

# BARINGO COUNTY ASSEMBLY

## THE HANSARD

The House met on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 2:56 PM

The Speaker (Hon. Kemboi) in Chair

### PRAYER

**The Speaker** (Hon. Kemboi): Your Excellency the Governor Hon. Benjamin Chesire Cheboi, EBS and the Hon. Members, allow me to invite the following Members of the Clergy to lead us in Prayers. The first one will be; Imam Said Modhar from Kabarnet Mosque and Rev. Dr. William Kipruto Kotut - Bishop of A.I.C Baringo Area.

*(Prayers)*

Your Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Members, you may now take your seats, next order.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

#### HOUSE LEADERSHIP

**The Speaker** (Hon. Kemboi): Your Excellency the Governor of Baringo County Hon. Benjamin Cheboi, the Leader of the Majority Party, the Leader of the Minority Party, the Deputy Speaker, Hon. Members and all invited guests welcome to the Official Opening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> County Assembly.

Your Excellency the Governor and Hon. Members, Standing Order 19(1) of the Baringo County Assembly Standing Orders requires the Governor to address the opening of each newly elected County Assembly. Hon. Members, H. E the Governor notified the Speaker of the County Assembly of his intention to come and address the Opening of the third County Assembly on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 2:30 PM in the County Assembly Chambers.

Therefore, pursuant to Standing Order 19(1) and 20(2) of the Baringo County Assembly Standing Orders, I gave notice of the Official Opening of the third County Assembly during the first sitting of the County Assembly on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022. Hon. Members, this sitting is properly convened. Your Excellency sir, I would like to recognize the new leadership of the County Assembly which was established on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in Mombasa during the induction exercise of the 3<sup>rd</sup> County Assembly. Hon Members the Leader of the Majority Party is Hon. Lawi Kipchumba, Hon. Members lets applaud.

*(Applause)*

The Leader of the Minority Party is Hon. Daniel Tuwit.

*(Applause)*

Deputy Leader of Majority, Hon. Josphat Lokorio.

*(Applause)*

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Deputy Leader of Minority, Hon. Paul Lolgisoi.

*(Applause)*

Majority Chief Whip, Hon. Ernest Kibet.

*(Applause)*

Deputy Majority Chief Whip, Hon. Purity Tallam.

*(Applause)*

Minority Chief Whip, Hon. Maria Losile.

*(Applause)*

Deputy Minority Chief Whip, Hon. Solomon Makal.

Your Excellency sir, two Members of the County Assembly Service Board were also elected and they are; Hon. Julius Ngotie and Hon. Wesley Lekakimon.

*(Applause)*

Your Excellency sir, we have three representatives to County Assembly Forum(CAF) this include myself the Speaker of the County Assembly and two elected Members from the County Assembly namely; Hon. Henry Kigen and Hon. Diana Siriti.

*(Applause)*

Your Excellency, the Leadership of the County Assembly Committees will be finalized in due course

Your Excellency sir, allow me also to recognize the following dignitaries who were invited and have joined us in gracing this occasion. They are not seated with us here today because our chambers is under renovation but they are in the public gallery which is within our chambers here. They are within the building and they include; the County Security Team lead by the County Commissioner Mr. Abdirizak Jaldesa, Members of the Clergy led by Bishop Kotut, Bishop Cheptarus, Imam Said Modhar, Retired Bishop Kipchemon, the County Executive Committee Members (CECM), the County Secretary, Chief Officers, Directors of various Government Departments, Members of Staff and all other invited guests.

Your Excellency sir, the Leadership of the County Assembly Committees will be finalized in due course. Your Excellency, as the 3<sup>rd</sup> County Assembly, I want to assure you that we will support you fully by effectively discharging our mandate as provided under Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya, which is Representation, Oversight and Legislation. Next Order.

#### GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS ON THE OPENING OF THE THIRD COUNTY ASSEMBLY

**The Speaker** (Hon. Kemboi): Hon. Members, it is now my honour and privilege to invite H.E the Governor of Baringo County to address this sitting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> County Assembly. Hon. Members kindly be upstanding.

*(Hon. Members stands in their place)*

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**H.E Governor Cheboi:** You may be seated.

*(Hon. Members sits in their place)*

Hon. Speaker, Hon. Deputy Speaker, Leader of Majority, Leader of Minority, Hon. Members of the County Assembly, Hon. Leadership of the County Assembly and all protocols observed, Good afternoon.

*(Applause)*

I am greatly humbled to give my inaugural address to this Hon. House as we mark the beginning of business for the third County Assembly of Baringo. I would like to thank all of us who are present here today, for finding time to be part of this momentous occasion.

Mr. Speaker; may I take this very first and privileged opportunity to congratulate all Hon. Members of this House for being elected and or nominated to the third County Assembly of Baringo. Congratulations Ladies and Gentlemen.

*(Applause)*

That we went through a rigorous campaign and I am part of you. I went through the same process. I applaud the Hon. Speaker and the Deputy Speaker for their being honored with the weighty responsibility of providing leadership and guidance this House. I also appreciate in advance, all members who will be assigned different roles of representing this Assembly in national platforms and I am glad already you have those who will be representing you in CAF and those who will be elected to chair various committees and important House Business portfolios. The fact that you all find yourselves here today means enormous trust and great responsibility has been set upon your shoulders by the people of our County and I hasten to say that, a lot of expectations are there for you. The citizens are watching and expecting a lot.

Let me state again Mr. Speaker and Chair, here on the floor of this House that my vision is to transform Baringo into a prosperous, well governed County that affords her people the highest standard of living. This vision is anchored on my six-pillar plan as outlined in my campaign manifesto. In my statement today, I will be breaking down part of this vision and how our priorities will look like in the next 5 years.

