

State urged to send KDF in conflict-torn Laikipia

Senators and governors want officers deployed to reinforce efforts to flush out bandits

by Hillary Mageka and David Macharia
@PeopleDailyKe

Governors and senators now want the government to deploy Kenya Defence Forces to Laikipia county to reinforce a multi-agency team from the National Police Service already in the violence-hit region.

Speaking separately, county chiefs and senators said it was a shame that Kenyans were being massacred in Laikipia yet no permanent solution has been found to deal with the menace.

Senators asked the government to bring a motion to Parliament to approve deployment of the army, terming the skirmishes as atrocious and totally unconscionable.

Calls for deployment of the military in the restive county came as Inspector General of Police Hillary Mutiyambai promised to restore peace in the area within a week.

"Our focus will now shift to areas outside the ranches and conservancies. This is because our security forces have flushed out most of illegal herders," said the IG.

Mutyambai spoke at Miriguit Primary School, which armed bandits attempted to burn. He said the violence hotspots, particularly the entire Ol Moran division will be secured. "We are urging residents to return to their homes in the secured areas as the operation continues. We have so far secured most parts in the Ol Moran settlement and we are continually beefing up security in the area. There have not been attacks in the past two days," said Mutiyambai.

Air and ground surveillance security teams were evident with several helicopters circling the sky.

Rift Valley Regional Commissioner George Ntembeya disclosed that learning had been affected in at least five schools after residents fled their homes in fear of attacks.

So far, 10 people have been killed and countless families displaced over the last two weeks even as armed bandits continued to conduct raids, which have adversely affected the community leading to a humanitarian crisis.

Ample time

"Let the government bring any motion to this House so that we are able to approve the deployment of the army. Before we do that, we must explain why the police have not succeeded in fighting the bandits," Bungoma Senator Moses Wetangula said.

Nominated Senator Naomi Waqo piled pressure on the government to deploy KDF, saying it is their responsibility to protect the lives and properties of Kenyans. "We must bring to a stop the insecurity



Residents of Laikipia west in Olmoron Kasarani area flee their homes after bandits attacked and burnt their homes, yesterday. PDR/APHEAL MUNGE

SWIFT ACTION

● **Governors have asked the national government to urgently arrest and prosecute individuals behind the skirmishes**

● **They have also pushed for a comprehensive mechanism for disarmament and a long-term solution for communities living within the Suguta valley triangle.**

in Laikipia. This is not felt and not seen in many parts of the country. Sometimes I wonder if it is the same government that is facilitating the war and the conflict at the grassroots," said Waqo, also the vice-chair of the Senate Committee on Justice, Legal and Human rights.

Wetang'ula and Waqo were reacting to a statement sought by Laikipia Senator John Kinyua on the skirmishes.

"What we need is the operation of KDF to flush out bandits, which must be total and sustained; increase in the number of police services; deployment of more police offices and restoration of livelihood of the residents," said Kinyua.

On their part, governors backed the calls to have KDF deployed to flush out armed bandits that have taken over the region.

"Council of Governors vehemently condemns the gross violation of human rights by the bandits, who are causing a lot of mayhem in Laikipia. It is equally worrying and alarming the ease with which firearms are being accessed by bandits and militants who are causing undue unrest to residents," Council of Governors chairman and Embu Governor Martin Wambora told journalists at Delta House, Nairobi.

"In view of the foregoing, CoG has proposed deployment of military personnel to reinforce the Kenya Police, who are already on the ground to a quick end on the ongoing deadly attacks in Laikipia. We ask the national government, as a matter of urgency, arrest and prosecute individuals behind the skirmishes," Wambora added.

Governors also pushed for a

comprehensive mechanism for disarmament and a long-term solution for communities living within the Suguta valley triangle.

Suguta valley triangle includes Laikipia, Samburu, Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, West Pokot and Turkana counties. Turkana Governor Josephat Nanok regretted that the bandit attacks in Laikipia have led to loss of lives and displacement of communities, among them the Turkana community living in Ngarenarok, Bombo, Ngisero, Mitaro villages in Olmoron/Sipili Ward; and Magadi in Sosian ward.

Hardened criminals

"Reports indicate that the bandits responsible for the attacks in Laikipia are a spillover from the security operation that was conducted in Kapedo, which further points to a group of hardened criminals who roam this area disrupting peace and spreading violence from Baringo, Turkana, Elgeyo Marakwet to Samburu and now Laikipia," Nanok said in a statement.

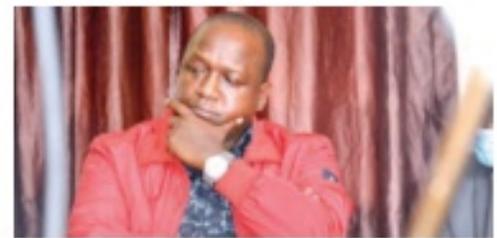
County boss said it is time the government deals with the vice and end the vicious cycle of violence, displacement, cattle theft and death.

