

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



GARISSA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND COUNTY ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION

REPORT

**OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ICT AND
INFORMATION SERVICES**

**ON THE VISIT HELD TO GARISSA VILLAGE POLYTECHNIC ON THE STATUS
OF THE POLYTECHNIC**

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Honorable Speaker,

The Committee on Education, Information and ICT was constituted on 25th September,2022 during the second Session of the Third County Assembly (3rd) pursuant to provisions of Standing Orders 191 (1). The Committee executes its mandate in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 191 from which it draws its mandate to do the following; all matters related to the pre-primary education, village polytechnics, home craft centers and childcare facilities.

Hon Speaker,

The Committee on Education, Information and ICT comprises of the following Member;

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon Abdiweli Aden Abdullahi | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon Fatuma Aben Abdi | Vice chairperson |
| 3. Hon Mahat Abdikadir | Member |
| 4. Hon Aden Hassan Odowa | Member |
| 5. Hon Mariam Mohamed | Member |
| 6. Hon Katra Iman | Member |
| 7. Hon Zamzam Mohamed | Member |
| 8. Hon Mana Abdi Moulid | Member |
| 9. Hon Abdi I brahim Daar | Member |
| 10.Hon Hassan Dahir Noor | Member |
| 11.Hon Abdiqayum Sugow Nurow | Member |
| 12.Hon Ahmednoor Aden | Member |
| 13.Hon Hassan Adan Kolosho | Member |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Committee takes this opportunity to thank the offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical support accorded to it during the visit.

Further, I wish to express my appreciation to the Honorable Members of the Committee who traded off their time to participate in the crucial task undertaken by the Committee.

Special appreciation also goes to the secretariat to the Committee who on several occasions had to go beyond their normal call of duty.

Hon. Speaker,

On behalf of the members of the Education, Information and ICT Committee, its therefore my pleasure to present to this Assembly, the Committees’ report on the visit to Garissa Village Polytechnic to deliberate on the status of the Village polytechnic.

Date.....

Signed.....

Hon Abdiweli Aden Abdullahi

Chair: Committee on Education, Information and ICT

Preface

Hon. Speaker, the Committee held a fact finding mission with the management and instructors of the village polytechnics with a view of establishing the determinants which were responsible for low enrolment and the general status of Garissa village polytechnic.

Historical Background of Garissa Village Polytechnic

Hon. Speaker,

Garissa Vocational Training Centre started many years back in 1968 as a village polytechnic. In 1988, it was re-named Garissa Youth Polytechnic under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. This was under the Government initiative to re-energize polytechnics. Its situated within Garissa town and is meant to serve the youth from the neighborhood. The vocational training center was run under the national government from the inception to the time the Kenyan new constitution came into being in 2010 which developed function undertaken by the village polytechnics to the county devolved structure.

Status of Garissa Village Polytechnics

Hon. Speaker,

Over many years of neglect Garissa VTC and indeed most village polytechnics, they almost collapsed to the extent that they had an enrolment of only 5 students and 2 instructors. In the year 2002, a new government came into power which then put more emphasis on the VTC's by providing funds to them through the Subsidized Youth Polytechnic Tuition Fund (SYPT) which revived GVTC.

In 2008, under the leadership of the Centre Manager and B.O.M, the center mobilized the community through advertisement and public talks in mosques hence thereafter, the enrolment started rising. By the end of that year, the enrolment increased substantially to the point that they hired extra 5 instructors and was offering motor vehicle mechanics, carpentry and joinery, ICT and tailoring. By 2010, the enrolment was even higher.

The County government of Garissa then in a public announcement waived fee payment and declared that the VTC would be supported to provide free training services which further increased the enrolment to about 400 but due to inadequate support to the Centre, most of the trainees dropped out.

Hon Speaker,

The County government has disbursed only a bursary of Kshs. 400,000 and Kshs. 160,000 during the 2013/2014 and 2022/2023 financial years.

The Centre has been heavily depending on Development partners to run the institution and hence sustain its key activities.

The input of Garissa County Government

The government has employed and absorbed a total of 20 staff for the institution, 13 of whom are instructors while the remaining are non-teaching/non-instructing staff. It's the county government's responsibility to remunerate the staff, there are those critical staff who are affected by the purge including the only Electrical Instructor.

CHALLENGES

The challenges faced by the center are categorized into 4:

1. Human Resource
2. Infrastructure
3. Tools and Equipment/Training Materials
4. Enrolment

Human Resource

GVTC is understaffed, both teaching and non-teaching staff compared to the increasing enrolment and expansion of its scope of work.

