

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 10th July, 2013

*The Senate met at the Kenyatta International
Conference Centre at 9.00 a.m.*

[The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL AT COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Order! Hon. Senators, we need to determine if we have a quorum.

*(The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura) consulted
the Clerk-at-the-Table)*

I am informed that we do not have a quorum. I order that the Division Bell be rung.

(The Division Bell was rung)

Hon. Senators, we now have a quorum. Let us proceed with this morning's business.

NOTICE OF MOTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON HARAMBEE CONTRIBUTIONS

Sen. Kanainza: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of Sen. (Prof.) Anyang'-Nyong'o, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:-

THAT, given the role that Harambee (voluntary contributions) has played in the development of our nation since Independence; aware that the original intentions of Harambee have been adulterated over time through corruption, deceit, bribery and misuse of funds raised; recognizing that elected leaders are those most affected by Harambee invitations,

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thereby bearing the maximum burden of voluntary contributions for development; noting that these elected leaders pay tax like all other Kenyans; this House resolves to establish a Select Committee to prepare a Bill that will:-

(a) Determine criteria that will qualify projects for which Harambee contributions can be made;

(b) Establish procedures for ensuring that Harambee contributions are tax deductible; and

(c) Provide clear directives on accounting for Harambee collections and reporting in the use of which such collections are made; and to report to the Senate in three months time and that the Committee will comprise the following members:-

1. Sen. (Prof.) Anyang'-Nyong'o
2. Sen. Elizabeth Ongoro
3. Sen. G.G. Kariuki
4. Sen. Daisy Kanainza Nyongesa
5. Sen. Peter Mositet
6. Sen. Janet Ong'era
7. Sen. Hassan Omar Hassan

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Thank you, Sen. Kanainza. Let us move on to the next Order.

MOTIONS

RESTORATION OF KENYA'S COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH EXPANSION AND MODERNIZATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE

KUWA, ikitambulika kwamba mojawapo ya nguzo muhimu ya uchumi wa Kenya ni utoaji wa huduma za usafiri wa bahari; ikieleweka kuwa mataifa mengi hulazimika kutegemea bandari ya Mombasa ambayo hutoa huduma duni kutokana na kusambaratika kwa muundo msingi wa barabara na reli; ikitambulika kuwa mataifa husika kadhaa yanatafuta njia mbadala za kusafirisha bidhaa za nchi zao; ikizingatiwa kuwa huduma za reli zimedorora na kupelekea msongomano wa magari katika barabara zetu na kusababisha uharibifu wa barabara na ongezeko la ajali barabarani; bunge la Seneti linaihimiza Serikali ya kitaifa kuhakikisha kuwa taifa hili linaafikia ushindani wake kiuchumi kwa kuvipa kipao mbele upanuzi na uboreshaji wa bandari ya Mombasa, ujenzi wa reli inayotoka Mombasa hadi Uganda na ujenzi wa mradi wa LAPSSSET.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Kwa Hoja ya nidhamu, Bw. Naibu Spika.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): What is it, Sen.(Dr.) Khalwale?

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Bw. Naibu Spika, jana Hoja hii ilikuwa katika orodha ya mpangilio wa shughuli za Bunge hili. Ilikuwa imechapishwa kwa lugha ya kiingereza.

Nilikuwa nimesimama nikiomba kwamba Bunge letu la Seneti lifikirie iwapo tunaweza endelea na Hoja hii.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Order, Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale! You can only make those comments after the Motion has been moved.

Do I also have to speak in Kiswahili language?

(Laughter)

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Bw Naibu Spika, ni kwa sababu nimeona Hoja hii imeorodheshwa katika lugha ya Kiswahili.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Hiyo ni sawa. Lakini mimi naweza zungumza kwa lugha ya Kiingereza, sivyo?

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Bw. Naibu Spika, ungependa nizungumze kwa lugha ya Kiingereza?

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Ukipenda.

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: I can use both languages.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): You can contribute in English language, it does not have to be in Kiswahili language. But I am saying the Motion has not yet been moved. Do you not think we should allow the Motion to be moved so that we can discuss it?

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Bw. Naibu Spika, that is the procedure. *Lakini wasi wasi wangu ni kwamba* how then do you move from there?

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Which language do you want to use?

Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale: Bw. Naibu Spika, wasi wasi wangu ni kwamba tukiruhusu Hoja hii ipendekezwe na Seneta Mbura, itakuwa ni kinyume. Hii ni Hoja ambayo imepitwa na wakati. Vile unaona Seneta Mbura anataka Bunge la Seneti---

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale, with a lot of respect, you had raised that matter yesterday. I stopped it because the Motion had not been moved. We need to have the Motion moved then if you wish to bring a preliminary objection; you can do so after that. At the moment, the Motion is not the property of the House. That is how I would like to look at it at the moment. Do you agree that we should proceed that way? Having said that, it appears that the Mover of the Motion is not here.

*(The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura) consulted
the Clerk-at-the-Table)*

Hon. Senators, since the Mover of the Motion is not here, if we proceed under the relevant Standing Order, I will drop the Motion. So, Sen. (Dr.) Khalwale you cannot proceed to put a preliminary objection to it. That is it as pertains to this Motion.

(Motion dropped)

So, we cannot proceed to put an objection to it because she is not here. Going by the relevant Standing Orders, I will call the next Order on the Order Paper. That is it as pertains to this Motion.

Next Order.

ESTABLISHMENT OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE FREE
ZONES IN ASAL AREAS

Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT, aware that Kenyans living in counties in arid areas such as West Pokot, Turkana, Baringo, Samburu, Garissa, Mandera, among others, are pastoralists who depend on livestock for their livelihood; concerned that over the years, pastoralist communities have continued to suffer loss of their animals due to diseases that are preventable; cognizant of the fact that efforts by past Governments to address the problem have not yielded desirable results; the Senate urges the National Government to urgently put in place an effective policy to create livestock disease free zones in the counties in pastoralist areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for a long time, the pastoralists have suffered as a result of lack of effective policy being in place to safeguard their livelihoods. Over 60 per cent of all livestock found in Kenya are in the counties in the pastoralist zones. I am talking about Kenya Disease Free Zoning Programme that is required to safeguard this economic activity that these Kenyans engage in. You will note that it is only livestock farming that can be done in these areas unless we introduce irrigation that we were talking about the other day. The disease free zoning, if implemented, will be able to facilitate access of our livestock and livestock products in the local market, regional and international markets. This is because there are some sensitive diseases that can affect the market. Some of these interventions are meant to eradicate some of the dreaded sensitive diseases that affect our livestock. We need to upgrade livestock breeds and sustainability of suitable range lands and development of livestock farming policies that may be required. This disease free zoning, if implemented will uplift and move the counties to guarantee markets for their animals. I know that some strategies have been put in place over a period of time, but they have never been sustained.

(Loud consultations)

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Gentlemen at the front, please, you can continue to consult, but do it, in low tones, noting that the Senator is moving his Motion.

Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. You will also note that the livestock industry in Kenya plays a very crucial role in contributing to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to the tune of 10 per cent. If we do not sustain this and if we do not put measures such as the one I have mentioned, that is, the Kenya Disease Free

Zones, we will be affected because even the food security that we talk about will not be guaranteed, rural incomes in these counties will be affected and more importantly, we will lose foreign exchange. We also know that 50 per cent of the entire workforce in the agricultural sector is found in the livestock industry. We also note that 80 per cent of the people in Kenya depend on the produce from the agricultural sector. As a result of not eliminating this stubborn diseases that have been around for a long time, Kenya loses not less than Kshs22 billion every year. I know that there are so many countries that have a demand for livestock products. Such countries are waiting for compliance with the international standard in animal health and food safety as mentioned and driven by World Trade Organisation (WTO) and also World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). If we address these problems, especially the diseases that affect animals by introducing disease free zones, countries such as Israel will increase their demand for Kenyan meat. Other counties include Egypt, Malaysia, Qatar, Iran, United Arab Emirates, Uganda and South Africa, among others. This is a huge market and if this programme is implemented, we will achieve full compliance; then we can guarantee that 75 per cent of Kenyan population will have their living standards uplifted through food and jobs. We may also be able to address the eradication of diseases that have been around for a long time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these measures that will be introduced by this programme will include disease surveillance in domestic and wild animals. It will also bring mass vaccinations of all livestock, diagnostic, residue monitoring and product inspection and certification of the same. If we implement this programme, it will take about five to six years to contain these diseases and our livestock products can be attractive like any other in the market. The result that will be seen will be unbelievable.

Today we have notorious diseases in the counties mentioned such as lumpy skin disease, rift valley fever, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, sheep pox and goat pox, tuberculosis, among other preventable diseases. These diseases have been around for the last 50 years. Some of these diseases had been eliminated earlier prior to Independence, but have since come back. Disease Free Zoning is a guarantee that is going to assist and block some of these diseases.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Vision 2030 envisages that from 2008 when it was launched to 2018, seven regions were identified and zoned to be the first areas to be addressed. Some of them are in the coastal zone. These include Taita Taveta, Kwale, Kilifi and Malindi counties. There are other zones like Lakikipia, Isiolo, the larger Tana River, the South Rift and Central Kenya. Some of the areas where a large population of livestock is found in Kenya is not mentioned and even then, no single programme has been put in place six years later since the Vision 2030 was launched.

Where I come from, West Pokot County, it is rich in livestock. We have over 700,000 head of cattle, 600,000 goats, 500,000 sheep, 7,000 camels and so on. I want to compare this with the coastal zone. They only have 600,000 head of cattle in five counties as compared to one county; 400,000 goats in five counties as compared to 600,000 goats in one county. The point I am driving at here is that we are putting our priorities upside down. We should be able to put these policies in place and take them to the right source and protect them. You do not go to protect a place where there are no

livestock in the hope that when livestock comes from pastoralist region on their way to the market, you will go and save them there. That is not a solution.

