



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF HOMA BAY

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



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PRESS STATEMENT

March 2nd, 2023

For Immediate Release

APPOINTMENT OF PENDING BILLS, LANDS AND COUNTY ASSETS VERIFICATION TASKFORCE

1. The PFM Act of 2012 requires the fiduciary responsibility of public institutions and the need for placement of governance systems by Accounting Officers to safeguard public assets and establish mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability of public finances, assets, and liabilities. Experience has shown that good management of assets and liabilities is a vital catalyst for accelerating development in devolve systems.
2. Like other County Governments, Homa Bay County is struggling with challenges occasioned by huge claims resulting from past pending bills currently in excess of KES 1.7 billion. We have also noted the lack of proper assets inventory including land and properties, further exposing our county to the risk of loss and misuse of investments.
3. In order to address some of these emerging challenges and to enhance fiscal accountability and transparency, I have today appointed the under listed persons as members of the **Pending Bills, Lands and County Assets Verification Task Force**:

Ben Omollo	Chairperson - International PFM and Governance Consultant.
Jerry Ougo	Urban Planning and Impact Assessment Professional
Denish Osodo	Audit and Assurance Professional
Susan Otiende	Health and Development Professional
Silas Jakakimba	Legal Practitioner and Advocate of the High Court
George Ambata	Internal Audit and Assurance Professional
Eng. Jactone Mwembe	Civil Engineer and Project Management Professional

Andrew Odondi	Audit and Assurance Professional
Dr. Pamela Marendi	Public Procurement Professional
Eric Otieno	Audit and Assurance Professional
Patrick Meyo	Public Procurement Professional

4. The taskforce is specifically mandated to conduct an independent review, verification, and establishment of the accurate status of county pending bills, ensuring their contractual compliance and value for money, as well as to determine status of county physical assets including land and properties as at **December 31st, 2022.**
5. The team is also tasked to run transitional cut off tests to ascertain that all payments made during the transition phase were for legitimate activities rendered, and consistent with relevant policies and contractual obligations.
6. It is my expectation that at the conclusion of this exercise we shall come up with a verified and genuine list of pending bills and a complete asset inventory for our county, as well as systematic recommendations for improvement.

We urge county government officers and members of the public to volunteer information that may assist the taskforce to provide an independent report to inform our future decisions on this matter.

7. In conclusion, let me appeal to all genuine suppliers and contractors to be patient as we wait for this process to be concluded. My word to them is that every genuine claim will eventually be settled.



Her Excellency Hon Gladys Wanga CBS.
Governor