In addition, the recent purge has affected the institution, particularly the electrical department was extremely affected since the only Electrical Instructor was removed from payroll other four (4) Instructors were also affected by the purge including the ICT, Carpentry and Joinery, Tailoring Instructor and 2 Subordinate staffs.

Top priorities in need of getting addressed in the challenge of Human Resource

- ✓ Reinstatement of the affected staff specifically the Electrical Instructor.
- ✓ Employment of qualified and competent Instructors in the following areas:
 1. Plumbing department.
 2. Automotive department.
 3. Tailoring and Dressmaking department.
 4. Hairdressing and Beauty department. Annex II
 5. Electrical department.
 6. Welding and Fabrication department. Annex I
 - ✓ Employment of subordinate staff i.e watchman and cleaners.
 - ✓ Promotion of existing staff who are stagnated in one job group for long periods.
 - ✓ Training of center manager and senior staffs in leadership.
 - ✓ Staff performance to be praised whether in teaching or non-teaching.
 - ✓ Consideration of the Instructors' qualifications.

2. Infrastructural development

The management also informed the Committee that the infrastructure of Garissa VTC is lacking the following and need to be addressed:

- ✓ Administration Block i.e separate the center manager's office and those of the deputy manager, the admissions', the Instructors' and the Boardrooms'.
- ✓ Modern Workshops for Electrical, Plumber and Automotive which are well equipped.
- ✓ The newly constructed ICT lab which is now closed be opened and equipped.
- ✓ Kitchen be constructed.
- ✓ Construction of Washrooms for both staff and trainees.
- ✓ Provision of learning Chairs for trainees.

3. Tools and Equipment

The institution also lacks financial ability to acquire, sustain, service and maintain training materials which are categorized into:

- ✓ Consumable
- ✓ Non-consumable

Consumable Materials i.e sewing threads, sewing needle and cable wires need to be sustained.

Non-consumable learning materials i.e physical tools and equipment require servicing and maintenance.

They also informed us that there are inadequate training materials for all the course such as; Zig-zag and over-lap machine, Desktop and printing machines, Car engines, Beauty equipment, Plumbing equipment, Hummers and hack saws, pliers, PPR machines and assorted materials.

Inadequate electrical equipment; modern drawing board for practical in installation of wires, compel consumer unit(CCU) with circuit breaker and double bolts, socket switches, conduits and wires.

4.Enrolment

The total enrolment are 320 students comprising of 179 boys and 141 girls. 95% are the locals. The institution offers skilled-based courses that impact the lives of people directly.

Courses offered include;

- ❖ Tailoring
- ❖ Beauty and Hairdressing
- ❖ Welding and Fabrication
- ❖ Electrical and Wiring
- ❖ Motor Vehicle Mechanic
- ❖ Carpentry and Joinery
- ❖ Plumbing and Masonry
- ❖ I.C.T

Recommendation

1. Measures be taken to embark on serious recruitment of Technical and vocational training instructors and subordinate staff by the department by reaching out to the county public service board, so as to address the human resource crisis in the institution.
2. The committee recommends that the department of Education to follow up on the instructors (ICT, Carpentry and Joinery and Tailoring) affected by the purge and return them to the county payroll soonest possible.
3. The committee recommends that; the department for education to budget for the construction of modern workshops for Electrical, plumbing and automotive practical's, administration block, kitchen and washrooms.
4. That this house resolves that, the Parent committee to question the Education department on whether there are funds allocated to buy for tools, equipment and training materials; if yes, why is the fund not disbursed to the institution.
5. The committee recommends that the department of Education to support on community awareness creation in order to increase enrolment rate of the TVET institution.
6. According to the assessment and inspection conducted by the Technical Vocational and Education Training Authority(TVETA)with regards to the Registration and Licensing of the Centre Only 4 Instructors (1 Automotive, 1AICT, 1 Carpentry and 1 Electrical (who was affected by purge)) meet the entry requirements. Therefore, they recommended:
 - ❖ Instructors who did not meet the threshold to progress their career
 - ❖ GVTC Management to lobby employment of new instructors who have requisite qualifications.
7. The Committee to follow up with the Education department on the status of the ICT laboratory and reason for the closure since the construction is complete.

Conclusion

Technical and Vocational training play a vital role since the courses offered are skilled based courses that positively impact the economic growth and development of the county and in this regard, the committee resolved that this honorable house to approve the committee report on the same

Annex I: Welding workshop



Annex II: Saloon and Hair dressing