If you can also recall, about four years ago, we had a problem at Athi River when animals which were being taken for slaughter to the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) died at the slaughter point. What was the motive and the reason behind bringing sick animals to the slaughter house instead of treating them at source? This is the point I am driving at here. The people in these counties are of the view that we need to put our priorities right. These are people who naturally have their own form of employment where one becomes a herdsman naturally. If their animals are all right then nobody will have to feed them. Initially, we used to hear about holding grounds in most of those counties. The land was dished out to the landless people. The holding grounds were points where livestock breeders and traders would keep their animals on the way to the market and the Government could easily contain some of the diseases that may have been brought from far and wide.

It is time that this Senate addresses such issues and put some of these things on the right path. That is why this House was created. Some of the things that we have been generating policies over, but we have not implemented should now be implemented. There are some groups that will benefit substantially if this programme comes into effect. These are livestock owners. These are pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, some dairy farmers, livestock transporters, associated operators and chambers of commerce, public and private sector animal health service providers and community based organizations that are engaged in the sub-sector. It has a lot of merit and substantial benefits to the communities and to this country.

The budget of the Ministry of Agriculture talks about implementing the first three disease free zones. I want to know what their priority is. If it is going with the Vision 2030, then our priorities are still upside down. I would propose that we change direction and take these funds from the national Government to the county governments where these animals are found. Today if we stop taking livestock to our neighbouring counties like Bungoma and Trans Nzoia, people will complain. So I expect that if there were any funds that were supposed to be taken for disease-free zoning like in Bungoma, Trans Nzoia and Uasin Gishu, we should start with the counties where the animals come from. Every week on Fridays and Saturdays, lorries come to Dagoretti with animals for sale from the same counties that I have talked about. It is my plea that we introduce this disease free zoning, which I am told Kenya, was the first one to come up with a policy, but Botswana came and copied us and implemented it. Today, they are number one in production of meat and meat products which they supply all over the world.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I know we have the Animal Disease Act, Cap.367 of the laws of Kenya, but not much benefits have been accrued from this. If you remember from 1989 to date, very little investment has been put in the livestock sector. Veterinary officers have not been employed for a very long time. The few who were there, have since retired. Livestock extension officers have also not been employed. While introducing this Motion, I expect the Government to put in place measures alongside the county governments. I know the Constitution talks about transferring functions of animal breeding to the county governments, but the funding for the Kenya disease free zoning is

still with the national Government. How can they employ when they do not have funds? So, I expected that if we have to deal with this problem head on, we need to employ livestock extension officers that can be stationed in the counties where the animals are bred.

There was a ban 60 years ago on livestock trade between Kenya and Uganda. Up to now, it has not been unbanned and yet, we can do a lot of business with Uganda. If the Government does not take charge and trade in livestock, some of these petty problems like cattle rustling and so on will continue to be rampant in some areas because we have not been able to control this. We need this sector to generate more money towards our GDP and there is no other time to do it than now. Counties in the North Rift and North Eastern parts of the country need to be given the attention they deserve because this is their livelihood.

I beg to move and ask Sen. Hargura to second.

Sen. Hargura: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the opportunity to second this Motion. I would like to appeal to Senators to support this Motion because it is very important to some parts of this country, especially the arid and semi arid areas which comprises two thirds of this country and more than a quarter of the population.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what we have is a situation where people have been left to run their lives at their own whims without any policy framework support from the Government. We know very well that before and after Independence, this country was divided into high and low potential areas. We know the Sessional Paper which was referred to yesterday was biased towards the so-called high potential areas. That is where agriculture is well developed. This is because they have good infrastructure when it comes to the roads. I am biased towards the roads because that is what I know. We have the rural roads development which was biased towards access to markets for farm produce. That is a good idea. Those of us from the pastoralist areas have no problem with that. We know very well that even if you grow whatever crop, be it tea or coffee, if you do not have the roads and the marketing structure like the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA), the Coffee Board of Kenya (CBK), the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya (PBK) and the National Irrigation Board (NIB)--- If we do not have that, the coffee and tea farms will turn into bushes. That is why the Government should provide the infrastructure for the sector to flourish as one of the major economic drivers of this country; as a foreign exchange earner and as a source of employment.

On the other side, the livestock sector has not received similar attention and I dare say that even the livestock we are talking about in the current set up is the beef and dairy industry which is under the ranches which fall within the high potential areas. Those of us who do free range livestock production have just been left to our own whims and that is why we fight for it. The Government should come up with the necessary policies to make sure that it becomes a meaningful source of livelihood to the people. There is need to also target the other animals like sheep, goats and camels that do well in the arid and semi arid areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we know very well that it is the responsibility of every county Government to establish the necessary support infrastructure for its people in order to do business that will improve their socio-economic status. This is a function of

the national Government because it is talking about policy formulation. I believe policy formulation in the agricultural sector is still bestowed on the national Government and that is why we are appealing to the national Government to create the necessary policies for the creation of the livestock disease free zones.

The zoning has been recognized by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) as a means of ensuring that trade between the various countries in live animals and the meat industry flourishes. That is why they have come up with the sanitary and vito-sanitary agreement, whereby any country which meets that agreement can easily trade within the WTO countries. Unfortunately up to now, Kenya has failed to pass the risk assessment by the OIE under that SPS agreement. This requires that a country must at least ensure that some particular diseases are eradicated within its livestock industry before it can export animal products. Other countries are doing that while Kenya's Vision 2030 just remains a vision because it is already behind time. For example, the Isiolo/Laikipia Complex and coastal zones are supposed to have been operational or the first infrastructure should be in by 2012. We are now in 2013 and there is no scratch on the ground. That shows that we might reach 2030 without anything taking off. The Vision 2030 should not just be on paper because people are waiting to benefit from it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as the Mover of the Motion said, in Kenya we have the ideas, we know what to do, but we lack the will to do what is required of us. That is why other countries can easily borrow from us and get to implementation while we are still updating and revising our own documents. For example, we know very well that Ethiopia is not as developed as we are in human capacity though it is a very vast country with the largest number of livestock in Africa, but they are doing something. They have come up with these zones. It is not something very expensive. A study was done where you could vaccinate your animals for 21 days, quarantine them in a particular holding ground, feed them until they get the required weight and export them live or the products. They have been doing that. Right now, Ethiopia is exporting to the Middle East where the market is so huge. But if we woke up, we could also make use of it. Other countries like Brazil and India are also making use of the same markets. However, in Kenya, nothing is happening because we lack the will.

Kenya has the largest vaccine production facility in Kabete. The sad thing is when we see the erratic vaccination done in our areas, it is done by donors; VSF Germany and VSF Swiss. If you asked them where they get the vaccines from, they will tell you that it is from Kabete. The Kenya Government produces, but it does not have that will to support its people. Donors are coming in to use their money to purchase our vaccines in order to assist us. That is very ridiculous. Our Government must wake up. These vaccines are being used all over the world. We are producing them, but we cannot assist our people with them. Even for the disease free zones, we have countries which require non-vaccine disease free zones. Like the European Union will expect you to keep your animals without vaccination in disease free areas. Before we reach that level, the Middle East market allows for vaccine based disease free zones.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to urge my colleague Senators to support this Motion and come up with a Bill to give it more weight in order to make sure that the Government takes the responsibility of providing the necessary infrastructure for the

people in the arid and semi-arid areas in order to benefit from their land in their various ways of livelihood. The other day we were talking of a million acres of irrigation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one million acres of irrigation land may seem to be a lot, but once this is converted, it comes to 4,000 square kilometres. That is not even the size of some wards in our counties. What we find viable is the livestock industry. I am urging all Senators to support this Motion and see how it can be taken up to the level of a Bill so that we get the Government support that we need.

I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Sen. Musila: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I stand to support this important Motion. It is important to note that Kenya is a beef country. Millions of animals are roaming around the arid areas of this great Republic. However, the quality of the animals leaves much to be desired. This is because we are not disease-free.

You will recall that there were days when Kenya took veterinary services very seriously. Those are the days that engineer spoke about when even the facility in Kabete was being developed. That is how the use of laboratories in Kabete started. This was started because Kenya was embracing livestock as a way of economic growth. During those days, I remember that we used to have holding grounds for livestock in every area. There were areas reserved for livestock to be kept after vaccination so that they are disease-free as this Motion requires. After that, those animals would be taken out for export or slaughtered at the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC).

Those are the days when the KMC was established. It was established because Kenya was poised to be a beef producing country. However, what happened? The holding grounds I am talking about were grabbed and became people's parcels of land. Even the KMC's grounds were grabbed and what remained of it is a skeleton. There used to be a huge holding ground at the KMC in Athi River where livestock was brought in, disease free, and kept in those grounds until it was ready for slaughter and for export. However, all that land was grabbed and the KMC was left as a building. When one took livestock there, they only slaughtered them on the same day. Therefore, one had to bring a few. The livestock had to come directly from farms because the holding grounds had been grabbed. So, it is greed that has killed the livestock industry which is very important.

When Professor was moving this Motion, he said that this country loses over Kshs22 billion annually due to neglect in this vital industry. It is only last year that all laws were amalgamated. However, I remember the laws pertaining to animal disease control were very strict. Quarantines were issued and nobody would dare to break the quarantine. Once a disease was discovered, the veterinary officers had authority to declare quarantine in an area and livestock would not move. That is how animal diseases were controlled. Those laws are still there. I talked about greed creeping into the society and killing the industry. Again, the laws being there, issues of quarantine were ignored. Another issue that cropped up was the introduction of the imposed policies on the international community that the Government should not play any roles in veterinary

services. Veterinary extension officers were removed and what remained were skeleton veterinary officers whom we had to pay so that they attend to our livestock. That was the setting in of disease. If the poor farmer has no money to pay a veterinary officer and have his livestock treated, then the disease spreads.

I am giving this just to show the genesis of the failure in this important industry. All this happened as we watched. In fact, I can say, without fear, that during the colonial period, the livestock industry was taken very seriously. If we moved on with the same pace, Kenya would be very far. For example, look at a tiny country like Botswana. Botswana is the leading beef exporter in the world. They thrive in that industry and yet, it is so small compared to Kenya. However, if Kenya wanted, it would surpass Botswana many times and make this country the number one exporter in livestock products.

I want to say that we have neglected this industry unlike other industries as Engineer, the Senator for Marsabit, has stated. We have the KTDA, CBK and even the PBK which produces nothing. However, we fail to appreciate the importance of the livestock industry which, if developed, this country would go very far in economic development.