These pillars Hon. Members, are in line with the Kenya Kwanza Bottom-Up Manifesto, the Vision 2030 and will be an integral part of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), 2023-2028, which we have started developing in harness. To realize this noble cause, a solid cordial relationship and mutual interdependence between the Executive and the County Assembly is called for and is indeed very necessary.

I said during our meeting the other day when you were having your induction in Mombasa and during various interactions even before then, it has come out very clearly that we have a common agenda. The agenda is to grow our society in the right direction, create wealth for our people and like Bishop Kotut said earlier; is to improve the standard of living of the vulnerable, poor and those that have not had the opportunity to realize their potential. To realize this noble cause, a solid cordial relationship and mutual interdependence between us the Executive and the County Assembly is more pertinent than ever.

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This is perhaps the single most important determinant of our collective success as the County Government and I repeat; our mutual relationship if it is cordial, is the single most important determinant of our collective success as the County Government of Baringo. That does not mean that we should not check on each other, that does not mean that we should not criticize each other but it only means, in our endeavor to grow the quality of lives of our citizens, we must work together and do everything that is necessary to make that succeed.

We should always work together seamlessly like two different functional parts of the same machine. We should soldier on in one accord in championing the cause of prosperity for our great people. Divided we will certainly fail; but together and united we shall definitely thrive.

In this regard, I invite all Hon. Members of this House to partner with, and walk with me on the journey of making our County prosperous. Together we will move further and faster. It is said that if you move alone, you cannot go far but if you move with others you will go very far. As God-fearing people and Nation, allow me to share an example of a great Leader from the good book, King David. He Served God's Purposes in his generation, you may refer to (Acts 13:36). Fellow leaders, ours like King David is an opportunity to serve. We do so by serving his people, the people of the almighty God.

Although we hold the rare position of being referred to as *Waheshimiwa* or for me sometimes be called Your Excellency. This titles are meaningless if you don't serve the people to the standard that they deserve.

*(Applause)*

I am certain that we are alive to the fact that we all find ourselves in here today because the people of Baringo have entrusted us with the collective responsibility of effecting our County's transformation. They believed in the pledges we made to them and I made a lot pledges myself. You made a lot of pledges. We will give you bursaries, we will build ABC, we will do everything that you want us to do. Going forward therefore, it must not be lost on any one of us that it is now time to team up, roll-up our sleeves and get down to work. I know that your work is legislation, oversight and representation. So when you people demand of you to provide them with water, you must make sure that my executive through the budgetary resources that you have allocated to us are able to make sure that the people you represent are able to get water.

Hon. Members, you will all agree with me that there is need to not only kick-start our development agenda, but to also re-focus it in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Model as outlined by H.E Dr. William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya in the Kenya Kwanza Manifesto. Going forward, we must concentrate more on providing practical and speedy solutions to the socio-economic challenges that face our residents.

The top three challenges that our people struggle with, actually they are more than three, are paying school fees, paying hospital bills or finding treatment in our hospitals and finding jobs but even there is one fundamental one that we have not seen as important; that of getting food. There are people who in a few occasions has to struggle having one meal a day. Many of our problems would be solved if we had more money or more money in our pockets. In other words, we must focus on growing our economy, making our people have money in their pockets and also making



our people be more productive so that we cannot only have food but we can have enough to do value addition and create employment for our people.

Our young people need jobs, our farmers need better returns for their produce and our hard-working men and women in our markets want better services as they carry out their businesses. The County Government and by the County is not only the executive. The County Government that is the County Assembly & County Executive, have distinct but complementary roles geared towards bringing solutions to these challenges facing our people. I have no doubt in my mind that looking at the diverse skills and capabilities in this House, we have what it takes to institute measures to bring solutions and there is no other person that people of Baringo County expect to provide solutions, it is my self the executive and yourself. If we fail, we will have failed together. If we succeed we will have succeeded together.

There is no way the executive cannot succeed when the Assembly is not succeeding and there is no way the Assembly can succeed without the executive succeeding. So let us work together and I continue emphasizing that we must look ourselves as complementary. We are not operating from the opposite side of the cards.

We are faced with Unemployment and this is the biggest challenge. We are faced with Insecurity and this is a serious challenge. Our infrastructure is not the best. Even today I was called by someone from Tenges that there are challenges in the roads there. We are faced with challenges of limited capital so that our people can do business. We are faced with a situation where we have limited Private Sector Investment. We are not like Machakos County which has Export Processing Zones with hundreds or thousands of people employed there.

We have to begin and ask ourselves; what can we do to get investors to come to this County? Can we create an economic processing zone? Can we create an Industrial Park? Those are things that we must do like yesterday. I commit to provide leadership in addressing these challenges in an innovative manner and also building a conducive environment that will facilitate investors to the County. We have the opportunity of raising Baringo to be among the great or confine it to the territories that will follow other Counties. When I say investors I am not talking about people from abroad always. I am not talking about people from outside Baringo County, even ourselves we can become investors.

*(Applause)*

It is not only people from out there but they can come and complement with us.

During the period when I served as your Governor, my administration implemented initiatives that improved our production for example the coffee system to an extend that we were able to do a coffee factory which is a sleeping giant and we need to make sure that we have more coffee planted and harvested so that it can be able to produce good quality coffee. We invested in projects that promote value addition most of which might have not been completed as quickly as we should have. Our focus therefore in the next five years will be to deepen and increase these initiatives. Our economy needs to reach an income that we can be proud of.

