REPUBLIC OF KENYA

GARISSA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON COHESION, INTERGRATION AND SPECIAL PROGRAMME

THE THIRD GARISSA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

REPORT ON:

GARISSA COUNTY DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT BILL, 2024

CLERK'S CHAMBERS, GARISSA MAY, 2025

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1.0 PREFACE

Honorable Speaker,

The Committee on special program and disaster management was constituted on Wednesday, 7th May, 2025 during the First Session of the third Garissa County Assembly, pursuant to provisions of Standing Orders 222 (6). The Committee executes its mandate in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 209(6), from which it draws its mandate to make reports and recommendations for proposed legislation.

The committee is also mandated, Pursuant to Article 185(2) of the Constitution, where the County Assembly is entrusted to make laws that are necessary for, or incidental to, the effective performance of the functions and exercise of powers of the County government under the fourth schedule.

Hon Speaker sir,

The Committee on special programme and disaster comprises of the following:

1) Hon. Noor Sheikh Farah	Chairperson
2) Hon.Katra Iman Sigat	V/chair
3) Hon Aden Hassan Odhawa	Member
4) Hon Farhiya Buro Idow	Member
5) Hon Fatuma Ibrahim Hakar	Member
6) Hon Mohamed Sheikh Abdi	Member
7) Hon Abdiqayum Sugow Nurow	Member
8) Hon Mohamed Abdi Farah	Member
9) Hon Zamzam Mohamed Hassan	Member
10) Hon Abdirahman Mukhtar M	Member
11) Hon Ahmed Noor Aden	Member
12) Hon Faqrudin Haji Sadik	Member
13) Hon Yunis Abdi Ibrahim	Member

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee thanks the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Garissa County Assembly for the support extended to it in the conduct of the public hearings. The Committee also thanks in particular the organizations that were instrumental in facilitating the public participation to the sub-counties, these organizations were Islamic relief and UNICEF (united nation children's emergency fund), and finally members of the public who made their submissions orally.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

It is my pleasant duty, pursuant to Standing Order 144(4), to present a report of the Committee on cohesion, integration and special programme committee on disaster risk management bill 2024, for consideration by the House.

SIGNED.....

DATE.../2/5/2025.....

HON: HON. NOOR SHEIKH FARAH

CHAIRMAN,
COHESION, INTEGRATION AND SPECIAL PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

3.0 INTRODUCTION

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Disaster Risk Management Bill, 2024, originated from The Department special programme and disaster management of the Garissa County Government. The Bill was sponsored by the County Executive Member for County Affairs

The Bill was read first time in the Assembly on 4th April,2023, and it was committed to the Committee on Cohesion, Integration and Special Programmes Committee pursuant to Standing Order 144(1).

Pursuant to Article 196 (b) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 144 (4), of the Garissa County Assembly Standing Orders, the Standing Committee on Cohesion, Integration and Special Programme facilitated a public hearing forum that was conducted in three different sub-Counties that is; Lagdera balambala and Ijara sub-counties respectively. The committee selected one center in each of the three sub-counties earmarked for the public participation in a meeting held by the committee in the Assembly and selected the following centers Afweyne in Lagdera sub-county, Shimbirey in balambala sub-county and Masalani in Ijara sub-county. The public participation was aimed at taking into account the views and recommendations of the public in preparation of this report so that the rightful representative of the public (that is the MCAs) can make a decision on this bill while they have information on what the general public thinks of this legislative piece.

4.0. OVERVIEW OF THE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT BILL, 2024

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Bill recognizes Disaster and Risk management planning, coordination and funding to be essential in protecting lives and property of the resident of Garissa County. This is a very important step towards helping the people who oftenly face huge challenges as a result of disasters weather draught, floods, outbreak of human and animal disease.

4.1 The objective of the Bill

The main objective of this Bill is to establish the structures for the management of disasters and emergencies by promoting cooperation amongst agencies with a role in disaster management, and enhancing their capacities to maintain the provision of essential services, including psychological services, during periods of disaster and emergency. Some of the key objectives intended to be achieve include;

1. The objective of the Bill is to, establish an efficient structure for the management of disasters and emergencies,
2. To ensure the county government effectively coordinates with other relevant agencies to mitigate the impacts of disasters and emergencies,
3. To enhance the capacity of communities and the county government to effectively manage the impacts of disasters and emergencies and to take all necessary action to prevent or minimize threats to life, health and the environment from natural disasters and other emergencies,
4. Also vest authority in persons to act during times of disaster and emergency in accordance with this Act, and to require the observance and implementation of directives given and initiatives taken by persons authorized under this Act and finally
5. Implement mechanisms to reduce disaster risks and hazards that may cause, contribute to or exacerbate disaster or emergency situations in the county.

4.2 Overview of disaster risk management

What constitutes a disaster? the scope of the bill, and the responsibilities of various stakeholders involved in disaster risk management. Disaster risk management involves identifying, assessing, and mitigating potential risks and vulnerabilities to minimize the impact of disasters on communities and infrastructure.

