

RESPONSE TO A STATEMENTS REQUESTED BY  
THE HON. ABDULAH DIRIYE, MP MEMBER FOR WAJIR SOUTH AND  
THE HON. ABDI DUKICHA, MP MEMBER FOR GALOLE TO THE ENERGY,  
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Paper Laid  
By Hon. (Eng) Rege,  
on Thurs  
28<sup>th</sup> Nov.  
2013.  
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Hon. Speaker, The statements requested by the Hon. Abdulahi Diriyee, MP Member for Wajir South and the Hon. Adbi Dukicha, MP Member for Galole were related and with your permission Hon. Speaker, I wish to answer them together. I therefore wish to respond as follows on behalf of the Committee.

The Hon. Abdulahi Diriyee, MP requested the following issues from to the Committee;

1. Reasons why the fund had not benefited the intended beneficiaries yet the act was enacted in 2008 and subsequent regulation put in place in 2010.

Hon. Speaker,

The Universal service Fund is yet to be fully operationalised. The Council was gazette in the official Kenya Gazette in February 2013 and the Government is in the process of operationalising the fund. The Committee also noted that the Directors have just been appointed and are still undergoing orientations.

2. That the criteria to be used to determine which locations to benefit from the Fund:

Hon Speaker the Committee established that this is contained in the study on 'ICT Access Gaps in Kenya' that was undertaken jointly by the Communications Commission of Kenya and the National Bureau of Statistics in 2011.

The report defined ICT Gaps as areas in Kenya where currently there is no access to ICT services. These are areas that have poor roads or no electricity or low demand.

The areas that were identified to have high ICT access gaps and which are supposed to benefit from the Universal Service Fund are largely in the Counties of Turkana, Marsabit, Wajir, Mandera, Garissa, Isiolo, Tana River, and Samburu.

3. Measures the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology is taking to support this initiative especially in the helping disadvantaged communities in remote areas:

Response by the Chairperson Energy, Communication and Information

November 14, 2013



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Hon Speaker the Committee established that in preparation for the operationalization of Universal Service Fund, the Government through the Communications Commissions of Kenya has undertaken a number of Universal Access Pilot Projects in areas with ICT Access Gaps.

The pilot projects include 16 ICT Centers in Secondary schools, 4 Community Centers, 8 ICT Centers in schools for persons with Disabilities, 10 e-Resource Centers within the Kenya National Library Services, E-Health Project, Content Development that include digitization of Kenya Secondary School Curriculum by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development and a web portal for Persons With Disabilities.

- That some of these projects are in Wajir County (Sabunley Secondary School) and Habaswein Community e-Resource Centre (Library).

1. Hon. Speaker the Hon. Abdi Dukicha requested a statement, regarding Telecommunication Services Coverage in Galole Constituency:

Hon. Speaker the Committee established as follows that:

- The geographical coverage by mobile Telephone Operators is mainly based on the operator's commitment in their respective licenses regarding infrastructure roll-out a factor that is mainly driven by commercial considerations in a liberalized market such as Kenya.
- The mobile network land coverage is yet to reach all corners of the country with the National estimate of mobile land coverage being at about 34.5% implying that large sections (65.5%) of the land mass across Kenya are still with no Communication network.
- It is expected that when the **Universal Access Fund is fully operationalised**, the areas with no coverage including Galole Constituency will have mobile telephone Coverage.

The Committee resolved that the response was satisfying the Members request.

Thank you Hon. Speaker I beg to lay this report

Response by the Chairperson Energy, Communication and Information

November 14, 2013

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The Hon. Jamleck Kamau, MP  
Chairperson Energy, Communication and Information

Response by the Chairperson Energy, Communication and Information

November 14, 2013



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT  
(FIRST SESSION)

## REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Pursuant to Standing Order 44(2)(c), I wish to request a statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Energy, Information and Communication regarding the network coverage by telecommunication service providers.

Mr. Speaker Sir, communities in Hola and Galole constituencies, among others in Northern Kenya, encounter poor network coverage, and thus face limited communication capacities.

Mr. Speaker Sir, in his statement, the Chairperson should:-

Clarify why the telecommunication service providers have not provided coverage to the marginalized and neglected pastoralist communities of these areas yet many other parts of the country already enjoy these services.

Hon. Hassan Abdi Dukicha, M.P.

MEMBER FOR GALOLE CONSTITUENCY

Date.....

Approved  
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REPUBLIC OF KENYA



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(FIRST SESSION)

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Hon. Hassan Abdi Dukicha, M.P.  
MEMBER FOR GALOLE CONSTITUENCY

Date.....

Approved  
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