I want to congratulate Professor for bringing this Motion. Yesterday, we passed the Motion on Irrigation; irrigating arid areas which have hitherto been taken to be useless in the country. We raised the issue of infrastructure which is skewed towards areas that are construed to mean that they have more economic potential than others. We should take each area the way it is; north eastern and eastern Kenya.

Kitui County falls under the arid areas and should qualify for the one million acres for irrigation and the livestock development projects we are talking about. All the arid areas should be considered in terms of the potential that they have. If an area is arid, it should not be neglected. However, it should be developed in terms of livestock, minerals and everything else that comes around.

Sen. (Eng.) Muriuki: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, for giving me a chance to say one or two words regarding this very important Motion. Let me start from the outset by saying that I strongly support this Motion.

I am not so sure, listening to the Mover of the Motion, how we will go about as a country tackling some of the challenges he raised with regard to the focus of the areas; the arid and semi-arid areas which are also referred to as the pastoralist areas.

We could talk about disease free zones and we need to say whether we should take over all the animals or the few that are taken to the slaughterhouses like the KMC, among other places, so that they are kept disease-free. We should also see whether we are talking about all the livestock as it used to be apparently during the colonial days. The colonialists used to make sure that disease control through the veterinary department was taken very seriously in the areas they were focusing on.

The Mover also mentioned a situation where animals were brought from the pastoralist areas and taken to a central place called the KMC. I am not sure whether it is still operational. Very many animals used to die. This is a challenge to the Senate. Looking at this Motion, we need to check whether the problem was the diseases or the drought situation that forced the people there to bring animals in big numbers. The animals would get there so weak that when exposed to any change of situation that would

cause them to die. I think there are quite a number of other challenges, over and above, the disease control itself.

The Mover also mentioned that diseases are also being transmitted by wildlife. Again, we have a situation where we have to make up our minds as a country. How do we end up mixing animals meant for human consumption with the wild animals? Where I come from, Nyandarua County, we have animals. However, these are primarily for milk. We sell excess cows or the bulls we have to meat producers. We get so often to a situation where there are two or three meat processors who specialize in meat to tourist centres in this country. I do not know whether they only deal with this area or in every other area in the region. Every so often, we take our animals to them for grading. I am familiar with situations where we are told: “Your animals are okay, but if we slaughter them, the meat is only good for the dogs and not human beings.” It is up to you to take your animals back or let them slaughter and give you half the price. So, in a county like Nyandarua where our dairy animals are weaker and each farmer controls his or her animals, the situation is worse.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, lastly, we have Vision 2030 whose main agenda is to turn this country into a middle-income country by 2030. You cannot do that if you continue with subsistence. You must industrialize. Cognizant of the fact that Vision 2030 was formulated within the auspices of the old Constitution, which did not have counties-- - Since devolution came after Vision 2030 had been formulated, it, therefore, means that we, as a country, need to relook at its implementation. At that time, we were looking at the county as a whole. However, now we have devolved units called counties, which are governments on their own, we need to relook at its implementation. They are quite capable of minding their own affairs. If all goes well, this House should soon be debating the County Industrial Development Bill, which is getting its final touches. It should be in the House before very long. Hopefully, if it is passed, we can have a situation where individual counties will be able to do what the Mover of this Motion has in mind, which is to create disease-free zones. But if the national Government is able to assist the individual county governments, through the Industrial Bill, they should be assisted. Each county will, therefore, be able to establish its own disease-free zones and get all the facilities – both technical and financial – and achieve the very important agenda which the Mover of this Motion has.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few words, I beg to support.

Sen. Mositet: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the outset I support this Motion and congratulate Prof. Lonyangapuo for bringing it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this country we have been talking about our economy not doing well. We have always talked of not moving into the single digit simply because we really neglected an industry which should have turned this economy into a double-digit and maybe the best in Africa. Speaking from the pastoralists’ point of view, the Governments of the former Presidents may have just left the pastoralists on their own. Even if policies were there, they were not followed. That is why you will find that if one requires veterinary services, it will be upon that individual to go maybe to Kabete to get vaccines for the animals.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, likewise, the policies on land have encouraged the reduction of land meant for pastoralist activities. I will give an example of Kajiado County, which I expected the Mover of the Motion to also include. How did Ngong come to be what it is now? That is actually where we had the first slaughter houses before even those in Dagoreti came up. But later on, people started going into the holding grounds and segmenting them into small plots. That is how Ngong grew to the way it is now; to an extent that you cannot even remember where the slaughter house was. That is exactly how Ongata Rongai also started. It started with two slaughter houses which do not exist as of today. If you go to Kiserian the situation is the same. The few slaughter houses that are there are surrounded by small plots. As a result, the lives of pastoralists who are used to keeping animals and selling animal products are threatened.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the Government is serious, it should protect such individuals who have been working very hard. These are people who have been taking loans from the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) and repaying them. Sometimes, they are unable to repay those loans because when they buy the animals and take them to areas that are not disease free zones, most of them end up dying. I support the introduction of disease free zones all over the country. Take the example of very common diseases which affect even children. They include diabetes and cancer. These diseases could be on the rise maybe because of the kind of animal products that we are taking.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will give an example of how easy it is to make the unemployed become very rich through the livestock sector. Any pastoralist with between 100 and 200 head of cattle will have another 100 or 200 head of cattle in a year's time since they will have given birth. If they are well taken care of and they do not die, within two years they can sell some of those animals, each of which will be sold at about Kshs30,000. Therefore, if that person sells 100 animals, he will get Kshs3 million. If it is 200 animals, he will get about Kshs6 million. That is actually the best way of even preventing the youth from coming to the urban centres. They can concentrate in the rural areas and stop thinking that the easiest way of getting a job is by going to the urban areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this industry has really been neglected to the extent that a veterinary doctor is not recognized like a medical doctor. In fact, we know the qualifications for one to become a veterinary doctor and medical doctor are the same. But the veterinary doctors appear as if they do not have work to do, simply because there is no good mechanism of appreciating their services. They end up being hired by individuals who are suffering financially and the AFC wants to sell their land. The Government is not actually even availing vaccines at good prices. You will find that the veterinary doctors themselves feel degraded. Therefore, I call upon particularly the Jubilee Government to give the livestock industry the seriousness that it deserves. We should protect our land, so that we do not necessarily subdivide it into very small pieces. If this Government becomes very serious about this industry, we can turn our economy into double digits.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I support this Motion.

The Senate Minority Leader (Sen. Wetangula): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also congratulate Sen. Lonyangapuo for bringing this important Motion which, ideally, should be expanded to cover all arid and semi-arid areas of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem that we have is not lack of policy. The policy is actually there. If you may recall, before Independence, this country was a major producer and exporter of beef and other animal products. In fact, immediately after Independence, the Government of Botswana borrowed from Kenya the establishment of a meat commission from the KMC. Botswana is now the number one exporter of beef and beef products in this continent. They are the only country in Africa that exports beef to the European Union without any restrictions. It is also the only country that I know, perhaps, apart from South Africa, that is 100 per cent disease-free.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the late 1950s, Australia imported from Kenya a pedigree grass known as Boma Rhodes for development of their livestock. Today, Kenya imports Boma Rhodes from Australia. That is how we have gone. The law has always been there. If you look at the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Act, 2013, in the Second Schedule, it lists a whole lot of research institutes that have been there all these years. There is the Livestock Research Institute, Forest and Environment Research Institute, Water Resource Management Research Institute, Arid and Range Lands Research Institute, Genetic Resource Research Institute, Beef Research Institute, Dairy Research Institute, Non-ruminant Research Institute, Sheep and Goat Research Institute, Veterinary Science Research Institute, Wildlife Research Institute and so on. You heard the distinguished Senator for Nyandarua mention about wildlife spreading diseases to livestock. Botswana has one of the largest wildlife establishments. The famous Okavango Delta is in Botswana, with a bounty of livestock, but it has not affected the country in its quest to be a disease free zone.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the last Parliament, when we were meeting the requirements of the new Constitution and amalgamating laws in land and agriculture, we introduced an Agricultural, Livestock, Fisheries and Food Authority Bill. The then Minister for Livestock, the distinguished Senator, I think, for Isiolo, Sen. (Dr.) Kutu, for no reason at all created such a rumpus until he removed livestock from the process. We ended up with no legislation on livestock under the new Constitution. He left office without ever bringing any law despite the hullabaloo that he had raised.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo can even go further; instead of asking for policies which exist, I want to urge him to seek advice and bring a Livestock Bill that has to meet the requirements of the new Constitution. I have checked with the laws we passed. We passed the Agricultural Fisheries and Food Authority Act. If you look at the description, it says that it deals with everything, excluding livestock, courtesy of Sen. (Dr.) Kutu.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, livestock generates a lot of revenue for this country. At some point, I am on record as having opposed the export of live animals from Kenya because many countries like Botswana and South Africa do not export live animals. They add value to them. What was happening in the last two or three years is that we were exporting live animals with a lot of fanfare. You would see a Minister and a Permanent Secretary in Mombasa flagging off our animals entering a ship. They were taken to Mauritius where they are slaughtered, value added and exported to the Middle East. We can do this ourselves. That is why we have the KMC both in Nairobi and in Mombasa. The last Government of President Kibaki built several abattoirs in Wajir, Turkana and in

many other places. What we must do is to move away from the point that Sen. Musila mentioned.