If the income of this Nation of Kenya is 3 trillion, if the taxes that we collect both borrowed and ordinary is 3 trillion then we just need to divide 3 trillion by 47 Counties and you will realize that



our economy should have more than 400 billion per year. How are we going to get this 400 billion per year? So that we can be able to provide employment for our young people. We can be able to make the lives of our people even better.

We need perhaps to create about 50,000 jobs each year because we are producing graduates in large numbers that are not employed. So we have to think, be innovative and ask ourselves how can we give these people opportunities to work here or how can we give this people an opportunity to work in other parts of the country or also how can we get them an opportunity to work even overseas?

I remember in my manifesto, I used to tell people that we are going to create a system that will support our young people to get employment beyond the borders of our County and Nation and we will do that. We will create a department that will be responsible for working on attachment for our young people, for working on internship wherever it is and even securing employment opportunities to this young people.

To deliver on this promise that will surely transform the County therefore, we require to adopt a robust, systematic and yet practical development approach. Policies, programmes and projects have to be formulated based on the greater impact to a critical mass of our communities. Our approach must be holistic by addressing the short- medium- and long-term challenges that prevail in our localities.

We must ensure that each of our economic sectors receive deserving budgetary attention, and that voices of all communities are represented in decision making and you are the ones and the voices of the communities. What you tell us is what the communities are telling us. So we will listen keenly to what Members tell us in the executive. We will also listen keenly to what the public tell us when we go to public participation. We will deepen public participation. We will use all technological approaches to be able to do that.

Even as we do this, we must be careful not to stretch our financial resources too thin because sometimes we are ambitious to satisfy every nook and cranny and every village in the desire to tell them that at the end of our electoral term, I deed this and that for you but we are not asking ourselves what is the impact of what you have done? Is it generating wealth? Is it creating employment? Is it making our society better or not? My administration will partner with this House to ensure that programmes and projects implemented have greater impact, are sustainable, efficient and most importantly, effective.

Sometimes we go to our Constituency or Ward and the community says we want a dispensary and we built the dispensary but when we are building the dispensary we have not factored in how we will pay the clinical officer, nurse, lab technologist, watchman and support staff. It is easy to build the dispensary but it is difficult to make it continuously run. So when we are doing our priorities let us do it but we factor in the cost of operation of that entity and a lot of us now we are suffering because our facilities are available but there is nothing going on there.

At institutional level, we must adopt robust resource mobilization and allocation frameworks and implement prudent fiscal policies. We should accelerate structural reforms geared towards building a conducive business environment that promote investment, improve efficiency in production, and ultimately empower our people to generate income; and create employment and



wealth. Every time that I am talking I am looking at income, employment and wealth and therefore I will call upon you also to help us in knocking doors at the national and development partners level because the truth of the matter is that the resource envelope that we get is small. So we need to be able to go and ask the team of the President at the national level.

Make friends with the Cabinet Secretaries, those heads of institutions that support us for example; can we be able to get our Water and Irrigation Committee to visit the National Irrigation Board? To assist us in lobbying for resources so that it is not our responsibility only to look at the budget that we bring to this House.

Can we get more money from UNICEF, World Food Programme, WHO, FAO and all the development partners that assists us? Together we can lobby and you come and tell me Governor I have gone to Water Services Trust Fund, they have 50 million shillings and we shall be able to do a water project or an irrigation project in one of the places. Of course I will be the chief fundraiser and when you don't see me in this grounds, you know that I have gone to raise money because I want to bring money to your ward so that we can be able to develop because the money that we have here will not be enough.

Mr. Speaker sir, critical urgency lies in fixing the enabler sectors. They are the catalysts for a competitive production and by investing in empowerment programmes that will put money in the pockets of our people and thereby spur real economic growth that will be felt by *Wanjiku* but in our case I think *Tabrandich* may be better or *Tabkili*, who is our employer.

*(Laughter)*

Mr. Speaker, I have always emphasized that we need to put money in the pockets of our people. Of course that does not mean that you don't want money in your pockets too. Turning agriculture and livestock sectors into commercially driven and innovative life transforming ventures is a sure strategy to enable our farmers to take advantage of the enormous competitive advantage prevalent in the sector within Baringo, to make money, increasing productivity, investing in value chain development, promoting mechanization, improving farmers' capacity through intensified trainings and extension services; and developing reliable markets are the key drivers for the sector.

I submit to this House therefore, that we must immediately re-embark on revitalizing this sector through support to farmers to enable them enhance production and upgrade quality. I am saying when we are doing our budget. Sometimes we give very limited budget to agriculture and yet this is the goose that lays the golden egg.

We put more money in roads and infrastructure. We put more money perhaps in health but it is because we are not producing enough food that our people are unhealthy. So if we put more money in agriculture people will grow food, eat healthy and they will not go to hospital. So we will not need to put more money for drugs in the hospital. I am just trying to put it that way. This will be done with the aim of not only improving food security, but also producing enough to enable us venture into, and sustain value addition especially in the dairy, meat, coffee and apiculture sub sectors.



A summary of our interventions in the Agriculture and Livestock Sub-Sectors will be the following; Livestock breeds upgrading through Artificial Insemination, Pedigree Bulls, Gala Bucks and Doper Rams. And of course we cannot give out these animals without training the farmers on how to look after them. So a factor for capacity building of the extension officers is critical. Construction of maybe new sale yards so that we can be able to sale these animals and rehabilitating of existing ones to enable farmers to cut out middlemen and fetch better prices for our livestock. Livestock Disease control; Vaccinations, construction and rehabilitation of cattle dips. Promotion of pasture production and storage and that is most important, Promotion of Apiculture, bee keeping.