It includes preparedness, response, recovery, and resilience-building efforts to enhance a society's ability to cope with and recover from natural or man-made disasters. This field encompasses various strategies, such as early warning systems, land-use planning, infrastructure development, public awareness campaigns, and coordination among stakeholders to reduce the risk and impact of disasters.

This bill establishes structures that are meant to deal with matters of disaster risk management and they are the County Risk Management Committee and a Directorate which will deal with the implantation and day to day activity in disaster risk management.

4.3 Establishment of the County Disaster Risk Management Committee

In general the bill proposes the establishment of County Disaster Risk Management Committee, which will; Promote an integrated and coordinated approach to disaster risk management in the county, with special emphasis on preparedness, prevention, mitigation and recovery by other role players involved in disaster risk management in the county also Act as a repository of and conduit for, information concerning disasters impending disasters and disaster risk management in the county, Act as an advisory and consultative body on issues concerning disasters and disaster risk management in the county, Receive any grants, gifts, donations or endowments for purposes of disaster risk management in the county and make disbursements for this purpose therefrom among other functions.

4.4 Establishment of the Directorate

There is established Directorate which shall have the overall responsibility of performing the functions of disaster risk management in the County

The directorate is tasked with the function to: formulate the county disaster risk management policy, formulate budgets and estimates relating to disaster risk management, formulate, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the National Policy on Disaster Risk Management and the County Disaster Risk Management Plan, examine the vulnerability of different parts of the county to different disasters and specify prevention or mitigation measures, lay down guidelines to be followed for the preparation of disaster risk management plans by the county departments,

The directorate also conducts evaluation of the preparedness at all governmental or non-governmental levels in the county to respond to disaster and to enhance preparedness, assist ministries, agencies and other entities to prepare plans in accordance with the county's priorities and aligned to the county disaster risk management plan, co-ordinate preparedness, response and recovery in the event of a disaster,

give directions to any county department or authority regarding actions to be taken in response to disaster, promote general education, awareness and community training in this regard, submit quarterly reports to the Committee and the County Executive Member, promote the recruitment,

training and participation of volunteers in disaster risk management in the county, promote disaster risk management capacity building, training and education, including in schools, in the county,

4.5 Structure of the bill

Disaster risk management bill establishes the structure for the management of disasters and emergencies by promoting cooperation's amongst agencies with a role in disaster management, and enhancing their capacities to maintain the provision of essential services, including psychological services, during periods of disaster and emergencies.

Part I of the Bill sets out the preliminary matters including the commencement date. the definition of various terms used in the Bill, the objects of the Bill and the guiding principles.

Part II of the Bill establishes the Disaster Risk Management structure including the County Disaster Risk Management Committee, the Directorate, the stakeholder forms, and their functions. These institutional structures will be under the direction of the County Disaster Risk Management Committee.

Part III of the Bill establishes the County Disaster Risk Management Plan which shall be approved by the County Disaster Risk Management Committee or may delegate the power for approval to the Directorate for implementation. This Part provides for the powers and roles of the Committee or the Directorate as the case may be and what the Plan consists off.

Part IV of the Bill provides for the response agency and community planning which have been listed in the schedule in the Act. The Part outlines how each response agency shall prepare a response agency plan during times of disaster and emergency. The plan also provides for other institutions to develop a disaster management plan which shall be reviewed and endorsed by the Directorate before being submitted for approval by the County Disaster Risk Management Committee.

Part V of the Bill provides for the declaration of a disaster by the chair of the County Disaster Risk Management Committee which would activate with immediate effect the disaster response provisions of the County Disaster Risk Management Plan in the occurrence of any disaster. The part outlines responsibility for coordinating recovery activities in the aftermath of any disaster or emergency, the period and termination of a disaster.

Part VI of the Bill creates the disaster risk management fund and also outlines sources of the County Disaster Risk Management Fund. The part also provides for immediate procurement of provisions or materials or immediate application of resources necessary for rescue relief to be procured by the concerned department upon satisfaction by the County Disaster Risk Management Committee. The part also provides that proper books and records of account of the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities be kept.

Part VII of the Bill provides for miscellaneous clauses which provides for civil and criminal liability for any person exercising a function or power in good faith and without negligence under this Act or the County Disaster Risk Management Plan. This part also provides for regulations and the savings and transitional measures.

5.0 PUBLIC PERTICIPATION/STAKE HOLDERS INVOLVEMENT

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Public participation in Kenya is considered crucial pillar of the Kenyan constitution. It promotes democracy by providing the public with the opportunity to take part in decision making process in Government.

Governments are mandated to give effect to public participation through the Fourth Schedule Part 2 (14) which states the county will ensure and coordinate the participation of communities and locations in governance at the local level.

Counties also assist communities to develop the administrative capacity for the effective exercise of the functions and powers and participation in governance at the local level.

Article 201(a) also outlines public participation as one of the principles of public finance alongside openness and accountability.

It is upon this premise that the Garissa County Assembly organized public sector sub-county level consultative forums between 12th -16th march,2024 for the preparation of public participation forum.

