

# THE HANSARD

*Thursday 21st March, 2024*

*Assembly Building*

*The Assembly met at 2.30 p.m*

*[The Temporary Speaker (Hon.Abdirashid Diba ) in the Chair]*

## PRAYER

## QUORUM

**Hon. Temporary Speaker:** Standing Order No. 32 Sergeant at Arm can you ring quorum bell for five minutes.

*(Quorum bell rang for five minutes)*

*( Quorum attained)*

## MOTION

### FISH FARMING WITHIN THE COUNTY

*(Hon. Francisco Letimalo)*

**Hon. Francisco Letimalo** (Nominated): That Aware that, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries is a devolved function of the County Governments according to the fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010;

Further Aware that pisciculture is increasingly playing a vital role in creation of employment and livelihoods within the county;

Appreciating that, the County Executive has made efforts in the development of fish farming particularly by engaging youth and women groups;

Further appreciating that, some County residents have engaged in Fish Farming as an alternative form of livelihood to animal husbandry as part of food security and drought resilience;

Concerned that, majority of the pastoral communities have limited know how and access to information on modern fish farming practices;

Further concerned that, the County executive had not prioritized fish farming in their strategic priorities;

Therefore, this House resolves that the County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Special Programme enhances the promotion of Fish Farming within the county by;

- a) Constructing modern fish farming structures or renovates the existing ones;
- b) Carry out community sensitization on modern fish farming practices;
- c) Sourcing for market for fish farmers;

*(Question Proposed)*

**Hon. Kamila Warsame** (Nominated): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I stand to second the Motion. Mr. Speaker Sir as much as I stand to second the Motion, I want to put across that I am also Member to the Committee of the concerned department. As I highlighted in the concern, the majority of pastoral communities have limited know how an access to the information on modern farming practices. Mr. Speaker Sir we appreciate some of the individuals in our Counties who have engaged in this fish farming. We had a visit to various places Mr. Speaker Sir as a Committee and we appreciate the women groups we have engaged especially the communities from Cherab, those who have tried to practice this fish farming Mr. Speaker Sir, and from the recent flood as each and every Member in this House are aware that most of the ponds have been destructed and Mr. Speaker Sir, from the CFSP scrutiny we have done, I think the department of fishery have zero percent absorption and we are wondering why is it that the allocation made to those groups or department have zero absorption. Mr. Speaker Sir, since these are the dockets that needs to be emphasized. Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to put across that our youths are lacking jobs and by creating these opportunities, it will be used to

disengage them from various drug abuses when opportunities are given. Mr. Speaker Sir, I am talking from a point of concern this department should be taken seriously as a way of giving opportunities to our youth and to our women in their businesses and also to disengage them from various drug and substance abuses and also human trafficking. Mr. Speaker Sir, we are in the process of making a consultative meeting with our department and I take this opportunity to give promises to the community and to the House at large that we shall address these issues of concern so that the department will be taken seriously. We will be having consultative meeting tomorrow and we appreciate it. Before I sit down Mr. Speaker Sir, I appreciate this Government of ours by allocating the Chief Officer for this department, it is not like before when they were neglected. They have the Chief Officer, and their allocation. I know you are the head of Budget Committee Mr. Speaker Sir you should consider this as an important matter, so that the money allocated for this department will not be reallocated. With those few remarks I beg to sit down Mr. Speaker Sir. Thank you.