I met one lady and she told me she made 20 million shillings out of refining honey that is coming from Baringo. Just one lady and I met her in a car showroom wanting to purchase a brand-new pick up in cash courtesy of honey and a lot of it is coming from Tiaty, Baringo South and parts of Baringo North. *Watu wa Eldama Ravine hawajui mambo ya asali*. So we are talking about promotion of fisheries development and let me tell you on that one.

The other day, I was presiding over passing-out parade for fisheries guards and I asked in Lake Baringo, how much do we sell our fish? And they told me 750 million in a year. So if we put money in fisheries we can get 2 billion. If we put money in coffee we can get 3 billion. Of course I cannot talk about livestock. So when we work with the National Government which will assist us in distributing fertilizers and work with National Government entities like Kerio Valley Development Authority to distribute more beehives then we are able to make our farmers earn more.

All these efforts will not bear the desired results, if we do not see them through to value addition. In this regard, we will fast track the completion and operationalization, that is a very tough word, of 2 slaughter Houses. Imagine we have a slaughter House in Loruk that has not been operationalized for the last, how many years?

*(Loud Consultations)*

Six years. We have one in Barwessa which has not been operationalized for the same number of years and it is ready and complete. We have the slaughter House in Maoi which people are ready to import meat from there. We must move very fast and maybe get these things to be working. We have a milk plant that we established in Eldama Ravine and it needs urgent attention to be completed so that our young people can get jobs.

The Completion of that Milk Processing Plant will be prioritized, to not only promote value addition in the dairy sector but to also create employment and increase income for farmers. I take this opportunity on the floor of this House, to challenge farmers to embrace technology in dairy farming to optimize production of milk to guarantee maximum use of the milk plant. The same time of course in the coffee value chain, we shall re-launch the empowerment of farmers and initiate extension services to further enhance coffee production.

This will ensure that the Baringo Coffee Mill operates in its full capacity. Meanwhile, we shall be exploring avenues for the expansion of our South Korean market through our contacts in the Tiger Economy.



Mr. Speaker; the delivery of health care is a matter that is close to the heart of many people in the County. We know very well that a healthy population is very critical resource because they will have the energy to drive growth in the County. I am committed to putting my experience and energies towards delivering this. We will work tirelessly to ensure that the County Referral Hospital is operating effectively and that there are quality services.

We will also ensure that Referral Hospitals in Eldama Ravine, Chemolingot, Mogotio and Kabartonjo are optimally used. I have focused my energy on that one and the purpose is to improve service at a lower cost so that we do not waste our drugs or they go to the wrong hands.

Healthcare still remains a challenge to many of our citizens. This situation continues to prevail yet a very significant allocation of the County Budget goes to provision of health care. We all know that no one can enjoy quality and productive life unless they are of good health. In fact, our aggregate productivity depends on a healthy and energetic human capital.

We are also aware that our health facilities have been performing below par. Its good to accept the truth that when you go to our hospitals, sometimes you can stay for three, four to five hours before being treated and when you go to the dispensary you are given a prescription of four drugs and you find two and other two are missing.

This situation is unacceptable and must be reversed within the shortest time possible and I want to tell you that I have started going everywhere and together with your support we are able to make this. We went to nearly three hospitals together with the Members of the County Assembly from those areas and they saw it for themselves. So when we will be budgeting we will be doing that with the right side. I will endeavor to walk with you. Whenever it is possible, we want to visit together development projects so that when we are doing our budget, we know where it pains. We put our money in the right place.

In addition to supplying our health facilities with sufficient drugs and non-pharmaceuticals, we shall source and deploy a County Hospitals Management System that will automate patient registration, revenue collection and drug dispensing.

*(Applause)*

This tool will go a long way in helping streamline service delivery and enhance revenue collection in our hospitals. Let me tell you I have gone to and some of your colleagues here will remember. We went to one of the hospital with a pharmacy and there was no system. The pharmacist could as well carry all the medicine home and then come back in the morning and say there is no medicine, so we are going to work on the system to ensure that there is no leakage, loss and there is proper distribution of our drugs so that our people can benefit.

To reduce the number of referrals to our level 4 facilities, we shall improve diagnostics capacity of level 3 hospitals like Mochongoi, Kisanana, Salawa, Esageri, maybe Barwessa, Kolowa, Akwichatis to name a few. What am I saying? Imagine that a patient is in Kolowa. There is a laboratory but there is no diagnostic equipment, there is no biochemistry machine that can analyze the cause of disease. That person will be force to board a vehicle and come all the way to Kabarnet. Pay 1,500 shillings or maybe somewhere around there for a test which is worth 500



shillings and go back paying another 1,500. *Amewacha Ng'ombe yake...* Let me not speak in Kiswahili.

*(Applause)*

He has left to his goat and cows unattended, to just come for a test of 500 shillings. So let us look at our budget and see how we can improve the capacity of our level 3 hospitals to be able to do diagnosis and also to accept NHIF as a mode of payment. You know you are a school teacher in Barpello or Olkokwe and there is a hospital in Olkokwe. You have to travel all the way to Nakuru to visit a facility that can accept NHIF. Why don't we make our hospitals accept NHIF where they are and our people to be able to be treated there?

*(Applause)*

All equipment and drugs without healthcare personnel will definitely not treat patients. My administration will ensure that as much as possible, all the staffing needs of our hospitals are met, across all cadres. Of course you know we have a challenge of wage bill. I call upon our healthcare professionals to offer selfless service as we address the challenges they face. In due course I am confident that we shall achieve a work environment conducive for effective service delivery to the people of Baringo County.

