

REMODELLING OF THE CHAMBER

Minister for Roads &
Public works on
Thesay, 21 me, 2006

Historical Background

- Sometime during the 8th Parliament, the Member for Cheranganyi introduced a Motion to the House seeking to allow proceedings of the House and House Committees to be broadcast live both on radio and television.
- On passing the Motion, an ad hoc Committee chaired by Hon Repute Kirwament was formed on broadcasting which toured a number of Parliaments both In NYA Africa and Europe to see how this resolution could be implemented.
- The ad Committee submitted its report to the House for debate and the report was adopted.
- Thereupon, the Commission took it upon itself to ensure ;that such a resolution of the House is implemented.
- A committee chaired by the Deputy Speaker and comprising the following individuals representing our wider Kenyan society was formed in 2003 to coordinate a design competition for remodelling the Chamber.
 - (i) The Hon. Moses Akaranga, M.P. to represent Parliamentary Service Commission.
 - (ii) The Hon. (Eng) Eric O. Nyamunga, M.P- to represent Members of Parliament.
 - (iii) The Hon. Njoki Ndung'u, M.P- to represent Members of Parliament.
 - (iv) Mr. Philip Kungu President of the Commonwealth Architectural Association.
 - (v) Mr. Phillip O. Sika Chief Architect Ministry of Roads and Public Works
 - (vi) Eng. Mbiyu Kimani Chief Structural Engineer, Ministry of Roads and Public Works.
 - (vii) Mr. Vincent B. Walubayi Chief Quantity Surveyor
 - (viii) Mr. D.M. Mutiso Consulting Architect.

The objectives of the Competition were:-

- To accommodate the increase in number of Members of Parliament.
- To modify the current layout of the Chamber together with the

necessary services.

- To give the chambers a sense of dignity and symbolic importance befitting its national status.
- To provide innovative technical solutions for electronic voting, transmission and radio broadcasts.
- To provide an internal environment of the highest standards for human safety and comfort.

The brief was:-

- To remodel the current seating arrangement to create space for 300 members of Parliament. Each seat to have provision for a member to follow, contribute and vote on the deliberations in the chamber through state-of-the-art technology and facilities.
- To re-design the chamber for television and radio broadcasting of both House and Committee proceedings through a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) system covering Parliament Buildings, Continental House and County Hall.
- To re-design the ablution areas in response to the increase in numbers.
- To re-design the air-conditioning and lighting systems for maximum efficiency and thermal comfort and audio-visual adequacy.
- To provide an interior dècor that captures the historical, anthropological, environmental and cultural diversity and richness of Kenya.
- To provide digitised recording and transcription system for the House and Committee deliberations.
- To provide detailed designs and specifications for the necessary digital, audiovisual equipment required for recording and broadcasting of the House and Committee proceedings.
- To re-model the Chamber in such a manner that the structural stability and safety and external façade of Parliament Buildings is not altered in any way or form. The National Assembly of Kenya is protected building under the National Monuments Act.
 - The mandate of the Committee was to go through the various submissions which had been made by bidders from which they would choose the best, second best and third best firms in the design competition.

- At a ceremony held on 7th April, 2004 after the rise of the House, Members were invited to a function hosted by the Speaker at which the winner of the competition was to be officially announced.
- M/s K & M Archplans were pronounced the winners and consequently were awarded a cheque of Kshs.500,000/= for having produced the best design. The first and second runners-up were also given some awards. This was done publicly and infront of all Members and guests who came to attend the ceremony. There was major press coverage of the event.
- The Deputy Speaker in July/August 2004 led a delegation to tour some Parliaments outside Kenya with a view to seeing some of the features which could be incorporated in the design of some works to be executed in the remodelling of the Chamber.
- Between April, 2004 and May, 2005 both the private consultants led by M/s K
 & M Archiplans and the consultants from the Ministry of Roads and Public Works were involved in detailed architectural drawings and engineering designs and the general documentation to facilitate the tendering of the project.
- They estimated cost of the works was Kshs.745,000,000/= broken down as follows:-

Subcontract		Estimated Cost
		(Kshs.)
(1)	Chamber Seating	62,000,000/=
(2)	Plumbing, Drainage	
	Firefighting Equipment	25,025,000/=
(3)	Air Conditioning & Mechanical	
	Ventilation	62,400,000/=
(4)	Electrical Installations	76,236,000/=
(5)	Multimedia Digital	
	Congress Network	145,305,000/=
(6)	Radio & TV	

Total		745,000,000/=
(7)	Builders Works	<u>140,000,000/</u> =
	Broadcasting Equipment	143,302,000/=

- Prior to working out the detailed architectural and engineering drawings, the consultants had advised the National Assembly to do advertisements in the dailies for prequalification.
- This was done in 2004 and the prequalified firms thereafter issued with tender documents. The closing date was 19th April, 2005.
- By end of May, 2005 the consultants had done their technical evaluation and what remains now is for the Tender Committee of the National Assembly to award the tender.
- During the award of the tender for the various works, the Engineers' estimates
 may be exceeded or the tenderers could put bids which are lower than the
 estimates given by the Engineers.
- It is after all the tenders for the various ;subcontracts are awarded that the actual cost of the project shall be known.
- There have been comments that the sum of money for the project is excessive and could construct a new chamber.
- Whether the present chamber is renovated or a new one is constructed, an estimate amount of Kshs. 605 Million will be spent on the technical systems excluding the builders work which will be much more than the provision of Kshs.140 Million for the Builders Works (including the contingencies). We are informed that Phase 1 of the new Tanzania Parliament in Dodoma was approximately 30 Billion Tsh. (or Ksh.2.7B.).

The refutorishment of the Cormon Parliament Cost DM 600 million or approximately Ush 24 Bidion the Recently completed Scotlish parliament has estimated to cost of #31m or Koh 60B.