6.0 PUBLIC HEARING AND SUBMISSIONS

6.1 SUBMISSIONS BY:

ABDI MOHAMED
The participant urged the committee for the constructions of mega dam particularly in afweine so that it helps water reservations and reduces effect of floods.

6.2 SUBMISSIONS BY:

FARHAN ABDULLAHI

The participant urged the committee that, during the formation of disaster risk management committee there shall be representative of at least one person from the community up to the sub-county level. This will encourage fair representation of the locals in the management and the decision making towards the prudent of the said fund.

6.3 SUBMISSIONS BY:

ISNINO MOHAMED

The participant urged the Committee on special programmes to do proper oversight role in relation to the emergency fund during emergencies so that there is no misappropriation of the fund meant for disasters and related matters.

6.4 SUBMISSION BY:

MUHUBA ABDI FARAH

The participant reiterated the need to exercise utmost professionalism and transparency by disaster risk management committee during their operations so that there is equal opportunities for all victims when disaster strike.

6.5 SUBMISSION BY;

ABDIAZIZ MOHAMED

The participant suggested that anybody who is entrusted with money or materials or otherwise being in custody of money or goods meant for providing relief during disaster within the county and misappropriate it to face a fine of 0ne million Kenyan shillings instead of five hundred thousand and imprisonment of one year.

6.6 KEY FINDINGS

Many residents lacked awareness of specific disaster risks and mitigation measures.
There was a strong desire for clearer communication channels and instructions during emergencies.
Certain demographic groups, such as elderly and low-income residents, expressed concerns about access to resources during disasters.
Despite challenges, there was a notable sense of community cohesion and willingness to support one another during crises.

In conclusion there is need to;

1. Launch a targeted public awareness campaign to increase knowledge of local hazards and preparedness measures.
2. Improve communication systems, including emergency alert systems and multilingual resources.

3. Ensure that disaster plans address the needs of vulnerable populations and involve them in decision-making processes.
4. Continue to foster community resilience through regular engagement opportunities and grassroots initiatives.

7.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Committee recommended the consideration of the public opinion as ideal and worthy for the existence of the bill towards its implementation for the common good of the County Residents.
- The Committee also recommends the adaption and the subsequent passing of the same

Annex

Meeting the adoption of the report

GARISSA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE ON COHESION, INTEGRATION AND SPECIAL PROGRAMME HELD ON 12TH MAY 2025 AT THE MAJORITY LEADER OFFICE AT 10:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT

1) Hon Noor shekh..... Chair
2) Hon. Katra iman sigat.....v/chair
3) Hon. Aden hassan Odowa.....Member
4) Hon. Farhiya burro ..... Member
5) Hon fatuma hakar.....Member
6) Hon. Abdirahman mukhtar..... .....Member
7) Hon zamzam mohamed.....member

Members absent

1) Hon mohamed sheikh
2) Hon abdiqayum
3) Hon Faqrudin haji
4) Hon mohamed abdi farah

Agenda

1) Preliminary
2) Adoption of DRM bill report
3) A.O.B
4) Adjournment

Min1 1/5/2025: OPENING REMARKS.

The meeting was opened with word of prayer by Hon Abdirahman and the chair call the meeting to order welcoming all the members and emphasizing the importance of the agenda item.

Min1 1/5/2025: ADOPTION OF REPORT ON DRISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT BILL 2024

the committee deliberated on the public participation report of disaster risk management bill 2024, which seek to enhance preparedness, response and recovery mechanism for natural and human made disaster within Garissa county

after extensive deliberations and input from the committee members, the committee resolved to adopt the report on disaster risk management bill 2024 unanimously.

Min2 1/5/2025: AOB.

There being no any other business the chair thanked members for their contribution

Min1 1/5/Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Minutes prepared by

Abdinasir ahmed . (clerk)…Date. 12/5/2025 Sign.....

Confirmed by (chair).. Date. 12/5/2025 sign.....

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

To: The Payroll manager,

I ....Abdiwaan Ahmed.....certify that the under mentioned members attended the meeting of the Select Committee on..Cohesion/Integration & Special.....on(date)..12/5/2025 The committee met at 12:00 Pm..hours and adjourned at..12:30.....hours, the Agenda being.....Adoption of Com report.....

Members present		**SIGN**
1.	CHAIRMAN NOOR SHEIKH	
2.	V/Chair Amb Khatra Iman Sigat	
3.	Hon. Aden Hassan Member	
4.	Hon. Fadhiya Bun Member	
5.	Hon. Abdirahman Muse Member	
6.	Hon. Fatuma Hakar	
7.	Hon Sagam Mohamed	
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		

Members absent

1. Hon Abdi Rayum
2. ~~Abdirahman Salat~~
3. Hon Fadumo
4. Hon Mohamed Ahmed
5. Hon Mohamed Sheikh
6. .....

Committee secretariat		**Sign**
1.	Abdiwaan Ahmed	
2.	Abdirahman Salat	
3.		
4.		
5.		

NAME(Clerk to the Committee).....Abdiwaan.....**Date**..12/5/2025..**Sign**.....

Principal Clerk.....**Date**.....**Sign**.....

Payroll Manager.....**Date**.....**Sign**.....