

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 26th September, 2018

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*The House met at Uasin Gishu County Assembly
Chamber, Eldoret, at 2.30 p.m.*

[The Speaker (Hon. Lusaka) in the Chair]

PRAYER

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ride on that Statement, if it is okay.

I would like to also get more information. I think the Standing Committee to which this Statement will be committed needs to look at how county governments can work. This is because many farmers depend on livestock. When they sell their livestock, they are not paid, and this kills the economy. This is an economic issue that does not affect only the Maasai people, but the entire pastoralists, who take their livestock to the Kenya Meat Commission.

There is no reason a state corporation should be going down like that. It is proper that the Statement should contain details about the management and how they are managing the Commission's resources, since that meat is not stocked there but sold.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Kindiki): Very well.

Sen. Olekina.

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to support this Motion. It is imperative that we promote and nurture talent. I grew up in the USA and when I went to college---

(Sen. Moi consulted loudly)

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Kindiki): Order, Sen. Moi! You have had your chance.

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I when I was in college, I used to play basketball. It is because of sports that I got a scholarship.

In this country, we seem to be punishing our athletes. I am saying this because the Senate exists to defend the interests of counties. County governments should take a key

role in supporting the athletes. We have the likes of Eliud Kipchoge, whom I congratulate and commend for having done us proud. We also have people like Elijah Manangoi and young men like Kinyamal from Trans-Mara who run 800 metres.

We went to the Gold Coast to learn how to improve sports in our country. It behooves us, as leaders, to come up with legislation that will mandate county governments to improve sports facilities and the welfare of these young men and women. This is because there is no point as to why young men like Kinyamal or Elijah Manangoi would leave Narok and go to Eldoret, so as to get a place to train because there are no fields. Another sporting activity is boxing.

There is a lot of idleness in this country because of lack of employment. Once we have the sports facilities and developed camps, it will help our youth and give them an opportunity to change their lives. One of the things that worry me is that these young men and women do not even have financial management skills. If you are making a lot of money, you should be taught how to manage those resources. Athletics should not be like betting, where somebody wins US\$1 million and afterwards we read that they are using a *matatu*. They have to be taught and the only way to ensure responsibility is by developing a legislation that supports the athletes.

We need to tax them and, by doing so, we will be developing a pensions scheme for them. It is a bit hypocritical when we talk of developing a pension scheme, yet they make money and use it without saving for the future. We have the same problem worldwide when it comes to the issue of our military. We use them to protect us, but when they retire, we do not support them.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Kindiki): You time is up.

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Kindiki): Thank you. Let us now have Sen. (Prof.) Kamar.

(Sen. Olekina spoke off record)

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Kindiki): Sen. Olekina, have you heard the direction which the Chair has given?

Sen. Olekina: Yes, I have heard.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Kindiki): I am, therefore, sure that you do not want to interfere with what has already been decided.

Proceed, Sen. Shiyonga.