National Assembly Speaker Justin Muturi urged the government to take firm action against those fueling the clashes in Laikipia.

Muturi urged security agents to get to the root of the matter and bring those culpable to book and have them charged.

Meanwhile, as section of MPs allied to Deputy President William Ruto demanded that Mutiyambai resigns over the Laikipia skirmishes.

The 13 MPs accused the police of laxity in the violent conflict in Laikipia and humanitarian suffering it has caused. "He has proven himself more than willing and able to take up partisan political errands and continues to demonstrate lacklustre motivation to address matters affecting Kenyans that fall within his core mandate," the MPs said in a joint statement read by Kandara MP Alice Wahome.



Tiary MP William Kamket when he appeared before Principal Magistrate Lilian Arika in Nakuru, yesterday. PDR/ROY LUMBE

Police seek to lock up Tiary MP as Lempurkel charged with hate speech

by Roy Lumbe and Alphonse Mung'ahu
@PeopleDailyKe

Tiary Member of Parliament William Kamket was yesterday arraigned in Nakuru in connection with the strife in Laikipia county.

The lawmaker was arraigned virtually with investigators seeking 14 days to detain him pending conclusion of investigations over his involvement in the skirmishes.

Separately, former Laikipia North MP Mathew Lempurkel was charged with hate speech at the Millimani Law Courts in Nairobi.

Lempurkel, who appeared before Senior Resident Magistrate Sinkyim Tobiko pleaded not guilty and was released on Sh150,000 cash bail and one contact person pending hearing and determination of the case.

"Not guilty your honor, those are politically motivated charges," Lempurkel said. In Kamket's case, Prosecution told Nakuru Principal Magistrate Lilian Arika that the MP wields considerable influence and has the ability to interfere with witnesses hence the need to detain him.

In an application presented by State Counsel Alloys Kemo, detectives averred that as such there was a high likelihood that Kamket may interfere with investigations by influencing witnesses in the matter.

Kemo said they intend to prefer charges of murder, robbery with violence, stock theft, malicious damage to property, incitement to violence and disobedience of the law, saying intelligence report received at the Regional DCI Headquarters in Nakuru placed the respondent at the area.

He added that the report indicated that Kamket met warriors on August 31 at Survey area of Olmoron where it is believed the plan to evict members of other communities within Laikipia was hatched and continues to be executed with abandon.

"Preliminary investigations reveal that the offences were orchestrated on diverse dates between May 11 and September 8 and investigations are yet to be concluded. We be-

lieve there are other persons involved and there is a need to pursue all credible leads we have received to unravel and apprehend all the perpetrators," said Kemo.

He revealed that the manner in which the offences were committed portrayed a choreographed pattern with prior organisation, funding and planning by several masterminds including the respondent herein.

Kemo argued that the uprising in Laikipia could be the start of a much wider conspiracy and thus the need for the investigation team to be granted time to carry out in-depth and detailed investigations so as to unearth the planners and entire conspiracy.

Ample time

Owing to the complexity of the pending investigations, Kemo said the DCI-Laikipia has sought for assistance from their Nakuru counterparts. He also said ample time is required to allow better coordination between offices of the two counties in order to conclude the investigations.

"It is necessary in the public interest that a thorough investigation be conducted as the uprising in Laikipia is not only a threat to national security but greatly undermines the administration of justice," said Kemo.

But Kamket, through his lawyers Kipkoeh Ng'etich and Moses Kipkoi, accused the police of carrying out generic investigations, arguing that no witnesses had been listed in the matter, saying his client cannot interfere with any witness.

Ng'etich said his client was equally concerned by the situation in Laikipia and was saddened by the violence and calls for peace to prevail in the area currently under the control of criminals.

While opposing the application, Ng'etich noted that the charges the police want to prefer against his client was a fabrication, adding that the accusations are serious crimes against humanity.

Arika deferred the bond ruling to tomorrow, and directed that the accused be admitted to hospital after his lawyers claimed he was unwell.



WAMBORA

Council of Governors vehemently condemns the gross violation of human rights by the bandits



HELP ME FIND MY FAMILY

Lost/Missing children ask – are you my family?

The children are currently under the care of CWSK Places of Safety across the Country



Name: Alexander
Age: 7 years
Rescued at: Spirit's Area-Ruku
Rescued on: 02/02/21



Name: Anne
Age: 8 years
Rescued at: Githuri 45
Rescued on: 13/02/21



Name: Esther Angel
Age: 8 months
Rescued at: Worthy Ground-Ruku
Rescued on: 12/02/21



Name: Benjamin David
Age: 7 months
Rescued at: KMH
Rescued on: 02/02/21



Name: Blessing-Peetu
Age: 1 year 7 months
Rescued at: Kaye
Rescued on: 02/02/21



Name: Cecilia Shemik
Age: 2 1/2 years respectively
Rescued at: Kaye



Name: Christopher Joseph
Age: 1 year 7 months
Rescued at: Maria Lucy Kibaki Hospital



Name: Esther Muthoni alias Liam
Age: 5 years
Rescued at: Reina Land 4 Hospital
Rescued on: 11/02/21