The beginning of the destruction of our livestock industry, among other things, was the World Bank (WB) when they walked into Kenya and said “The Government has no business running cattle dips, vaccinations, marketing boards, this and that.” The Government moved out of this courtesy of the WB. What happened after that? Artificial Insemination (AI) services that were improving breeds moved up from a cost of Kshs100 per dose to Kshs1,500 per dose, which no ordinary farmer could afford. The cost of dipping animals for tick control moved up from about Kshs20 per head of cattle to over Kshs500 per head of cattle; which farmer can afford that? Veterinary services were all discontinued courtesy of the WB. All veterinary officers in the outreach areas stopped working for the Government, opened shop and started shylocking on farmers. At the end of the day, what we used to see as an annual cycle of annual vaccination of animals, branding of animals and so on died completely because the Government of the day listened to the WB, with their obsession with research and so on, and so forth.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if you go to the countryside today – not just in the pastoralist areas like the distinguished Senators from Marsabit and Pokot talked about, but even in the so-called “high density” areas, farmers cannot afford vaccines. Farmers cannot afford to hire veterinary services. They cannot afford visitations on their farms. So, they are losing livestock because the Government has abdicated its responsibility. I want to urge that within the new framework and the new Constitution, county governments should provide in their budgets subsidies for farmers. I expect county governments to finance the provision of vaccinations, extension services, dipping services and facilities that will enhance the growth of the livestock sector.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we do not want this country to go the direction that some of our fellow African countries have gone, where as we move into the mineral economy – the production of oil that is coming up, iron ore, gold and so on – we abandon farming and the livestock sector, and start importing – like I have seen some African countries importing tomatoes and oranges from Israel – when those countries are 100 per cent rain secure and arable while Israel is a desert. It is a scandal. We should not go in that direction. We must make policies that ensure that the economy does well on agriculture and agricultural services, even with the advent of the mineral economy. We must maintain our leadership in agriculture, livestock and in all manner of things.

Finally, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the policy should not just go about creating disease free zones. These disease free zones exist. For example, I know that the entire Isiolo County and many others are gazetted as disease free zones. What we need to do is to help the livestock farmer to market the animals. What happens? Shylocks from Nairobi go with lorries to Turkana, Samburu and wherever else, and pick those animals, especially during droughts, at a song. The farmer who has looked after those animals for years ends up giving away a bull at Kshs10,000 because he has a choice to watch it die, or to give it away for nearly free. We need light rail systems running from all those areas to high density markets like Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru and Eldoret, so that they can take their livestock to the markets. We also need the county governments to be at the forefront of helping the farmer in every respect, including marketing of their animals, so

that they are not left to the vagaries of profit driven people. That is why we have brought devolution.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Sen. Fatuma.

Sen. Adan: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I stand here to support the Motion. I believe the speakers before me have mentioned several issues that affect the pastoralist communities. But I would like to contribute by saying that although we have legislation and policies, over the years, the pastoral areas or the livestock Industry has been forgotten. As previous speakers have said, we always say that we are going to create job opportunities for Kenyans. I believe that improving livestock markets is really important as this will create jobs for the youth and also the people living in pastoral areas. As Sen. Wetangula has just said, pastoral communities do not access markets. In any case, the infrastructure is not there for them to access the markets. You will find that sometimes pastoralists actually trek with their animals all the way from Moyale to sell them in Wajir, Nanyuki or somewhere else. By the time they reach those markets, the animals have lost so many kilogrammes. They actually end up selling them at throw away prices. So, clearly, apart from creating disease free zones, we also need to look at other aspects that affect the livestock industry.

Secondly, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will find that the international market is actually not penetrated or accessed by the pastoralist communities. You will find people coming from other countries or people who are not even pastoralists themselves accessing the international markets, yet the pastoralists themselves do not even know that international markets exist. So, it is really important to expose these pastoralist communities or the people who are dealing with the livestock industry to the international markets, so that they can sell their animals at a worthy price and also create jobs for them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you will find that whenever drought strikes, most of the pastoralist communities lose their animals. People having hundreds and thousands of livestock, end up losing them. They become poor over night. The children of pastoral communities are unable to go to school simply because they are losing their animals. So, the Government actually needs to put more weight and seriousness into the livestock industry. We need to have that in place so that it can help the pastoralist communities.

Lastly, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we always run around whenever there are disasters or whenever there are droughts, like what happened I think two years ago when animals were being bought at almost nothing from pastoral communities and dumped at the KMC. We need to have proper planning in place. We do not have to run around only when there are disasters; proper planning will help us to take care of our animals and also to improve the economy of those particular communities.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with those many remarks, I beg to support the Motion.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Sen. Ongoro.

Sen. Ongoro: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I also rise to support this Motion. I want to thank Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo for introducing this very timely Motion. Interestingly, I took time to find out what his name means, because I know all African names have a meaning. My findings tell me that the name "Lonyanyapuo"

actually means a big, multi-coloured bull with big curved horns. Now that this community even names their sons after the manner in which livestock are perceived, this actually tells you the importance they attach to their animals.

(Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo walked into the Chamber)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me repeat that, now that Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo has just walked in.

(Laughter)

Professor, I found out that your name means a big, multi-coloured bull with big, curved horns. So, the importance that pastoralist communities attach to livestock cannot be under estimated. Even though we say that the livelihoods of the pastoral communities depend on livestock, if this sector is supported, the livelihoods of Kenyans and the whole nation could depend on livestock. If we choose to support this sector in the same way we support cash crops like coffee, tea, pyrethrum and even tourism--- If we choose to set aside money that will be given either as grants or soft loans, and we help these communities to form Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies (SACCOS), they can either collectively or individually access money when they want to increase their stock, buy animal feed during drought, relocate from one area to the other or build an enclosure. But what we have done as a nation is to leave this entire sector to those who we cunningly refer to as pastoralist transporters, associated operators and chambers of commerce, public and private sector animal health service providers and community based organizations that are engaged in the sub-sector. They do not have access to agricultural extension officers; nobody gives them access to any loans of any manner and so, we, as a nation, want to behave as if this is something that should be taken care of by the pastoralists themselves. This is something that can actually feed this nation. It can generate revenue and create employment. These pastoralists have got a very vibrant economy that largely depends on livestock.

So, while we look for grants elsewhere or we look upon the West to sometimes feed us in times of drought, we have drought resistant indigenous cows that can be supported and help us feed ourselves. We have heard that during droughts, we have some Kenyans who even eat grass and yet we have livestock that can be used to access cheap meat. I do not want to repeat myself, but quickly suggest that we should set aside funds in the manner that we have the CBK. Those involved in the farming of coffee only have to give a title deed and confirm that they have a coffee farm to access cash. What can we do to support these people? We should set up SACCOS and ensure that anybody with 10, 20 or 50 cows and can prove that he actually depends on them, access some cash set aside specifically to support livestock farmers. We should also ensure that we send veterinary extension officers. If they are pastoralists, these officers should be able to move with them from time to time and from place to place to ensure that the animals are well taken care of.

As suggested by this Motion, we should also create Livestock Disease Free Zones, not just in counties that have been referred to as pastoralist counties, but in all the counties. I believe that every county is able to support livestock of any kind. Some will support livestock that can survive in drought areas, but some will also support livestock that cannot survive in drought areas.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think the Government should ensure that these farmers access finance, basic education on how to improve the number of their flock and basic infrastructure. Even pastoralists need basic infrastructure. It would not cost us so much to ensure that each time they move from one place to the other, we ensure a dip is built for them and maybe sink a well so that the animals are able to get water. It would also not cost us so much if the Government decided to provide animal feeds, especially during drought. We do this to other farmers; we provide subsidized or free fertilizer just to ensure that they farm and produce enough. Why can we not ensure that during droughts, we allow these pastoralist communities to either access subsidized or free animal feeds in the same way that we support other forms of agriculture?

I want us to take a critical look at economies like Botswana that have supported livestock rearing and depend largely on that kind of economy. We are quickly turning into a nation that celebrates anything that is Western or that looks to the West for all its solutions. Instead of trying to support our own indigenous way of life and innovations, any time we want a solution, we quickly want to look to the West to support us in everything. At the same time we want to pride ourselves that we have 50 years of Independence. So, why are we independent if we are always running back to the colonialists for support when we fought so hard to free ourselves and become independent? Is it not time that we, as a nation, refused to be fed by those that we think might create for themselves a platform of re-entry? A desperate person cannot claim to be independent. When you have to be supported by any means and you depend on another person, then you can sing about it, talk about it, talk about your freedom, write it in the papers and praise yourself for being free. The reality is that you are the slave of the person that you depend on. So, if we want to be a free nation---

Sen. Mugo: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): What is your point of order, Sen. Mugo?

Sen. Mugo: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Is the hon. Senator in order to keep on repeating that we depend on the former colonialists and yet Kenya provides over 95 per cent of its own Budget? We only need very little help from outside to run our education, health and all other sectors, including agriculture. Seriously even when we import maize, Kenya pays for it. So, we should give ourselves a bit of credit. For us, we appreciate our development partners---

The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura): Sen. Mugo, are you debating or are you on a point of order?

Sen. Mugo: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was a point of order. I will contribute later.

Sen. Ongoro: Thank you for your sentiments, Sen. Mugo. I still want to confirm and reaffirm my statements. The fact that you have stated that as a nation, we still import

food from the West, whether we pay for it or not, that is not Independence. We need to generate our own food. We need to be self-dependent for our own well-being.

With those few remarks, I support.

Sen. (Prof.) Anyang’-Nyong’o: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I stand to support the Motion, I would like to make one or two points that are relevant to this Motion by my friend Sen. Lonyangapuo, otherwise called the bull with big curved horns.

I think this Motion comes with our National Livestock Policy. As Sen. Wetangula pointed out, how many institutions have we established to do research in the livestock and agricultural industry? If we trace the history of these institutions, you will find that they date from colonial times. We had a very strong settler community here which wanted the state to serve farmers effectively in their enterprises. The farmers were both livestock keepers and crop growers. For example, Lord Delamere kept both cattle and did a little of farming. Let me give you one example; the pork industry in Uplands. It was very well developed and those who grew pigs could go and value add on pigs. Pigs were never exported to this country. Uplands is one of the oldest factories in Kenya producing what the Farmers Choice does now. Here was a very good example of an integrated industry with the livestock industry. A good example of value addition is that pork was consumed during the World War II and even during the Vietnam War. A lot of our pork was exported in that manner.

