

# PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

## THE SENATE

## THE HANSARD

Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

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

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

### PRAYER

Sen. Olekina, nafasi ni yako.

**Sen. Olekina:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to support this Statement by my dear sister, Sen. Seneta. I am a farmer and it is not only meat that is not being kept in a proper way, but all vegetables. If you buy bananas from big supermarkets, they ripen within a day. They are brought in when green, a chemical is put and when you go in, there are beautiful yellow bananas. It is the same thing for vegetables.

It is about time that we ask ourselves what we can do to ensure all of us take responsibility. It is not only about the farmer or the shops and butcheries, but also Government officials who are tasked with the responsibility of ensuring standards. I would like the Committee which you will task with carrying out more investigations into this matter, to follow the entire channel from the farm.

If you drive to Narok County on a daily basis, at 3.00 a.m., you will find pick-ups transporting meat all the way from Narok County to Nairobi City County. The moment you transport that meat from Narok County to Nairobi City County, already you have sort of put it in a condition where it is not safe for human consumption. We ought to look into the issue of bacteria. In the end, it might be helpful for us if standards are clearly defined.

When you go to buy meat in the United States of America (USA), for example, you will know from which farm that meat has come from. You can then follow through, so that when you consume the meat and suffer food poisoning, you know who to prosecute. Those are the standards that we must develop.

Finally, this is the problem that I think the Committee ought to look into. When you take meat from a freezer and put it into a fridge, you affect the stability of the good bacteria. This Committee ought to follow through to ensure that all butcheries have a standard system of freezing and ensuring constant and stable electricity. Electricity in this country is unstable.

Thank you.

Sen. Olekina, you can welcome the student and proceed to make your remarks on the Statement

**Sen. Olekina:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the onset, I welcome the students from Narok County. While they are here, they should think about tomorrow. I would like to encourage the students to conserve the environment. I will give them my phone number so that when they plant trees at their school, they should call me to come see the trees and support them. I am sure they know how dry Narok County is. However, when we plant more trees, it will help us. One day when I am old and walking using the support of a walking stick, I will be watching the students who are future leaders debate in here. I urge them to aspire to greater things. I hope that I can see them before they leave.

*(Resumption of debate on Statement)*

I also rise to contribute to the Statement by Sen. Dullo on the issue of Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS). I am one of the people who believe that the IFMIS is not bad. What is bad is that we are not at the same level in terms of technology capacity in the country. One of the most important things that the Committee needs to look at while dealing with this issue is whether the single payment system that the National Treasury is forcing us to use, how is it interconnected with the IFMIS. In most cases, when the IFMIS is down, it is because there is no money to pay people. We need to agree that it is time to have an IFMIS system for county governments and another system for the national Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the biggest problem that we have observed is that a lot of the counties are over budgeting yet they do not have the money. As we condemn the IFMIS, we have to look into what we can do to ensure that county government's budget only within the amount of money that they have. The issue of supplementary budgets that bypass IFMIS is what is causing the problems that we are having with the system.

As the Committee will be looking into this issue I hope that we will be realistic and accept the fact that a lot of cartels do not want the IFMIS to work. They do not want the system to work because they want to bypass those steps where by you can input a zero and with technology you can add another zero so that instead of being paid Kshs2,000 you are paid Kshs20,000. These are realities that we must accept and make sure that whatever solutions we are looking for are things that will help this country go forward and not those that will continue oiling the paths of the cartels.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you.