**Hon. Salesio Kiambi** (Wabera): Ahsante sana Mheshimiwa Spika kwa kunikubalia nichangie mjadala huu mzuri sana kwa jamii yetu ya Isiolo. Kwanza, kama vile Mheshimiwa Kamila amesema, kuna sehemu mingi ambazo zilikuwa zikiendelea na mambo ya uvuvi zimeharibika kama hii moja iko hapa Marile; siku moja tulitembea hapo, tukaona hata ukitaka samaki moja huwezi pata kwa sababu maji iliharibika hakuna urekebishaji imefanywa. Kwa hivyo kama vile Mheshimiwa Kamila amesema Mkurugenzi wa sekta ya uvuvi anafaa aweke pesa kwa hiyo Waziri ili iweze kutengeneza hiyo maneno kwa sababu kama kuna jamii wanafanya hiyo kazi ya kuchunga hiyo uvuvi wanafaa wasaidike watafutwe bei itafutwe ili waweze kufaidika kwa hiyo kazi wanayoifanya. Kwa hivyo kwa hayo machache ahsante sana.

**Hon. Temporary Speaker:** Having no any other Member, I now call upon the Mover to make his remark or statement.

**Hon. Francisco Letimalo** (Nominated): Thank you Honorable Speaker. I think fish farming is very important for our communities and especially the pastoral community. It is a new project to them and most of them are still resisting the project, Samburus especially have not yet accepted fish farming as a project and up to now they don't eat fish. It would have been very good if the Ministry could put a

lot of emphasis on sensitization, education especially Samburu and Turkana to accept fish farming as an alternative source of income and livelihood. I think Turkana somehow have accepted, few of them but totally Samburu is hundred percent even those who have gone to school, eating fish is still a problem. There is a lot of fish in Waso River and Samburu boarder especially the Oldonyiro one, they are actually at the border, Waso Nyiro is actually very close. They would have rescued their animals instead of selling them every market day like in Oldonyiro there are so many market and they sell their animals all the time. They sell their goats, camels and cows. If they would have accepted fish farming, they would have an alternative source of income that they can go sell fish in those markets, and also eat fish. In the process they rescue their goats, camel because fish has meat also and as such they will not buy fish in those areas if at all you have accepted it you will just go fishing in Waso river. That could be a very good source, it is free and you could make a lot of income. Mine is to the Ministry to ensure that they have their personnel on the ground who are able to actually pass that information to the local community. I am very happy for the Borana communities who have actually taken issue of fish as an alternative source. Like in Merti they have really taken it, the Merti communities have actually accepted the farming and when the Ministry in that department used to work, we have been seeing Lorries bringing fish from Merti and selling them in Isiolo; that is very good and fantastic but recently it is dying off i don't know why. So, we are asking the Ministry through the Committee of Agriculture to ensure that they revive the fish farming. What I am seeing there is that the department lack personnel; actually, there are no personnel, the few ones who were there actually retired. They only have one or two, maybe the best thing for the Ministry now, am actually informing this to the Committee is that maybe to give some more years to those who retired, because I know a Samburu guy who used to be here and he is called Lechingia who has retired and he is a fisheries officer, he is not actually a scout because what am told is that the people here have decided to take scouts instead of the guys who have the knowledge who can pass that information. So mine is to request the Committee to inform the concerned person in the department to bring back those guys who are retired so that they could continue giving them another contract maybe of five to whatever years, then that could strengthen the department by actually having the personnel who are knowledgeable, then they could pass this information to the concerned communities instead of going away causing the

whole thing to die, which is terrible. In that department there is a lot of empathy and I think the Committee should meet like tomorrow God willing and have the concerned people we ask them such questions to ensure that the department does not die. Otherwise thank you Mr. Speaker that's all what I have and I hope the department does not die. Thank you so much.

**Hon. Temporary Speaker:** Hon. Members, I now put a question; That Aware that, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries is a devolved function of the County Governments according to the fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010;

Further Aware that pisciculture is increasingly playing a vital role in creation of employment and livelihoods within the county;

Appreciating that, the County Executive has made efforts in the development of fish farming particularly by engaging youth and women groups;

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- b) Carry out community sensitization on modern fish farming practices;
- c) Sourcing for market for fish farmers;

*(Question Put and Agreed to)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Hon. Temporary Speaker:** The House stands adjourned until Tuesday 26th March, 2024 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.23 p.m.