So, we have examples that should be followed. What I am trying to say is that when you look at our livestock industry, and Sen. Lonyangapuo pointed at West Pokot, Turkana, Baringo, Samburu, Garissa and Mandera, and I am sure, he also gave figures from the coast region where livestock is kept, but he was trying to say where the majority of livestock is kept. Just next to us is Maasai land. The Maasais are known as being successful and enterprising livestock keepers. Why is it that we are now beginning to see a reduction of livestock in Maasai land? The threat to livestock in Maasai land is comparable to the threat to coffee in Kiambu. Once land use begins to change and once people begin to value land in a different way, they change their economic activities. You can see that real estate is eating up coffee land in Kiambu. Very soon, coffee will be gone because people value real estate more than coffee. The same is happening in Maasai land. People are buying more and more land in Maasai for purposes of speculation, for horticulture development, ranch development or this kind of tourism. Very soon, you will find that the livestock is gone.

There will be no difference in North Eastern, for example. Once the programme is on the way, the value of land will change and people will begin appreciating real estate and other things, then livestock will be a thing of the past. At the same time, we need livestock. We should think of the future, that is, about 50 years to come; how are we going to develop livestock? Are we going to do it by relying on large expanses of land where livestock roam, where then we have to call for disease free areas because we think that these large expanses of land will be forever be used by livestock? It may or it may not.

As policy makers, we must begin thinking of time action plan. How do we do this? We must always regard the Government’s role as a regulatory agency. The Government can also go into production if we have very successful state enterprises like

the rest of the world. China is a good example. In our case, the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) was quite successful until vultures in the state started breaking it apart by taking its land and so on. The Government might be both a regulatory agency and a factor input provider. In agriculture and livestock, the Government's role as a factor input provider is very important because elsewhere in the world, agriculture is always subsidized by the State; be it France, United States of America and so on. There is nowhere in the capitalist world today where agriculture is not subsidized for farmers to be successful. In that regard, if we want the livestock industry to succeed, the Government must assume the very intensive role of being a factor input provider. Why has the Government been successful as a factor input provider in agriculture better than livestock? This is because the agricultural class in Kenya since colonial times was quite powerful. So, they set up the AFC which was channeling funds to agriculture. If you study how AFC used its funds in 1970s as I did, you will find that most of that money went to agriculture rather than livestock.

[The Deputy Speaker (Sen. Kembi-Gitura) left the Chair]

[The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro) took the Chair]

So, livestock has always been the bastard child in that area, that is, playing a second fiddle role to agriculture. A time has come, therefore, as most Senators have contributed today, because of the economic importance of livestock where there is a lot of demand for meat in the Middle East. Farming communities in Argentina have always been known to be big producers, but populations have increased all over the work and Argentina cannot provide everybody with the meat that is required. So, people are looking for meat and livestock products from elsewhere. We are well placed in Kenya because we have a comparative advantage in two areas. We have marginal areas like in the northern Kenya where land is plentiful. We have more intensive areas for livestock production particularly for milk in the highlands. We should make effective use of both. We should not concentrate too much or over-concentrate on this intensive production areas of the highlands, but also look at the pastoral areas, knowing very well that eventually there will be encroachment in that land.

We had assumed that the water table was not too far; you just scrap and you reach the water. It is very easy to concentrate on one thing. If you are going to continue for some time, provide water. Through irrigation, bore-holing and dams, massive projects can be rolled out where the State plays its role at a factor input provider. The State should provide water through irrigation, damming, *et cetera*, to that area. Then the livestock will need to roam too much. At the moment, the phenomenon people are describing here of livestock roaming and even being driven to Athi River to be slaughtered, of course, if you are a cow and you walk that far, you will die by the time you reach. It is not fair for the cows. Since the Coalition Government started putting up abattoirs up there, they will not need to come to Athi River to be slaughtered--- They will be slaughtered and canned there. The railway and the airport are coming up. So, exports will take place. Let us not think – I think this is a fallacy sometimes that we make – that the pastoralists themselves

will begin looking for markets. Market provision is a completely different trade. There must be entrepreneurs who know that cows that need to be slaughtered are there, and then they go and provide the market. Then the pastoralists will respond because if you give good prices, they will come. But do not expect the pastoralists to organize themselves and begin looking for markets in the Middle East. It is too complicated for them. Their role is to keep the cows and get them ready, the State providing factor input connects them to the market.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I think what we really need is for the State, like the Coalition Government started by providing abattoirs, to provide inducements to those who will buy cows once the State has provided water and the veterinary services. Inducements should be given to those people who will establish the infrastructure for buying the infrastructure; value adding and exporting. It is very easy to provide the infrastructure or the inducements through taxation. If somebody dares and goes and establishes an abattoir in risky areas like Moyale to buy livestock, give him tax inducements. Somebody knowing that they have a tax break for so many years to put a huge abattoir in Moyale, he will do the calculation and go and build it. It is not rocket science. It is just something that we should pay specific attention to and give Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo a solution to his problems. I think if we do that, we shall definitely find a solution to our problems.

Finally, if you look at what happened in Taita Taveta – I think I looked at it in the 1980s when there were cattle ranches very much like the American way run by co-operatives, it was a very good set up. I do not know whether the ranches are still there but in the 1980s, there were very successful ranches in Taita Taveta where the ranches came together with large stocks and their problem was marketing. They always rather lobby with the State. There is no God given reason whatsoever why we cannot have ranches in these areas that Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo is talking about.

I beg to support.

Sen. Elachi: Madam Temporary Speaker, I stand to support this Motion. I want to start by saying that one of the challenges we have faced in this country is that we look at issues based on our communities. You find that if I am an agriculturalist, then I will have to fight for what is so much on my side and I will forget that there is something called livestock. When it comes to business, I will leave the pastoralists to deal with the livestock but I will be the one to go to north eastern and buy the cattle and come and sell. Therefore, again, I am the beneficiary just the same way the coffee farmers from Mt. Kenya area would do the farming and everything else, but it is somebody else who will come, buy it at a cheaper price and go to sell it and benefit more than the farmer. Therefore, we need to start from there; if this indeed is my country and the Constitution gives me the right to live anywhere in this country and, therefore, I can go to north eastern and become a pastoralist because I will have to keep livestock, I have to take care of that. That is when we will start appreciating that Kenya is our country.

Madam Temporary Speaker, our Government is now three months old and I know there are a lot of teething problems and a lot of promises that had been made. But I know and I believe that after one year, Kenyans will appreciate the Jubilee Coalition Government because these are some of the ideas in their manifesto. They are very clear.

They did not just go out there to get votes, I know they meant it. When you look at the President and the Deputy President, they were very clear on what they really wanted to see. The Deputy President was once a Minister for Agriculture and he knows the challenges and what he did in that short period he was a Minister. Indeed, he turned things round and I know we are going to turn things round in agriculture and livestock. What we need to ask ourselves is; are we now going to separate politics and development? I think that is where we are as Kenyans and it is a big challenge in this country. We are not only looking at politics when it is finishing us and forgetting that Kenyans need service. When you look at the Constitution, it is very clear; the county governments are supposed to deal with abattoirs, animal immunization, *et cetera*. How do we assist the county governments, in terms of their budgets, to ensure that they have also budgeted for some of these things?

I know we need to have a clear guideline and framework, If we missed it in the Constitution, it is because of the same politics. When we looked at the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, we believed that it is only a person from the pastoralist area who needs to sit in that Ministry because they understand the problem. But then, he is again tied because the politics come in and he finds himself being pushed by those who are the supporters and campaign funders. Therefore a person is tied so much so that they cannot do their work. There is also clanism politics and so on which affect the whole process. Therefore, we need to ask ourselves, as the Senate, if we want to really help the livestock industry then it is time we separated politics and provision of services and come up with strategies on how we can help our young people who would wish to engage in any business but they have no idea how to do it. It is because they do not have the resources.

Madam Temporary Speaker, recently I was watching television and Jimmy Gathu in his programme: “the Hustlers Programme“, had a young man saying that he started by buying one goat at a Kshs1, 000 and now he is doing so well that he is able to make a livelihood from that. He is just in Limuru. This means that anywhere in this country any young man can move on and build his life the way he would wish. I would wish us as Senate to look at issues that are affecting our people. We passed this Constitution knowing very well that we will restore Kenya. That it was a new beginning of looking at things very differently. I hope with this Motion, we shall look at the sector that brought resources in this country. Formerly, it was agriculture and we never used to separate them until politics made us separate agriculture and livestock. This is because one side was not looking at the other one. We concentrated on one side but we forgot the other side where together we bring better production. That is what we need to do.

I beg to support.

Sen. Hassan: Madam Temporary Speaker, first and foremost, on my behalf and on behalf of the people of Mombasa County, we want to wish the entire Muslim fraternity here in Kenya and the world over a fruitful Ramadhan. May the Lord count his mercies and forgive our sins.

I rise to move an amendment to this Motion after consultation with the Mover of this Motion.

I beg to move that the Motion be amended as follows:-

(a) In the first line by inserting the words “and semi-arid” between the words “arid and areas” in the first line.

(b) By deleting the words; “such as West Pokot, Turkana, Baringo, Samburu, Garissa, Mandera, among others” in the first and second line.

(c) By deleting the words “in the counties appearing between the words “zone” and in the last line “pastoral areas”.

So that the Motion can read as follows:-

THAT, aware that Kenyans living in counties in arid and semi arid areas are pastoralists who depend on livestock for their livelihood; concerned that over the years, pastoralist communities have continued to suffer loss of their animals due to diseases that are preventable; cognizant of the fact that efforts by past Governments to address the problem have not yielded desirable results; the Senate urges the National Government to urgently put in place an effective policy to create livestock disease free zones in pastoralist areas.

Madam Temporary Speaker, the reason we have agreed with the Mover to move this amendment is to broaden the spectrum of Government intervention in terms of also being able to respond to every area which we believe will be prone to diseases and where pastoralists deserve to be given adequate Government intervention to ensure that their livelihoods are protected and their ways of life are also protected and sanctified.

I bring that amendment by way of Standing Order No.53 (2) for these particular reasons:-

I want to demonstrate that the right to development is not a right that is inherent in areas that have voted politically correct or otherwise. Our mouths and stomachs are neither Jubilee nor CORD. They are simply mouths and stomachs of the Kenyan people. I think our public policy and guidance must be at all times guided by what is in the best interest of this nation and the best interest of our people wherever they might be.

