

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 31st July, 2019

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

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

PRAYER

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM ESTONIA

The Speaker (Hon. Lusaka): Hon. Senators, I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon, of a visiting delegation from Estonia.

Members, the visiting delegation is in the country to learn more about our country, and explore opportunities for enhancing bicameral relations between our two countries.

I request each member of the delegation to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition. They are:

- (1) Hon. Priit Sibul, MP;
- (2) H.E Kadri Human Ayal - Honorary Consul of Estonia in Kenya
- (3) Rev. Toomas Nigola; and
- (4) Mrs. Teele Nigola.

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I welcome them to the Senate and I wish them well for the remainder of their stay.

I thank you.

VISITING DELEGATION FROM NABISWA FRIENDS SECONDARY SCHOOL, BUNGOMA COUNTY

Hon. Senators, I would also like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting students and teachers from Nabiswa Friends Secondary School, Bungoma County.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

VISITING DELEGATION FROM ST. JOHN'S KARIMA
SCHOOL, BUNGOMA COUNTY

Hon. Senators, I would also like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting students and teachers from St. John's Karima Secondary School, Bungoma County.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

VISITING DELEGATION FROM STATE HOUSE PRIMARY
SCHOOL, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY

I would also like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting students and teachers from State House Primary School, Nairobi City County.

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them. On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.

(Applause)

Sen. Halake: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome the delegation from Estonia led by the Honorary Consul, who is a good friend of the Committee on Information, Communication and Technology. She has supported our Committee while processing the Data Protection Bill (Senate Bills No. 16 of 2018).

Estonia has one of the best data protection laws. We are happy that they are here. My Committee would also like to visit Estonia one of these days. I therefore take this opportunity to welcome the delegation to the Senate and thank them for sharing information with us that has made the Data Protection Bill (Senate Bills No. 16 of 2018) more robust.

I look forward to the Bill being passed by the National Assembly. Even though there is a parallel Bill to The Data Protection Bill (Senate Bills No. 16 of 2018), it has had an input from one of the countries with the best data protection legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also welcome the students here. I know that they are from many schools, so I take this opportunity to tell them that learning is not just from books. We also learn from exposure. I am happy that they are here to see their legislators doing the work of legislation, oversight and representation. I urge the students to work hard in school and look at Parliament as a place that they can aspire to be.

I thank you.

Sen. Shiyonga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join you in welcoming the delegation from Estonia. I am happy that they are here to explore opportunities for enhancing bicameral relations between our two countries.

I also welcome the students from the two schools from Bungoma County and the State House Primary School in Nairobi City County. Bungoma neighbours Kakamega

County. Therefore, the students here are our children. I welcome them to the Senate where they can learn more.

Sen. Wetangula: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join you in welcoming the delegation from Estonia to the 'Upper House' of Kenya.

Equally, I also receive and welcome the two schools from my county of Bungoma where you, the Speaker, also come from. Our county is lucky to be represented by the two of us here.

I also welcome the students from Nairobi City County which is represented by my nephew. Nairobi City County is where the Senate is domiciled and where we all live.

I encourage the students that visiting the Senate is an act of privilege to see how the 'Upper House' of this country works. In this House, debate is guided by reason and not emotion. This is a House where we defend and protect counties, their governments and interest is paramount.

I am very proud of the two schools from Bungoma County. I am happy that they are doing a good job in moulding students that will become leaders of tomorrow. I am sure that the students will note that we have a galaxy of successful women and men debaters. This House is constituted by both the young and old. This House gives you a big mix of the experiences that you require when you go back to prepare for leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I urge the students from both Nairobi and Bungoma counties to maintain discipline, work hard, be successful in exams, choose their careers carefully so that they do not finish school and walk the streets of these towns of Kenya looking for jobs. We want them to finish school and be job creators and not job seekers.

I thank you.

Sen. Poghio: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join you and colleagues in welcoming the delegation from Estonia.

As Sen. Halake stated, this delegation is a friend of our Committee. We appreciate the extent of their advancement in the ICT world. We appreciate that we can learn something from Estonia.

I would like to welcome the students from Nairobi and Bungoma counties. I would like to tell them that all the corners of this country are represented and protected here. When they sharpen their skills in literature and debating, they might find themselves here one day. I urge them to do their best and sharpen their talents. Leadership will one day come out of the talents that they possess. I hope that whatever they learn here today stays with them to the day that they might become leaders to represent all the corners of Kenya in this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope that they will take with them the good memories of the Senate.

I thank you.

Sen. Olekina: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome my good friends, the delegation from Estonia. I hope that they will have a great time in Kenya. Estonia is a very small country but they are leading in technology. Estonia has the solution to all the issues that we have been talking about controlling own source revenue.

In Estonia, every building is numbered. If there is a building that generates a lot of income, the county government is able to compute every single cent. We can learn a lot from them. I am happy that the Committee on ICT will visit Estonia so that they can

learn from them. I spent my Christmas Holiday in Estonia, and I was very happy to be hosted by Rev. Toomas Nigola and his wife.

My advice to the children from Bungoma and Nairobi counties is that we dreamt so high for us to represent the people of Kenya. In future, unless we focus in protecting our environment, we may not even be able to come here. Yesterday, we talked about the causes of cancer. Some of the carcinogenic are brought about by the pollution in our environment. I therefore encourage them to plant trees when they go back to their schools. When they graduate and can count all the trees that they have planted, I will pay for their university education.