

# 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 Mutiyambal 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.

Mutyambal 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 Mutiyambal.

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

Rift Valley Regional Commissioner George Ntemboya 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. PHOTOGRAPH BY MURGE

## 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.

Wetangula 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 livelihoods 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 Ngarenarock, Bombo, Ngisero, Mitro 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 Mutiyambal 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.



Tiaty MP William Kamket when he appeared before Principal Magistrate Lilian Arika in Nakuru, yesterday. PHOTO BY LUMBE

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

by Roy Lumbe and Alphonse Mung'ahu  
@PeopleDailyKE

Tiaty 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 Sinkyian 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 Kipkoech Ng'etich and Moses Kipkoge, 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: Sironi Area-Ruhi  
Rescued on: 02/02/04



Name: Joyce  
Age: 8 years  
Rescued at: Githuri 45  
Rescued on: 13/02/15



Name: Esther Angel  
Age: 8 months  
Rescued at: Worthy Ground-Ruhi  
Rescued on: 12/02/09



Name: Benjamin Daniel  
Age: 7 months  
Rescued at: KNR  
Rescued on: 12/02/09



Name: Blessings-Pendo  
Age: 1 year 10 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 12/02/09



Cecilia Shemeli and Nany Dikongo  
Age: 2 & 2 years respectively  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 12/02/09



Name: Christopher James  
Age: 1 year 7 months  
Rescued at: Maria Lucy Kibaki Hospital  
Rescued on: 12/02/09



Name: Esther Muthoni alias Lian  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Ruhi Level 4 Hospital  
Rescued on: 15/02/16



Name: Mary Muthoni alias Samson  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Ruhi Level 4 Hospital  
Rescued on: 15/02/16



Name: Francis  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Githuri 45  
Rescued on: 14/02/15



Name: Gabriel  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Wanga Shopping Center  
Rescued on: 04/12/12



Name: Lucy Angel  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 25/02/17



Name: Mathew  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Ruhi Level 4 Hospital  
Rescued on: 15/02/16



Name: Michael Angel  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 15/02/16



Name: Mij Angel  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Maitani Area-Kilifi  
Rescued on: 21/02/18



Name: Rebecca and Eva  
Age: 3 and 1 year respectively  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 14/02/19



Name: Timothy  
Age: 3 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 20/12/19



Name: Maureen, Mary, Kariakibu  
Age: 5 years, 7 years and 8 years respectively  
Rescued at: Maitani Area-Kilifi  
Rescued on: 20/12/19



Name: Baby Tamsin  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 14/02/19



Name: Dennis Shafi  
Age: 1 year, 8 months  
Rescued at: Maitani Area-Kilifi  
Rescued on: 11/12/19



Name: Patrick Angel  
Age: 3 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Verna Angel  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 21/02/18



Name: Jasmine Angel  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/02/18



Name: Neema Angel  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 24/02/18



Name: Moses Angel  
Age: 7 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 20/02/14



Name: Neema alias Baby Chase  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 20/02/18



Name: Emma Angel  
Age: 8 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 01/02/18



Name: Alan Mberia  
Age: 11 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/11



Name: Esther Passents  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Esther Emma  
Age: 1 year 7 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Verna Lopez  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Joseph Kuli  
Age: 8 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Marada Landika  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Emily Kenneth  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Maria Sherepwa  
Age: 8 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: David Mwangi  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Moses Chik  
Age: 3 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Moses Kariakibu  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Pendo Inani  
Age: 8 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: Stella Inani  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 04/02/18



Name: James alias Jimmy Nwangi  
Age: 10 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/13



Name: Cecilia Angel  
Age: 2 weeks  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/13



Name: Stephenia Ndungu  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/13



Name: Deborah Angel  
Age: 1 month  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/13



Name: Priscilla Ndungu  
Age: 2 years (approximately)  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Esther & David Syombua  
Age: 11 & 12 years respectively  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Bisi Ndungu  
Age: 6 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Jacob Angel  
Age: 5 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: John Kari  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Kaiti Chis  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Joseph Angel  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Jane Muthoni  
Age: 2 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Neema alias Pendo  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Bisi Kipko  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Baby Zahara  
Age: 8 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Anne Bahad  
Age: 13 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Anthony Bito  
Age: 8 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Trevor Biriya  
Age: 5 months  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14



Name: Dennis Buhari  
Age: 18 years  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14

Name: Dula Ndungu  
Age: 1 year  
Rescued at: Kaya  
Rescued on: 10/12/14