Madam Temporary Speaker, the truth is that there is a part of this country that has been marginalized for a very long time. Despite the fact that Mombasa appears to be a big city with bright lights at the airport and sometimes with potholed roads, I do believe that Mombasa shares broadly in the popular discourse that is shared by all the marginalized communities of this country. Our development in infrastructure may be higher than most of these areas of West Pokot and Turkana. Our challenges in terms of representation, participation and development are almost the same. We must realise that Mombasa has had no meaningful development since the colonial times. Most of the buildings in Mombasa were built in those days.

Article 19(1) and (2) of the Constitution is the opening paragraphs of the Bill of Rights. These paragraphs make it integral for Kenya to include the Bill of Rights in the rights of its people in the socio-economic and cultural policies. Therefore, it is mandatory as we look at the rights of the people, we also look at the rights of those who were disenfranchised historically and ensure the country factors in the less privileged in areas which are marginalised.

Many of us are well travelled. We travelled to Samburu the other day and to Turkana for the homecoming party of the Speaker. I can tell you that probably, the

Speaker either as an institution or as a person who leads this Senate is one meaningful development. I think it is imperative that we put in our resources to meet the expectations and the spirit of the Constitution. That is why the Constitution talks about historical injustices. It talks about the Equalisation Fund. I think this Fund and other resources are inherent. The Equalisation Fund is inadequate to meet the realities of development. We need development and interventions of Government that are asymmetrical. Those who know mathematics, the word asymmetrical means that you privilege some areas in comparative terms as opposed to others.

The asymmetrical of development in this country has been skewed to certain areas. We must readjust that symmetry and areas that have previously been marginalised require fundamentally investments. These are pastoralist areas and areas which have been neglected for a long time. This will help us improve the health status of these areas. In fact, the foundation for improving the livelihoods of these pastoral areas will lay the ground work, undoubtedly, for the realisation of a number of rights. I believe that trying to invest in the economy of pastoral areas means that we are building livelihoods, enriching the society and ridding them of poverty. That means that we are providing a meaningful avenue for the realisation of Article 43 that will ensure that they have access to affordable healthcare, housing, reasonable standards of sanitation and that they are free from hunger.

Many of us in Kenya are still not free from hunger and cannot access food of acceptable quality. Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo and his people should have a three course meal and not blood for dessert. They should also have ice cream. We should also ensure that there is safe water in adequate quantities. We need to have social security in these areas and give them the right to education. Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo is one of the professors with distinguished credentials. However, he is one of the lucky ones from West Pokot. He cannot talk about equal successors within the wider diversity. If we can provide avenues of intervention and build on the wealth of these areas, then we would, undoubtedly, create many Prof. Lonyangapuos so that this area becomes sufficient with respect to economic and social transformation.

Madam Temporary Speaker, Article 56 of the Constitution – I am trying to locate Prof. Lonyangapuo's quest not only as a political or social discourse but a Constitutional discourse – is inherently a discourse under Chapter Four on the Bill of Rights. I think we must make human rights a developmental discourse. Human rights can no longer be an advocacy discourse as a stand-alone. In fact, it is incumbent upon the State, under Article 56, to ensure that it puts in place an affirmative action to design and ensure that the minority and marginalized groups are catered for. I believe that these areas fall under that category and should be provided special opportunity in education and economic fields. Therefore, this must be seen.

Areas that have had dynamic and developmental growth must expect that in the next couple of years the Government will invest in them. I do not believe that equality is just about what we already have. Equality is also about those who have had an unfair advantage over others so that they are slowed down and those who have had no advantage at all are given the pace to catch up. Therefore, let us not pretend that equity is

only about what we have now. Equity must also take cognizance of our historical past to ensure that the asymmetry of our development is readjusted.

Finally, broadly, I think it is important to equip people with capacity so that they are less reliant on Government and more reliant on themselves. I think Kenyans would be successful when they have less of Government. We keep on talking about this, that Government, or that politician. We need to move progressively to ensure that we are less reliant on Government and that people are capacitated. I look forward to every county, person and every leadership being able to create sufficiency among its populace so that they obtain the objectives of development without necessarily making reference. We must diffuse from *Moisim* and *Kanuism*, I believe, which was about development at the pleasure of the President.

I beg to move and call upon Sen. Elachi to second.

Sen. Elachi: Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I second the amendment knowing very well this now becomes a national issue. It does not only affect the counties. This is something that will help the whole country and, indeed, the 47 counties are the beneficiaries of the same.

I just want to say the amendment makes us now look at the Galana Ranch that we had in Malindi those days and how we can rebuild as we work with the Government.

I beg to move.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro): Hon. Senators, the proposed amendment is properly and procedurally before the House according to Standing Order Nos.53(1), 53(2) and 54. I will now proceed to propose the question.

(Question of the amendment proposed)

Sen. Abdirahman: Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker, for allowing me to contribute to this very important Motion that touches on the lives of very many Kenyans including those of where I come from. For the benefit of the House, I would like to say that even if we put this under the arid and semi-arid lands, this still does not cover the whole country. The arid and semi-arid lands cover around 24 original districts. So, in my understanding, this is still a Motion that affects counties. However, I stand to be corrected. It could cover a number of counties in the country but not all the counties fall under the arid and semi-arid lands. There are areas that do not fall under any of these categories.

I do not want to spend more time on that but it is crucial for us who come from areas where we keep livestock. When I listened to many contributions, including that of Madam Speaker who appeared to be a very serious pastoralist, you are not an ordinary lady Senator. I admired the passion with which you and a number of Senators from other parts of the country had while sharing how the livestock sector has been neglected over time. I will call this a new dawn. If Senators across counties can rally their support behind this Motion that was brought by Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo and if this Motion was brought many years ago, it would have changed the lives of many Kenyans including our national economy.

When the new Jubilee Government was constituted, I felt that one area where there was a gap was when they lumped the Ministry of Livestock Development with the Ministry of Agriculture. If there was any seriousness on the part of the Jubilee Government, they would have continued to retain the Ministry of the Development of Northern Kenya because it was a relevant Ministry. We feel that agriculture will continue to dominate or take precedence over the livestock Ministry.

That aside, development in general is understood by many practitioners in different respects. However, I want to point out that pastoral development is unique. Provision of services to people in livestock keeping areas including education, health and water, is done in a very unique way. Those policy makers and planners who have done it for over the last five decades did not realise how this could be done. They thought about formal systems the same way we heard that extension services have to move along with the people. Education services have to move along with the people. Health services have to be done in a mobile manner.

I want to point out that our policy makers and planners for development in this country did not appreciate the set up in those areas. Pastoralists are under pressure. One of the Senators who spoke said, I think it was Prof. Anyang'-Nyong'o, people in Maasailand are under threat and livestock keeping is facing extinction. The same applies to northern Kenya where I come from. The Government has created over 100 locations at the expense of the people who keep livestock.

Marketing is another area that has not been addressed. Other farmers in this country have been getting subsidized opportunities but the north has not had those opportunities. Wajir County, where I come from, has a huge international airport. It is a military airport, but yes, it has a lot of potential to send meat to the Middle East. The Coalition Government did not do much with regard to the abattoirs they started. These did not pick up. If the Jubilee Government, in all seriousness, is determined to make a difference, they should improve on what was done by the Coalition Government. Although they have been around for three months, what we are seeing in the first months could be what will remain as a lasting memory. I hope they will do something.

Finally, incentives to livestock keepers and traders are key to development of the livestock economy. I also want to point out that there are pastoral associations that exist in the north. Much of these efforts were left in the hands of non-state actors. In fact, the livestock sector is under the mercy of these state actors and has been left to the communities or the organizations themselves. The Government has not done much. It is my belief that passing such a Motion will help us get out of the quagmire that our people continue to face in this country.

I want to thank Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo for bringing this very important Motion. I hope it will not be a Motion that we only pass but one that will translate into policy and legislative framework. Establishing disease free zones has its own limitations. We have not done this because of the difficult positions that our Ministry employees have taken.

Sen. Kisasa: Thank you very much, Madam Temporary Speaker. I wish to thank the Professor for this very good Motion.

Madam Temporary Speaker, we have what we call zoonotic diseases, which are normally caused by the animals and passed on to human beings. So, by ensuring that our livestock are free from diseases, we will also be doing a lot of justice to Kenyans. Therefore, there is need for a lot of awareness amongst the livestock farmers, starting with the counties. Livestock shows, similar to the agricultural shows, should be conducted, so that farmers can learn from one another.

Madam Temporary Speaker, as Sen. Mositet said, veterinary doctors seem to be idle in the country, because they do not have much to do, as far as livestock is concerned. Therefore, laboratories should be set up for them to conduct research. Also, there should be adequate information on livestock diseases, so that farmers can know which diseases are more contagious and can also affect people.

Madam Temporary Speaker, with those remarks, I beg to support.

Sen. Ndiema: Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker. I rise to support the Motion as amended. I also thank the Mover of the Motion for bringing this very important issue in the economy of our country.

Madam Temporary Speaker, livestock as a subsector is very important in our economy. A large area of our country is suitable for livestock keeping. A majority of the population in our country also depends on livestock. When I talk about livestock, I am not restricting myself to the livestock in the arid and semi-arid areas. Even in the so-called high-potential areas, livestock still is a very important economy.

Madam Temporary Speaker, within the agricultural sector, the high-potential areas have been used almost to the maximum – I mean crop husbandry. The only area that is remaining with high potential for expansion is the livestock sector. The livestock sector has a lot of potential in increasing our Gross Domestic Product (GDP), hence, creating more employment opportunities for our people and generally improving the economy. In the past, this country used to have a vibrant livestock industry, but over time, this sector has been starved of resources, especially at the time of the Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs), where the issue of cost sharing was brought in and the livestock sector left to depend on itself. While subsidies were being provided in other areas, the livestock sector was starved, and the results are obvious. Where we had controlled diseases, the diseases have crept back. The diseases which we had almost gotten rid of have come back. Even the diseases that affect human beings, like Polio and Chicken Pox, have come back.