I have been holding meetings with these people, even this morning I was in a meeting with them because I want to understand where the problem is in our health delivery system and I will be very practical. I will not sit in my office and expect things to work in hospitals, we will be able to work there together.

Mr. Speaker sir, I urge this House to earmark the water sector for prioritization in resource allocation so that we increase sustainable access to clean and affordable water to the residents of Baringo. Let me tell you, over 30% of our people are drinking unclean and untreated water. They drink water from the river, water pans and dams and then they get sick. So we spend money coming to treat people which we would not have a problem if we had clean water there.

So we need to make sure that as many Households as possible are able to get clean water to avoid going to hospital and being sick. I submit to this honorable House, that the best way forward is to leverage on sinking new boreholes, excavation of small dams and treating the water. We need to enhance collaboration with development partners and work closely with the National Government in harnessing and managing this scarce resource and it works.

This morning I had a meeting with people from UNICEF and I convinced them that you know we have a problem in Marigat of clean water. I am not saying we don't have a problem elsewhere and they have said by next week we shall do two boreholes in Marigat to be able to get water for the people of Marigat as we look for a bigger solution to the challenge facing people. So we will get money from development partners.

I will be lobbying the relevant National Government institutions to expedite water supply from existing water infrastructure mainly the Kirandich and Chemususu Dams. I tell you, I have been working lately and work is going on for Chemususu to be able to get the last mile water to reach the people in Mogotio and Eldama Ravine. Actually Chemususu is Mogotio more than Eldama Ravine but I think before this financial year comes to an end, something good will have



happened in Mogotio in terms of water. Eldama Ravine is much better but upper Chemususu has a problem. I have also been working on the Kirandich Water Project.

They are slowly coming in and there will be water provision for the people in the lower side of Baringo Central towards Kabasis, Timboiywo and Sacho and of course this other side of the Kerio Valley in Baringo Central is doing well. Same thing will happen to Baringo North. The Kirdam water will reach Kabartonjo and hopefully be distributed to its environs.

To support all year-round production of food, we need to gear up and invest in a major way to harness our water resources towards facilitating a shift from rain fed agriculture to irrigated, and commercialized farming and I want to thank you Members because you work tirelessly for the election of our President Hon William Samoe Ruto. You remember that during the term that ended, we were supposed to do a dam in Radat for irrigation that will transform the whole of Baringo South.

The water system in river Arabal also we have good money that is coming from Water Services Trust Fund, I think another 65 million so that water can come all the way from River Arabal to this other side of Baringo South for irrigation and water consumption. You will remember that the president also wanted us to set up dams' in Perkei and all those areas. I will work as much as possible together with you Members and also the Members of the National Assembly to realize this irrigation projects that we so want to do in our County.

Our focus on road infrastructure development as a foundation for economic growth is to deliver quality infrastructure, equitably and efficiently. We will resume the improvement of our urban infrastructure by upgrading our town roads to bitumen standards and hopefully in due course we shall roll out the Annual Programme of tarmacking roads in our major towns including Kabarnet, Marigat, Eldama Ravine, Mogotio, Kabartonjo and Chemolingot town.

This is the face of our County and this is where we do business. Let people come and see that at least we have good tarmacked roads in our County so that they can be able to come and invest here.

*(Applause)*

To achieve targets in improving our rural roads to all weather standards, we will make use of already acquired machinery and I want to thank Members of the County Assembly who prioritized this so that our business will be providing fuel and getting professionals to be used. We will of course use this and complement it with contractual works as may be practical and efficient.

Our main focus in this regard is to open access to agricultural areas and institutions such as cooperative societies, social amenities as well as facilities that give own source revenue to the County such as tourist destinations, quarries and rivers. For that reason, I have instructed the people of the ministry of roads to quickly do the road in Lake Bogoria because a tourists are not coming to Lake Bogoria because of a problem of the roads inside there.

When people go in there, they cannot be able to see the wild animals and their vehicles break down. So I have instructed the road department to quickly do the roads inside Lake Bogoria so that we can be able to start generating Revenue that is much needed.

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Hon. Members, skills development is significant in building a strong knowledge economy as the engine to drive our socio-economic growth. In this regard, we will lay emphasis on profiling the skill sets needed by our County and Country's sectors. This will enable us to upgrade our vocational training institutions accordingly, and develop current and dynamic curricular that will match the requirements of the job market.

Building a workforce with a skills capacity to self-employ is one of the surest ways to sustainably address the unprecedented youth unemployment in the County. On this note, we shall see to it that all our Vocational Training Centre's are fully operationalized. As a County, we currently have 14 operational Vocational Training Centre's. There are 7 new Vocational Training Centre's within Baringo that have been built and must start training.

Ladies and gentlemen, if you want our young people to be employed, we must give them skills. I will undertake to go and meet people in industries to tell us what sort of training needs do they require so that we can come and train our youth for market that is expecting them. For example, there is no Vocational Training Centre that is training our people in tile fitting and yet tile fitting is a very rewarding venture. So we will together work towards that end to create employment for our young people who have not gone beyond certain levels.

We shall initiate spirited campaigns towards the enrolment and retention of an optimum number of 5,000 students in our Vocational Training Centre's up from the current nearly 1,200. So 1,200 students and we have very young people who don't have trainings. I urge us Members to play our part as leaders towards our achieving this goal.

