

Hon. Speaker
The way
14/7/20

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Approved

14/7/2020
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TWELFTH PARLIAMENT (FOURTH SESSION)
REQUEST FOR STATEMENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO.
44(2)(C)REGISTRATION OF PERSONS IN GARISSA AND WAJIR
COUNTY

Honourable Speaker, pursuant to provision of Standing Order 44(2)(c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Administration and National Security regarding Registration of Persons in Garissa and Wajir County.

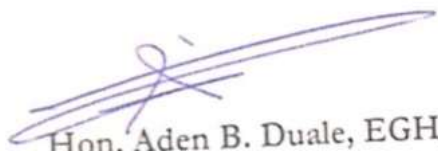
Honourable Speaker, Garissa and Wajir County have over the years suffered a disproportionate number of young men and women without National Identity Cards, owing to their inadvertent registration as refugees in Dadaab (Ifo and Dagahlay). Over twenty thousand Kenyan Somalis in Garissa and Wajir are currently registered with the United Nations High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR) as refugees. Their registration as refugees was an act of desperation by their parents to escape the distress of the severe drought of the 1990's. The difficulty with obtaining National IDs means these Kenyans cannot access employment; join higher education; engage in lawful business; open bank accounts or even travel across the country.

Honourable Speaker, the foregoing are fundamental rights which these Kenyans have been denied for years. Article 21 of the Constitution of Kenya provides that it is the fundamental duty of the State and every State organ to observe, respect, protect, promote and fulfill the rights and fundamental freedoms in the Bill of Rights.

Honourable Speaker, the leadership of the North Eastern region in 2017 appealed to the President on the matter, hence the Director General of Registration of Persons through the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government was directed to develop a framework and oversee registration of these Kenyans and the issuance of ID's. In August 23, 2019, the Government formed a taskforce to develop the procedure of vetting, verification and eligibility criteria for this stateless Kenyans using their parent's citizenship documentations, local elders, chiefs and other Government agencies. The verification was conducted, but since then nothing has come out of it. The youth verified included the following - Garissa Township 3000, Lagdera 1300, Ijara 2200, Fafi 2300, Dadaab 6200, Wajir South 3500.

Honourable Speaker, it is against this background that I seek a statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Administration and National Security on the following: -

- i. When will these youth be provided with ID Cards?
- ii. Could the Cabinet Secretary provide timelines as to when he will implement the President's 2017 directive on registration of persons in the affected areas?
- iii. What did the taskforce do after the verification process was completed?



Hon. Aden B. Duale, EGH, MP
Garissa Township Constituency