Madam Temporary Speaker, the main challenge to the livestock keepers in the arid and semi-arid areas, apart from drought, which could be as a result of climate change, is disease control. Normally after drought, when there is lush grass; diseases now step in to finish the few livestock that were left. We seem to be doing nothing. We had the Ministry of Livestock Development, which at one time was joined with agriculture and became the poor cousin of the Ministry of Agriculture, because it was starved of resources. I recall the year 2004 when employment of workers in the agricultural sector was to be done. Agricultural officers were recruited and posted to North Eastern Province, but there was no recruitment of veterinary doctors and livestock experts. Places like Merti had several agricultural officers who were posted there and yet, what they required was livestock officers, particularly the veterinary officers.

Madam Temporary Speaker, the SAPs also brought the issue of privatization of veterinary services. As a result, we ended up having veterinary doctors sitting in offices and issuing movement permits only, but not treating the livestock. Some of them eventually forgot their profession and up to now, they are idle because they do not have the facilities.

Madam Temporary Speaker, we know that in this country, there was a time when we were exporting animal products to the rest of the world, including Europe. We were the best in Africa, but over time, because of diseases, restrictions came and we cannot export. A country like Botswana came to study from us how to run a factory like Kenya Meat Commission. Right now, they are depending on livestock. They are far much ahead, yet we were ahead of them. As we talk about ranching in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), for purposes of genetic resources and restocking in the event that the ASALs run out of stock, we should not forget to retain a few ranches in the high potential areas. Therefore, farms like the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC), which are remaining, should be used for livestock propagation instead of crop. If you go to Kitale today, we are using the ADC farms to grow maize and the livestock sector is going.

Madam Temporary Speaker, we have a very rich genetic resource; our indigenous animals like the Boran cattle. I believe that Sen. Hargura should be the patented owner, but I understand that it was patented elsewhere. We are almost losing the Boran cattle, which is priced elsewhere in this world, and nobody seems to be concerned.

Madam Temporary Speaker, we should also look into the area of range management. There was a time that we used to control grazing, so that we reserve certain areas for times of emergency, but that is no longer there. If you went to Kajiado today, you will find that there is a lot of grass. In fact, if you went to buy grass there, you would pay a lot because you will think that there is grass. But very soon, that grass will just die. What we should invest in is how to harvest that grass. This is because in other countries, they have periods of drought, but their animals do not die. What we need to do in a place like Kajiado is harvest that grass and provide machinery for the farmers, because no individual farmer can buy it. We should also encourage farmers to stock their feed for future use.

Madam Temporary Speaker, with those remarks, I beg to support the Motion as amended.

Sen. Wangari: Madam Temporary Speaker, I rise to support this Motion and congratulate the Professor for bringing it to this august House. I know that West Pokot is one of the counties that really have a lot of interest in this Motion.

Madam Temporary Speaker, one major objective of zoning is to improve the quality of livestock products and make them very competitive. I think that, that has already been alluded to by the previous speaker. We used to rank highly in the export of both dairy and meat products, but this has really dwindled because we have had numerous challenges that we seek to correct.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I know that knowingly or unknowingly the Mover has borrowed really heavily from the Vision 2030 flagship project of the Ministry of Agriculture that sought to create disease free zones in two areas, that is, the Coast and Isiolo region. If you look at the Mid-Term Plan for the Vision 2030, you will realize that

the other one for Isiolo has already been shelved for environmental reasons. As suggested by the Senator for Wajir, we need to also look at and examine what the Ministry is already doing, so that we are able to synchronize our efforts with what is already going on.

Madam Temporary Speaker, one of the biggest tests of the Jubilee Government is job creation. This is because unemployment among the young people is skyrocketing. It is already a bomb exploding, as demonstrated by the number of young people who have resorted to very funny ways of making a living. I was hoping that the amendment by the Senator for Mombasa would actually open up this Motion to cover not only the ASALs. This is because I think that livestock, however, minimal or restricted it is in some regions, is still a very big contributor to the economy. In Murang'a County where I was born, the Governor already has a programme which is meant to make sure that every young person is an owner of a dairy cow. This will not only reduce the rural-urban migration, but also make sure that agriculture and livestock look very lucrative. As a result, young people can venture into them and make a living. They will move away from poverty and desperation to where they want to be.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I also want to urge the Mover of the Motion that we know very well that veterinary policy is left at the national Government. But at the same time, we need to loop in the county governments, because they are the ones charged wholly with the function of ensuring that disease control is executed in the counties. Even when we were growing up, not only did we have cattle dips, but also veterinary officers who were all over. They were covering a sub-location using motorbikes. You were sure that whenever your cow was sick, you would get assistance, just by making a call or even visiting them because we used to know where they were. I think that we need to enable these veterinary services to be mobile and increase them depending on how large the area that needs to be covered is. This is a function of the counties and I think that we need to urge the governors to give it adequate budget, so that it can be achieved.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I beg to support the Motion as amended.

*(Question, that the words to be inserted be inserted,
put and agreed to)*

*(Question, that the words to be deleted be deleted,
put and agreed to)*

(Question of the Motion as amended proposed)

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro): We now proceed to debate the Motion as amended. The new Motion now reads as follows:-

THAT, aware that Kenyans living in counties in arid areas are pastoralists who depend on livestock for their livelihood; concerned that over the years, pastoralist communities have continued to suffer loss of their animals due to diseases that are preventable; cognizant of the fact that efforts by past Governments to address the problem have not yielded

desirable results; the Senate urges the National Government to urgently put in place an effective policy to create livestock disease free zones in pastoralist areas.

Sen. Obure.

Sen. Obure: Thank you very much, Madam Temporary Speaker, for the opportunity to support this Motion as amended.

Madam Temporary Speaker, the areas we are talking about, the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALS), actually constitute approximately 70 per cent of the landmass of Kenya. The occupation of Kenyans living in these areas is pastoralism. This is their lifestyle and that is how they derive their livelihoods – from livestock. These are the areas which we have commonly referred to as “marginalized areas” of our country, generally characterized by high incidents of poverty, hopelessness, lack of job opportunities and so on yet we talk about Vision 2030, envisioning a high quality of life for all Kenyans, moving towards a higher status for our economy and yet 70 per cent of our landmass is virtually undeveloped, where a large portion of the population also live.

Madam Temporary Speaker, if you want to achieve Vision 2030 and if we seriously want to change the quality of life of our people, we must now begin to refocus our agenda and priorities. Let us begin thinking seriously about how we can exploit the potential which exists in these so-called “marginalised” areas. We must begin to think of how to improve the earnings of Kenyans. We must begin to seriously think about how to utilize the vast land available in these areas because that is a national asset. Yesterday, we had this Motion which was urging the Government to take the bulk of that land and use it for irrigation purposes. If we did that and if we did a bit of what Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo is asking for – creating disease free zones in these areas – there is a huge potential which we will be exploiting. We will be creating jobs, we will be reducing poverty and we will be driving our country towards achievement of Vision 2030. We need to do that as a matter of urgency, and that is the reason why I strongly support the Motion by Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo and its spirit, even after it has been amended. I believe the amendment adds value to this Motion.

Lastly, Madam Temporary Speaker, Botswana has been cited here as an example; that Botswana, a small country, actually came to Kenya and borrowed our policies which had been developed and they were lying in our shelves. They picked that policy on livestock, went out and implemented it and, today, they are on top of the world in terms of exports of meat and other livestock products. I think we should go back and think of where we are going wrong. We need to implement some of these good policies.

Madam Temporary Speaker, what I am saying is; in some of these areas, in northern Kenya and other ASALS, for example, what we really need to do is to revise our attitudes and thinking; to change our mentality because that is what we must do. If we went back to the basics, I believe that the potential in some of the ASAL areas of our country is so huge that they will be able to present opportunities for us to transform our lives and the lives of Kenyans. They will add value to our economy, they will help the economy to grow and, that way, they will be contributing towards the achievement of Vision 2030.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I think it is time we started moving in that direction, and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate my friend, the Professor from West Pokot – and I have had the opportunity to work with him when we served in the Government in the Ministry of Public Works and I know he is a serious man. I want to thank him seriously for his concern in bringing this Motion here because I think it will help. If we implement the spirit of this Motion, we will be able to change the lives of Kenyans and move towards achieving our Vision 2030.

Madam Temporary Speaker, I beg to support.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro): Sen. Karaba.

Sen. Karaba: Thank you, Madam Temporary Speaker, for allowing me also to contribute in support of this Motion. This Motion should have come very early in the life of Parliament because according to me, we are discussing our people and we are also discussing a region.

Madam Temporary Speaker, as it has been stated here earlier, ASAL regions in Kenya cover not 70 per cent – as I know – but it is precisely 88 per cent of the area of the country and only 10 per cent – according to my geography – is arable. Actually, 12 per cent is what most Kenyans depend on. It, therefore, calls for urgent reasoning as to what should be done to the 88 per cent of the country's total area so that we can exploit the opportunities therein. One of the greatest opportunities in this region is livestock or pastoralism. But notwithstanding the fact that the Government, in the earlier years had made quite some effort by trying to control the diseases, that was done in the 1911 Maasai Agreement which forced Maasai cows to be limited to the northern corridor as a result of the construction of the railway line to Nanyuki. The Maasai were supposed to be in those areas and not to mix with the whites, who were in the suburbs. So, you can just see the attempt here is that colonialists did not want the 'natives' at that time to mix with the animals of the whites so that the natives' animals could not spread diseases to the southern reserves. That is what made pastoralism in Kenya even worse because whites continued to discriminate against the natives as the natives would move up and down looking for grass and water, spreading diseases from one place to another; and that is the spirit of this Motion. If the Government can come up with that solution to control the diseases which are rampant in such ASAL areas, then the pastoralists and nomads living in those areas can make a living out of the environment. There is no way we can move that chunk of land to another area. The *status quo* must, therefore, remain. We cannot remove them, and because of that, the Government should come up with a permanent solution to that problem, and the solution is what we are now discussing.