Let us market our Vocational Training Centre's. Let us give them bursaries where possible. Let us look for job for them and once they get, that way we are able to move to the next level. We are also very keen on enabling our youth to leverage on ICT in skills as a driver for enterprise development. In this regard, we intend to work with partners to equip and roll out free Wi-Fi in all our Youth Empowerment Centre's in our Sub County headquarters.

This is fundamental because it will give power to our people to take up offshore business and employment opportunities and keep up with global trends of wealth creation. For us to effectively target bright and talented youth for scholarships to enable them pursue skill sets that will guarantee them employment, we need to increase the bursary kitty to match the needs of our people.

So going forward we want to have a budget that will be sufficient to train people in our Youth Empowerment Centre's and Vocational Training Centre's and schools in so doing, we shall be contributing effectively towards breaking the poverty cycles in families and in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, considering the importance of the formative years in human development, we will build more ECD classrooms, equip existing ones and provide additional facilities and services that will cater for all aspects of early childhood development, including school feeding programme. We will try to work with partners to see if we can do something about feeding our children in the ECD Centre's.

As I commit to spearhead efforts to forge partnerships that will enable us to sustainably roll out this feeding programme which is costing some substantial amount of money and can reach 130



million annually, I call this Honorable House to rise to the occasion and support our efforts to champion this noble cause. My administration will champion for the welfare of ECD teachers by improving their terms through progressively implementing the schemes of service as fronted by the Council of Governors and the Teachers' Service Commission.

When we were campaigning, everywhere we went ECD teachers were saying '*mtuongezee mshahara, mtuwekee* scheme of service. Let us talk and see how we can adjust our budget to see what we can do for them. We will sit down together with the Budget Committee in this House and look at what we can be able to raise and do for them.

Mr. Speaker, In the contemporary society, sporting activities play a key role in fostering healthy, cohesive communities as identifying and nurturing talent. We have all witnessed numerous individuals turning various sports into lucrative and life changing career ventures. We must therefore invest in facilities and activities that will enable our youth and the sporting fraternity to nurture, showcase and excel in their different fields. In this regard, we must resume the construction of Kabarnet stadium in earnest.

*(Applause)*

Given the priority of this facility, I have already issued instructions for the clearing of the grounds, repairs to the perimeter fence and erection of a stadium gate. All these initial works will be geared towards making the grounds useable for various activities, even as we prepare to embark on the remaining major works to complete and operationalize it. We will be going out to solicit funds. We have the sports fund which is given by people who do things like Sport Pesa. I will be knocking doors and I want to promise you gentlemen, we will not sit and expect that we are going to grow with the money that we have. I will be talking to people outside this County to see if we can get funds. I have already started talking to Ravine Roses. Is it Karen Rosses?

*(Loud Consultations)*

To support us in the construction of the Stadium in Eldama Ravine. Unfortunately, they cannot come beyond this other side. So Eldama Ravine we will work with roses to do the stadium in Eldama Ravine. All these initial works like I said will be for us to prepare for upgrading our stadia to be same as those others that you see in Kisumu, Kiambu and all over the Country. We will definitely want to have stadiums in every Sub County Headquarters including Mogotio, Marigat, Mochongoi and Chemolingot so that all our people are able to do what the need to make them succeed in sports.

My administration will also prioritize the completion and full operationalization of Athletics Talent Development Centers, which include Sirwa Training Camp in Mogotio, the one in Ossen, Talai Athletics Camp in Baringo Central, Mochongoi Athletics Camp in Baringo South and Metipso Athletics Camps in Eldama Ravine Sub-County. As the County Government, we will also extend support Torongo and Solian Athletics Training Camps.

To further facilitate the identification, unlocking and refining of talent, the County Government will partner with the governing bodies of various sporting disciplines, most notably the FKF, Athletics Kenya, and the Kenya Volleyball Federation in training of at least 30 coaches going forward so that we can be able to improve the standard of sports in this County.



With the ongoing climate change and global warming ladies and gentlemen, my administration will endeavor to manage and conserve our environment and natural resources in a manner that supports sustainable economic growth and development. Vision 2030 requires the country to work towards achieving a forest cover of 10% of land area to ensure sustainable resource use, making tree planting to be an important undertaking which contributes to environmental conservation.

This is very important ladies and gentlemen because our forest in Koibatek, Baringo North and Baringo Central need to be protected because climate change is real. The flooding in Marigat and Lake Baringo is because we have problems upstream and the establishment of check dams upstream is what we would like to do so that we can minimize the speed at which water goes to Lake Baringo causing displacement of persons.

I will champion the process of addressing the actors in climate change so that they can support even people who are displaced by waters in Lake Baringo. If you see the people who are displaced by water in Lake Baringo, the climate change fund must be used to resettle them and provide them with opportunities to earn a living they had before they were displaced by floods.

As we support our residents to ensure we surpass this mark, human activities that are detrimental to the environment for instance, you know cutting of trees must be discouraged. We must collectively find ways to encourage our people to engage in livelihoods alternative to maybe things that destroy our forest such as charcoal burning. Let's go to bee keeping, apiculture and other agriculturally productive activities.

To attain effective Solid Waste Management, the County Government will initiate and sustain clean ups in towns and urban centers. Our towns are not looking very nice. We will lobby the National Government to fast track the ongoing sewerage works for Kabarnet town, as well as that of Eldama Ravine. We shall also try to upgrade Eldama ravine and Marigat towns to Municipality status so that we can be able to get the benefit of the Urban and Slum upgrading schemes funded by the World Bank and other Development partners.

My Government will be at the forefront in supporting the fast tracking of land adjudication and the issuance of titles deeds. You know that this is a very important thing for our people. When people have their title deeds they can do many things. This is informed by the fact that Land is one single most important factor of production and there is therefore need speed up documentation and its efficient management.

