

# PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

## THE SENATE

## THE HANSARD

**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2019**

*Twelfth Parliament - Third Session - First Sitting*

*The House met at the Senate Chamber,  
Parliament Buildings, at 2.30 p.m.*

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

### PRAYER

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

*(Sen. Cheruiyot's microphone went off)*

**Sen. Olekina:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I support your Communication. This is a very interesting year for us because there will be many discussions concerning changes in our Constitution. As my colleagues have said, it is important for us to remind us of our responsibility as a Senate in this country.

During the last Session, we deliberated on various issues that touched on common mwananchi. One of them, and which is dear to me, is on the price of maize in this country. Over the weekend, I travelled to Kitale. I visited a gentleman by the name of Mr. Silas who had two big storage facilities with over 20,000 bags of maize, but no market for them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, over the weekend, I travelled to Trans Mara in Narok County where farmers are crying that the price of sugar cane has dropped because of a surplus of imported illegal sugar in the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that the Senate is the only one which will bring sanity to these two industries; the maize and sugar importation. It behooves us to come up with policies and look at the existing legislations that encourage the mopping-up of what our farmers can grow before any maize or sugar is imported into the country. I hope that The Warehouse Receipt System Bill that we passed will come in handy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to encourage all my colleagues that it is now time for us to fight corruption.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1968, the Government pledged to deal with corruption and it is still pledging. Therefore, the only way we can do this is to back it up with proper legislation. There is no reason as to why any legislation should be discriminatory. If a State or public officer is charged with any economic crime, they should step aside so that this country can begin to believe that we really mean what we say.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently, a constituent from Narok County died in one of the local hospitals and just because he was in a private hospital, the maximum amount of money that National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) could pay for the deceased person was only Kshs500,000 after I intervened. Therefore, it is necessary for us to relook at all these legislations so that we can continue to support our citizens.