REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Hm. speaker for your spooner



Approved.
Blad SWA
1517/2020

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (FOURTH SESSION)

#### PUBLIC PETITION

(No. 18 of 2020)

# REGARDING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF PHASE 2B OF THE STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY (SGR) PROJECT

I, the **UNDERSIGNED**, on behalf of concerned Kenyans especially residents of South Rift and Nyanza, draw the attention of the House to the following;

- 1) **THAT**, the design for infrastructure development, particularly road and railway transport, ought to be intended to open up the areas it traverses or terminates for economic exploitation and spur economic development;
- **2) THAT;** having completed Phase 2A of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) from Nairobi to Suswa, the Government embarked on design and construction of the westbound Phase 2B of the SGR project from the Suswa dry Port;
- 3) **THAT,** residents of South Rift and Nyanza welcomed the project with optimism that it would further open up the regions for economic exploitation, spur economic development and contribute to expansion of urban areas along the SGR line;
- **4) THAT,** unfortunately, the multibillion 52km Phase 2B SGR line from the Suswa dry Port stalled at Emurutoto Shopping Center, a small shopping center with only one shop and a butchery, neither roads nor any essential social amenities:
- 5) **THAT,** residents are concerned that there seems to be no indication construction of the Phase 2B of the SGR line will extend to Western Kenya as envisaged;
- **6) THAT,** Phase 2B SGR project could be economically viable if the 12km stretch to Narok Town is completed to give it an economic catchment area of the Greater Lake Region;
- 7) **THAT,** residents are further concerned that unless the remaining short stretch of 12km from Emurutoto to Narok Town is completed the project runs the risk of becoming a white elephant in which billions of shillings sourced through in loans and tax payers money with little economic returns and benefits to south Rift and Greater Western regions;

### PUBLIC PETITION

### REGARDING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF PHASE 2B OF THE STANDARD GAUGE RAILWAY (SGR) PROJECT

- 8) **THAT,** the completion of the 12km stretch to Narok Town could transform serve as a Special Economic Zone and a hub for residents of the region producing fish, wheat, maize, barley, tea, potatoes, livestock products, bananas, avocados, pineapple, soap stones, sugarcane among other products;
- **9) THAT,** the matters raised in this Petition are not pending in any Court of Law, constitutional or other legal body;

**THEREFORE,** your humble Petitioners pray that the National Assembly through the Departmental Committee on Transport, Public Works and Housing: -

- (i) Inquires into the circumstances under which the SGR Phase 2B Project has terminated in a remote Emurutoto Shopping Center instead of Narok Town;
- (ii) Intervenes through the relevant Government Ministries to ensure that the 12km stretch from Emurutoto Shopping Center to Narok Town, which has sufficient human traffic and adequate economic viability and that a link to the highly productive Greater Lake Region be constructed;
- (iii) Recommends to the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure and the National Treasury to identify financial resources to complete the 12km stretch of SGR to Narok Town, and to urgently ensure that the already constructed 52km stretch is safeguarded from vandalism perpetrated by scrap metal dealers and that it does not fall into utter disuse; and
- (iv) Makes appropriate recommendations with respect to ensuring the short- and medium-term viability of Phase 2B of the SGR is realized.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

PRESENTED BY:

THE HON. DAVID OLE SANKOK, MP NOMINATED MEMBER

DATE: (5) 7 2020

### PUBLIC PETITION

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