I started the process of doing title deeds for Churo during my term and I am happy that some progress was made but unfortunately it was not completed. We also started the process of getting the titles for Mochongoi which were still referred to as forest reserve. We will work together with Members from those areas to ensure that in the not too distant futures, everybody has got a title to his land from that region.

*(Applause)*

I will be reaching out to the Ministry of Lands for a partnership to fast track the adjudication and titling process so as to put more of our landmass under the ownership of our residents. I know that large portion of Baringo South have no titles. A large portion of Baringo North; Barwessa,



Saimo Soi and Bartabwa have no titles. The entire Tiaty or almost the entire Tiaty has no titles. We are equal to any other part of Kenya.

There is no reason that in Baringo County we cannot have titles. That is a process that I will ask you to support by providing the finances when we are doing our budget so that we can be able to make our people be like the others in our nation.

Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I would like to that we have huge potential in tourism. We are blessed to have such captivating terrain, mysterious caves, nature trails, hot springs, wide variety of bird species, unique species of giraffes and crocodiles among many other natural phenomena. We also possess amazing potential in eco-tourism, cultural tourism, sports tourism, safaris, business and even the Rhino Charge, we are always chosen. Safari rallies and very many activities that can attract tourists to our County.

In fact, due to our geographical uniqueness, UNESCO has declared Baringo County or Baringo County is prepared to be as a Geo-park, the first in this Country. This great news that needs to be followed up by enabling policy and legal frameworks to guide our communities towards deriving tangible benefits from this declaration. To directly trigger growth in the tourism sector and subsequently our revenue collections, we will invest in a face-lift on infrastructure and facilities to fully operationalize our tourist attractions. For example, Lake Bogoria National Reserve requires an urgent upgrade on its road infrastructure for it to offer good value to our visitors.

In order to deliver tangible results within reasonable time, we will also invest in effective marketing and partner with National Government, KWS, National Museums, Conservancies and UN agencies to further develop the tourism sector to bring more money to our great County. In this entire process, we will involve the local communities so as to make them beneficiaries and partners in Tourism Development.

Wherever we do a tourism activity and when we for example support Lake Bogoria, the communities there will get a certain percentage of the money there. If we support Lake Kamnarok to become a tourist attraction. The communities around there will get reasonable percentage of the income there. If we do the bird sanctuary and conservancies, the communities there will be beneficiaries to a large extend

Hon. Members, insecurity in our County is still a great challenge that has resisted numerous multi agency approaches and interventions. It is very regrettable that in this time and age, we still have to focus our energy and little resources at ending cattle rustling and banditry. Over the years, this vice has translated to unnecessary loss of hundreds of innocent lives, internally displaced persons, disruption of learning and closure of schools as well as immense loss of property of great monetary value.

As a County, we shall continue to play our part in trying to solve this unfortunate insecurity equation, for example by opening up security roads and trying as much as we can to engineer mindset change to the community still engaged in this backward practice. Whereas Security is a National Government Function, it is clear that if we have insecurity, the County suffers and this affects investment.



We need to work closely with the Security Agencies and I propose that the County Assembly supports the allocation of resources to facilitate the County to achieve this. I know it is not legal for us to put money in security but we will form an Inter- Governmental Relations Committee that can provide interaction between us and the National Government side who are responsible for security so that together we can develop strategies of working together to bring down this insecurity issues but to provide that kind of resources to facilitate discussion on that activity.

The Committee will receive update on progress work done between the two levels of Governments. We want for example this Assembly to be updated on what the National Government is doing on insecurity because we don't have a forum that the Members of the National Government; the Security Committee cannot come and address you, they should come but this is the challenge that we have now, these are the things that we are doing, can you help us in doing ABC, so that we can solve this problem together.

We will therefore be tabling policies and legislative proposals that will set up institutions that will be responsible for mobilizing resources to fund our programmes. The Institutions and I think now this is about fundraising; the institutions will lead to the establishment maybe of a County Micro-finance entity, County Revenue Board also that we can be able to collect revenue in a more organized manner and perhaps and a County Social and Economic Council.

We will be coming with these policies and where possible we will do relevant legislation so that we can be able to go to that direction. We want to set up these institutions so that they play their role in ensuring that the County taps on the best talent that is available. We want to engage our diaspora so that they can also make their contribution in making our County better and stronger. We will also establish a framework that will facilitate effective engagement and consultation with the Private Sector and Non-State Actors in the County. We are proposing to do this because we want to be a facilitatory Government, where people know that they have a place and role in our journey to build the County and shape its future.

Maybe Members, I will also like to tell you that in this 5 years, during our first term we wanted to establish a university. I know that is a National Government function but because of challenges at that time it was not possible. During the next 5 years I do not know whether anything happened in the establishment of a university. We will want to work together between us and the National Government and all the members of the public in Baringo County to try and support the facilitation of establishment of a university in Baringo County.

*(Applause)*

This will not only help us to get our people to access university education but it will be an opportunity to generate a lot of employment to our people. Hon. Members, my administration will establish and implement policies that will promote unity, cohesion, harmony and opportunities for all to thrive. We commit to work closely with the County Assembly, the National Government and the Private Sector, to ensure that policy development and implementation is done in a harmonious manner so that resources are used efficiently for the good of the people.