Let there be this disease free zones so that we can try to see how to make use of the livestock in the ASAL areas. That can be done. There is a railway line up to Nanyuki and it is possible to extend it up to Mt. Kenya through Timau and to Isiolo so that even those who are beyond Isiolo can transfer the animals – either live or slaughtered – to the railway stations and then the meat is taken to the market areas like Nairobi and Mombasa. Live animals can also be transported to Athi River for slaughter. It is also true to say that countries like Nigeria, not even very far from Botswana, have such a policy and their systems are working. So, if they can have this system – and we are all in the Sahelian area – I therefore believe that even Kenya should be able to fit into that programme of

erecting abattoirs and slaughterhouses in those remote areas, making sure that animals are taken for slaughter and then the meat is transported by air or rail through refrigerated cars. That is possible and it has happened elsewhere. So, if it is happening in other countries, I believe we should be able to save these people before they are declared as very poor or before they sell their animals at throw away prices. The Government should, therefore, step in and save them.

Madam Temporary Speaker, it is also important to note that livestock as an industry is regarded by the Government as a productive Ministry. Therefore, the Government should pump in some money into maintaining livestock to proper health so that those animals can be the mainstay for the economies of the said areas. This is not to say that it is only livestock in those ASAL areas. We need also to make sure that we engage the pastoralists living in those areas by giving them proper research in terms of seeds; irrigation schemes should be established, we need to have what we call the water beds or the wet grass areas. For example, if it is around the River Tana, we should maintain a corridor where these people will be grazing their animals even when it is dry. We have some permanent swamps, like Lorian Swamp, which is somewhere in North Eastern Province at the mouth of River Ewaso Nyiro.

That area should be considered as a pastoral area because it is not irrigated. Normally, when you go to those areas, you will find it easier to graze the animals in the fresh grass areas. We also have research stations in Longilite which is on River Turkwel. They have enabled short lived grass to grow. So, research can be done to make sure fodder crops are provided in the areas where pastoralists live so that they can feed the animals even when it is dry. They should also be encouraged by extension officers to make hay while the sun shines like the way they do it in the northern hemisphere. In the northern hemisphere, we have three months of summer and the rest is winter. Out of the 12 months, the animals will be feeding for about nine months on hay. Why can we not have our animals feeding in the dry months? It is possible to come up with a policy to make sure that the people living in these areas are not discriminated just because of nature. It is natural for them to be there. We cannot change the environment or the climate. Therefore, it is for us to realize that there are people living there and the Government should help them.

With those few remarks, I support.

Sen. Haji: Madam Temporary Speaker, first and foremost, I want to wish my colleagues in the Senate and in Kenya generally a very good month of Ramadhan, good health to all of them and prosperous time.

From the outset, I want to totally disagree with my brother from Kirinyaga County that livestock industry is better now than it used to be long ago. Other than in the last few years when Sen. (Dr.) Mohamed Kuti was the Minister for Livestock, the livestock industry has gone down the drain. During the colonial time, there was very strict reinforcement of movement of livestock and in that manner, it was possible to control diseases. Right now, you will find that movement of livestock from one area to another is so prevalent that diseases are all over. Also during the colonial time, we used to have Livestock Marketing Board (LMB) whose job was to buy livestock from farmers and keep them in holding grounds, inoculate them, keep them for three months, take the

blood samples, examine for any disease, treat them and then allow them to move to the market. During the colonial times, both the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) in Athi River and KMC, Mombasa, used to operate daily and livestock used to be brought to those industries. At the moment, these industries have collapsed. The one in Mombasa has been completely shut down and it is not operating.

As a young man, I remember that my father was a stock trader. He would take cattle to Lamu to a holding ground, where they could be held for three months and after being found to be disease free, they would be driven to Lamu. There used to be a ship called Bonanza which could take them from Lamu to other countries, but all these things are dead now. Therefore, I want to agree with my brother here that there is need for this Government at this time to do better than it has done before. I was in the Cabinet with Sen. (Dr.) Kuti and we used to cry for money to buy livestock during droughts and we could not even raise what we wanted but when it comes to agriculture, there is always plenty of money. Even AFC loans were written off. The farmers would take loans from AFC to plant wheat and if the harvest was not good, the loans were written off. That is what happened. Therefore, to be able to help people whose livelihood depends on livestock, there is need for the Government to, first and foremost, enforce livestock movement and also ensure that there are livestock disease free zones all over the country.

Madam Temporary Speaker, people have suffered greatly because even the size of animals has changed. Cattle used to be very big but nowadays, they are as small as donkeys because of in-breeding. We should put measures in place to improve the rearing of livestock so that we have a better breed than we have right now.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Sen. (Dr.) Kuti: Madam Temporary Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo for bringing up this very important Motion which touches on the lives of pastoralists, whose mainstay is actually livestock. I would like to take you back to the history of livestock in this country. Livestock rearing has been with us all through but the formal farming started being organized during colonial days in 1890s. The country was divided into the uncontrollable, into outer, and into drier areas where it was termed diseased and the highlands which were disease free were mainly occupied by the whites. There was a very well organized mechanism where livestock from these drier diseased areas where disease control was difficult because of the nature of people moving in search of pasture and water--- There is a way to approach the disease free higher areas through stock routes. There was also, in these diseased areas, programmes for regular vaccination and there were dipping kits all over. As the time of buying those animals from diseased areas reached, there were stock routes that they followed where salt licks, dips and water points were placed at certain points. There were buffer zones called holding grounds. These animals would then come along these stock routes, get vaccinated, get dipped for ticks, be held in the holding grounds just below Mt. Kenya area, Taita Taveta and other areas. This was to protect the higher disease free zones. These animals would be kept there for four weeks and they would be treated and declared disease free before accessing the ranches in the higher regions where the whites lived. From there, they would be brought to KMC or Mombasa Kibarani Factory.

The meat was consumed locally or turned into conned beef for export. When we got Independence, Kenya was far much ahead than most of our neighbouring countries in terms of livestock husbandry. That fell apart in the 1986 policy brought by the IMF when the economy was in bad shape and the whole vaccination programme, dipping and recruitment of veterinary doctors collapsed. The Structural Adjustment Programme was turned over to the communities. That is the time the rain started beating the livestock sector. It stayed that way until 2003 when the Kibaki Government came in. I am surprised that people are complaining about the performance of the Kibaki Government in livestock production. It is when he came in 2003 that we started reviving the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC). All livestock institutions had broken down; the KMC, the KCC, veterinary doctors were not being recruited, extension services, vaccination and dipping had also died. Quacks were left free to practise in the field. The few veterinary doctors who were left in the rural areas moved to Nairobi to treat pets there because that is where the money was.

Madam Temporary Speaker, it is in 2003 that we turned that around. The KMC and KCC were opened, extension services were restarted for the first time since the 1980s and veterinary doctors and diploma holders were hired and then we started to revive the sector. We actually started moving from the KMC in Athi River, and started exporting from where the animals are. Right now in Isiolo, Garissa, Pokot and Turkana, we have export abattoirs which are all linked with international airports that will come up, like the first one will be in Isiolo where the intention was to form co-operatives around the abattoirs and get a strategic investor in the abattoir where there is an international airport and then the animals will be exported.

The disease free zone areas were delineated. There were five of them and the first two are operational. The only problem is the cost. Technically, if you look at the disease free zones, it costs Kshs9 billion to set up one disease free zone. Therefore, because of the cost, it was not possible to put all the five in process. Vision 2030 envisages five disease free zones in the former buffer zones that were prepared by the colonial Government. Therefore, the livestock sector is growing and I am surprised that some people are not aware because they do not know where it has come from, where it is and where we are heading. It is ignorance. It is my duty as the former Livestock Minister to allay that ignorance because the livestock sector is now just taking off. In 2004, one goat was costing about Kshs2, 000 in my area and during the last campaigns, you would not get a goat for less than Kshs10, 000 to Kshs8, 000 because we have opened up, especially the Arab market for export. Farmers are now getting better prices for their livestock. It will even be better once those abattoirs that are closer to where the livestock is, are opened alongside an international airport, the community is organized and also getting a strategic investor.

I support this Motion and we need to focus more on disease control because it is during the structural adjustment policies that Kenya was stamped red; diseased, and therefore, we lost 142 metric tonnes of meat exports to the European Union.

I support the Motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro): Hon. Senators, according to the Standing Orders, this Motion is allowed three hours debating time. It started at 9.10 a.m.

and must end at 12.10 p.m. Because of that constraint of time, I now call upon the Mover to reply.

Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo: Madam Temporary Speaker, as I stand to reply, I want to thank my colleagues for speaking to this Motion and interrogating it. We have heard that it is the livestock sub-sector that is going to improve and add to the gains that we anticipate to receive in the Vision 2030. We are calling upon the Government to identify where we lost it. We should make sure that extension officers are closer to the people and relevant vaccines are available where needed. You note that the previous laboratories that used to be strategically placed around the country have gone down and they need to be revived. Quarantine stations that I have previously talked about also need to be revived. The holding grounds where human beings are now staying must be vacated in consultation with the relevant county governments. These areas should be restored to their previous status. Disease barriers and inspection points should also be activated.

In doing this, we are looking at the whole country. By just eliminating the stubborn diseases in these areas, it automatically translates that these other areas which have not been mentioned will be safer because they are already practicing zero-grazing while some are doing dairy farming. They are spending a lot of money to fight diseases like East Coast Fever (ECF). It takes not less than Kshs8, 000 for a dose. It is going to be easier to manage them.

I want to thank everybody and to say that this is the way to go. We shall be asking the Senate Committee on Implementation to make a follow up of the Motions that have been passed here that touch on the lives of the people in the rural areas. When the aspirations of the Motions are achieved, they will open up jobs for the young people that are moving around.

I beg to move.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro): Hon. Senators, I want to state that this Motion as amended does not affect counties and so I will proceed to put the question and it will be by simple majority.

(Question of the Motion as amended put and agreed to)

Resolved accordingly:-

THAT, aware that Kenyans living in counties in arid and semi arid areas are pastoralists who depend on livestock for their livelihood; concerned that over the years, pastoralist communities have continued to suffer loss of their animals due to diseases that are preventable; cognizant of the fact that efforts by past Governments to address the problem have not yielded desirable results; the Senate urges the National Government to urgently put in place an effective policy to create livestock disease free zones in pastoralist areas.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Ongoro): Hon. Senators, it is now time for interruption of business. The Senate, therefore, stands adjourned until this afternoon, 10th July, 2013 at 2.30 pm.

The Senate rose at 12.05 p.m.