Centre for Health Solutions, VSO, JOOUST and TEMBEA Youth Centre for Sustainable Development amongst others. We have also received bursary and empowerment activities support from Impact, AIHA, AAF, RAWA, Compassion, Leonard Cheshire, Sunshine, VSO, TEMBEA and Catholic Relief Services MWENDO.

~~114~~115. Our Water and Environment efforts benefited from partners like Kenya Water Towers Programme, Strengthening Resilience to Climate Change Programme of CARE-INTERNATIONAL and the Kenya Accountable Devolution Programme of the World Bank. Other partners also included Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Dorcas Aid International and Maji Milele in the rehabilitation of the East Uyoma Water Supply Project. Our Collaboration with KIWASH, a USAID Programme to upscale the Akala, Sirembe, and Penwa Community Water Supplies was a great achievement too. In environmental management and natural resource conservation strong networks with CBOs, Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Wildlife Service and National Environment Management Authority boosted performance of the sector.

CHALLENGES THAT AFFECTED PERFORMANCE

~~115~~116. Despite the achievements recorded, the county experienced challenges in the process of implementing its programmes. Some of the major challenges included limited funds leading to budgetary variances between the assembly and executive, the COVID-19 pandemic, inadequacy of specialized skills to perform specialized tasks, incomplete projects leading to project and funds rollovers, poor project cycle management, weak institutional frameworks occasioned by delay in approval of policies and related laws and a weak monitoring and evaluation framework

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE

~~116~~117. To improve our performance as government in the subsequent reporting period, we have recommended the strengthening of planning, budgeting, budgetary implementation and controls to ensure harmony in budgeting between the executive and assembly. We will also enhance compliance with Public Finance Management Act to ensure effective funds flow to expenditure line items.

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~~117-118.~~ I further seek to strengthen Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks by concluding on policy to pave way for implementation of County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System guidelines which will ensure Monitoring and Evaluation functions in departments, sub-counties, wards and village structures. This will enhance feedback mechanisms through departmental senior management meetings to enhance utilization of performance reports in decision making.

~~118-119.~~ In the Financial Year 2020/2021, we will develop and implement human framework that provides for adequate staffing levels, skills development, career advancement and staff productivity

~~119-120.~~ I am also committed to strengthening supply chain management to ensure projects are procured in time and that there is effective contract and contractor management systems in place and general compliance with standards.

~~120-121.~~ The enhancement of public information sharing will also be on our radar. Information sharing platforms such as public service week in addition to those specified in County Governments Act, 2012 will be undertaken to ensure effective information sharing and civic education among the general populace.

~~121-122.~~ As a government policy, I have directed that the subsequent budget cycles prioritize the completion of ongoing projects. All the complete projects including health facilities will also be made operational before embarking on any further infrastructural investments.

CONCLUSION

~~122-123.~~ The County Assembly of Siaya has continued to play a critical role in the development of the County. The support from the assembly has enabled us to achieve the various government initiatives we have reported today. I take this opportunity therefore to appreciate the County Assembly of Siaya for the cordial relationship we have continued to enjoy during the implementation period. I am also grateful to the assembly and its leadership for hosting this auspicious occasion.

~~123-124.~~ I conclude by confirming that with these milestones and plans, The County Government of Siaya is well on track in the implementation of the County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022). It is expected that the plan will be reviewed in 2020/2021 to take stock of achievements and emerging development issues at the local, national and international levels that impact positively or negatively on county performance. I therefore urge the people of Siaya to support my government in these endeavors. I wish the people of Siaya County well as we march forward with our development mantra “*Tich Gi Dongruok*”

Thank you and may God bless siaya county

(Applause)

(The National Anthem was sung)

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Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, it has been a long one. There are people who escaped my list and I want us to appreciate them ~~as we appreciate them~~ at this particular point before we go to the next order.

I want us to appreciate the media who are here. I have spotted very many but one of them is KBC which is led by one Festus Amimo of Mayienga FM Wuod Awasi. We want to appreciate former MCA²s wherever you are I know some are here and ~~some others~~ are outside. If you are here you can stand so that we recognize you. We want to recognize members of the general public within the precincts or outside the Chambers but they are within the precincts.

(Applause)

I want us to appreciate partners who have been mentioned here for the contribution they have given us and their presence here today, they are various I may not mention all of them. The Office of the First Lady has always partnered with us in our initiatives within the community. The Office of the Deputy Governor for his faithful and loyal service of duty and also attending here.

(Applause)

I want us to appreciate the Governor who on his own volition or Motion has chosen to undertake this statutory duty of addressing the county through the State of the County Address from within the Chambers.

(Applause)

Lastly, I want us to appreciate ourselves for cutting short our recess to within a short notice convene here for this auspicious occasion. To those who I have not mentioned by name kindly bear with us we appreciate you all.

(Applause)

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: There being no other Business this House adjourns to reconvene on notice either as per our calendar which is on Tuesday, 9th February, 2021 or by convening a Special Sitting on Wednesday, 3rd February, 2021 to consider BBI (Constitutional Amendment ~~Bill~~ 2020) and the Finance ~~Bill~~.

The House rose at 11.5330 a.m.

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