The journey towards developing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation County Integrated Development Plans has commenced. I appeal to members to take an active role in informing the public to actively



participate in these processes. It is important because with the CIDP, we will have a framework that will be used for planning and budgetary purposes. By the way a good CIDP can enable us to shop and look for extra-budgetary resources to support our development

We will prioritize technology in the delivery of services. We seek the strategic place of digitally delivered services not only that they reduce costs but that they also help in ensuring that we reach more people faster. We will also work to support our young people. They are the future of our County and we will do this by supporting the development of talents; develop spotting facilities and other related services which will be provided by the County Government in collaboration with well-wishers.

We will work to also ensure that we protect our environment from degradation. As you know that Climate Change is a reality. We will also work to facilitate access to credit so that the people can invest in the County. You know that the President has established a ministry of co-operatives that will manage the Hustler fund and for us in this County we must prepare ourselves to be able to welcome this Hustler Fund; the 50 billion that will be coming. Let no other people get that money and not us.

*(Applause)*

We must be ready to welcome that money and support our people to invest in micro and small scale enterprises that will support our people. We will therefore strengthen cooperatives and also partner with stakeholders to deliver this.

Hon. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen; to facilitate the seamless and efficient realization of County projects, I will enhance the capacity of the County Administration. On this note, I would like to request this House to support proposals that we may make towards the construction and completion, as well as equipping our Ward Offices.

Our people in the ward must be the first people to ensure that if there is a project in Loyamorok that we are implementing, they can be able to monitor as quickly as possible. If there is a project in Soibei in Lembus Ward, the people in the Sub County must be there on a daily basis to ensure that they are implemented.

Our weakness previously is because we do a plan, budget, decide the project and then nobody implements. When nobody implements it is as if the County Assembly Members have failed. They have not implemented the projects that they have decided. The wanainchi have said we want to do a project, lets for example say we want to do an apiculture factory and you have assigned the money and our executive is supposed to procure and implement.

If we fail to implement, then they say the MCA *alituambia tutatengeneza* apiculture factory and you have failed and then they will not reelect you. I want to promise you that we will do our bit so that nobody will blame you for not implementing programmes.

*(Applause)*

We will also therefore fill the vacant positions for Administrators who are supposed to do that work for you so that we can be able to finish. I call upon all State Officers, Government Officials, residents and indeed all stakeholders, to work towards exercising prudence,



guaranteeing transparency, accountability and sealing all possible loopholes for corruption and wastage of resources. You know sometimes even our people don't come to work or they come to work on Tuesday and leave on Thursday. That is the reason why we are not implementing projects. If you are not coming to work on Monday and Friday, how many days are you stealing? In a month you are stealing 8 days. If your salary is 1,000 shilling per day, you are stealing 8,000. If it is 5,000 a day, you are stealing 40,000. Even not coming to work is stealing and there is no point us paying people. Our wage bill speaks.

We cannot pay people when they are not working. I promise you that we will initiate a Performance Management System that will monitor and ensure that our people are working to produce for the people that you represent. I appeal to you as my fellow leaders that we work together to serve our County people better. I am committed to provide leadership in the County's Governance as provided by the devolved system to ensure that Baringo continues to and develop. Let me also ask you, when you see our people not working please alert the Governor so that we can weep them and make sure that they work for you because this people are supposed to deliver for our people and when they deliver for our people you succeed, I succeed and they succeed and the *Wananchii* also succeed.

As your partner, let's consult the people more as we make our contribution to the growth of Democracy, Good Governance, Unity and Cohesion within the County. There will be challenges in our journey ahead but I assure you that we have what it takes to overcome them. Yes, our economy is rock bottom. The entire economy of the Nation. Our budget is not sustainable. The president has said that he would like Kenyans to save more than 300 billion shillings every year. Prudence in management of our resources.

We in the County must prioritize saving so that we can be able to do the projects that we intend. We must use our money wisely and prudently and I will undertake to do that. We have a great opportunity to shape a great and better future for our people.

As your Governor, I will provide leadership in ensuring that our administration upholds the Principles of Public Finance Management Act, 2012; necessary austerity measures in guiding resource use, allocation and the general management of public affairs. I urge this House to support our efforts to bring change to Baringo County. May we all work hard and embrace unity of purpose as the driver of our County's development.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude I would like to strongly request this House that when the time comes, you move with speed in approving the County Executive Committee Members and other state officers who will be appointed in a short while. This will go a long way in effecting a speedy transition and avoiding delay in the process of implementing our actual development and delivering services to our citizens.

With the Lord's grace upon us, with prayers from the church and ourselves being a prayerful County, we can achieve what we so desire and what we desire is better quality of life for our citizens where nobody will go without food. Where nobody will struggle to pay school fees, where nobody will find it difficult to get health services, where everybody will feel happy and be proud to be a member of Baringo County.



Thank you, God Bless You All, God Bless Baringo County, God Bless Kenya, Thank you very much.

*(Applause)*

And I will also promise you that if there is any welfare issue that must be done for the benefit of the Assembly Members, we will do it together, thank you very much.

*(Applause)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Kemboi): Next order!

*(Loud Consultations)*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Speaker** (Hon. Kemboi): Order Members! Your Excellency the Governor and Hon. Members, we have come to the end of the business of the day. Your Excellency the Governor and Hon. Members, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you and our invited guests for a photo session at the main entrance of the County Assembly and thereafter to a Speakers cocktail at the County Assembly restaurant.

Hon. Members, Pursuant to Standing Order 21, you are kindly requested to remain standing in silence in your places until the procession of H.E the Governor and the Members of the Clergy leave the Chamber, order Members. Hon. Members, Pursuant to Standing Order 19(2), the Assembly stands adjourned until Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 9:30 A.M.

The House rose at 4:18PM.