Name: Wany Muthoni alias Samson
Age: 5 years
Rescued at: Reina Land 5 Hospital
Rescued on: 24/02/21



Name: Francis
Age: 5 years
Rescued at: Githuri 45
Rescued on: 14/02/21



Name: Gabriel
Age: 9 years
Rescued at: Wangige Shopping Center
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Lucy Angel
Age: 8 years
Rescued at: Kibaki
Rescued on: 25/02/21



Name: Mathew
Age: 6 years
Rescued at: Peruma Location
Rescued on: 11/02/21



Name: Michael Angel
Age: 1 year
Rescued at: Florida
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Miso Angel
Age: 3 years
Rescued at: Mainland Area-Kinyu
Rescued on: 21/02/21



Name: Rebecca David
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Kibaki-Duguma
Rescued on: 14/02/21



Name: Timothy
Age: 5 years
Rescued at: Withira
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Maurine, Mary, Elizabeth
Age: 7 years, 7 years and 6 years respectively
Rescued at: Maiti Sabo - Maitani
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Mary Tangara
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Kinyuwa Area
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Dennis Mudi
Age: 1 year 8 months
Rescued at: Amani Medical Clinic
Rescued on: 11/11/2019



Name: Patrick Angel
Age: 3 years
Rescued at: Kinyuwa Area
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Wema Angel
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Kawangware
Rescued on: 27/02/21



Name: Joanne Angel
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Githuri-Kawangware
Rescued on: 10/02/21



Name: Neema Angel
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Mutini, Kawangware
Rescued on: 24/02/21



Name: Moses Angel
Age: 7 years
Rescued at: Wangige-Mhogo
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Neema alias Baby Dase
Age: 1 year
Rescued at: Kibaki level 3 Hospital
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Emma Angel
Age: 8 years
Rescued at: Butu Sub-County Hospital
Rescued on: 07/02/21



Name: Alan Mberia
Age: 11 years
Rescued at: Children's Office, Limuru
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Esther Pasents
Age: 1 year
Rescued at: Kaye
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Gillian Emma
Age: 1 year 7 months
Rescued at: Kaye
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Yvonne Lopez
Age: 1 year
Rescued at: Njira
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Joseph Mudi
Age: 8 months
Rescued at: KMH
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Maranda Lamela
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Maria Lucy Kibaki Hospital
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Emily Kenneth
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Maria Lucy Hospital
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Maria Sherepva
Age: 3 months
Rescued at: Kaye
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Daria Nwaga
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: KMH
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Moses Chik
Age: 5 months
Rescued at: Kajicho-Dandak
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Moses Kinyuka
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: KMH
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Pendo Inoru
Age: 3 years
Rescued at: Agaa Road
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Stella Inoru
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: KMH
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: James alias Jimmy Wenge
Age: 10 years
Rescued at: Pura's Children's Office
Rescued on: 10/11/2011



Name: Cecilia Angel
Age: 2 weeks
Rescued at: Githuri-Kawangware
Rescued on: 10/02/21



Name: Stephanie Achony
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Chokaa, Njira
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Deborah Angel
Age: 1 month
Rescued at: Kawangware Donor site
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Precious Wainina
Age: 3 years (approximate)
Rescued at: Njiru
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Esther & David Syombua
Age: 11 & 12 years respectively
Rescued at: Kawangware
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Bisi Ngũgũ
Age: 6 years
Rescued at: Kibaki Police Station
Rescued on: 10/11/2014



Name: Jacob Angel
Age: 5 years
Rescued at: Butu Sub-County Hospital
Rescued on: 14/02/21



Name: Jane Kiaris
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Ngari County Referral Hospital
Rescued on: 05/02/21



Name: Kibini Chis
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Njira
Rescued on: 04/02/21



Name: Joseph Angel
Age: 1 year
Rescued at: Githuri 45
Rescued on: 20/02/21



Name: Jane Muthoni
Age: 2 years
Rescued at: Kinyuwa Area-Angel
Rescued on: 21/02/21



Name: Neema aka Pendo
Age: 1 year 7 months
Place of rescue: Malindi
Rescued on: 21/02/21



Name: Balvin Ngũgũ
Age: 1 year
Rescued at: Njiru Town
Rescued on: 21/02/21



Name: Baby Zahara
Age: 8 months
Rescued at: Likiep
Rescued on: 11/02/21



Name: Anne Bahab
Age: 13 years
Rescued at: Charaka-Bungoma
Rescued on: 02/02/21



Name: Anthony Sifa
Age: 8 months
Rescued at: Bungoma Town
Rescued on: 12/02/21



Name: Trevor Sinya
Age: 18 years
Rescued at: Marakaya-Bungoma
Rescued on: 03/02/21



Name: Dennis Bakari
Age: 18 years
Rescued at: Charaka-Bungoma
Rescued on: 11/02/21



Name: Dula Modisa
Age: 3 years
Rescued at: Likiep
Rescued on: 11/02/21