

DISCLAIMER

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Monday 27th June 2022

9:34am

- I. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY – Reading of Bills (DAY 4)**
- 1. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2021/2022 – debate on second reading**
- 2. APPROPRIATION BILL 2022/2023 – debate on second reading**

1. Afioga FALEOMAVAEGA Titimaea Tafua, Member for Aleipata itupa i Lalo – Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee

The Member greeted the House and expressed gratitude to the Hon Speaker for the opportunity to speak; he then addressed Samoa in all its honorific salutations, greeted our neighbouring islands, Tutuila and Manu’a, and all Samoans listening and watching from around the globe.

The Chairperson for the Finance and Expenditure Committee then spoke on the tabled budget and asserted that it is reflective of Government’s Prioritized areas as set out in the Pathway for the Development of Samoa:

- i. Improved Social Development
- ii. Diversified and Sustainable Economy
- iii. Security and Trusted Governance
- iv. Secured Environment and Climate Change
- v. Structure Public Works and Infrastructure

The Chairperson emphasized that the Committee based its deliberations on key strategic outcomes of the PDS and stated that there is a 3% contraction due to seismic effects inflicted by the pandemic when compared to the previous Financial Year 2021/2022. He further noted that revenue is projected to be increased by 5% in the 2022/2023 FY when borders open. Afioga FALEOMAVAEGA then commented on the reduction of revenues by

7.4% in 2020/2021, and a further reduction by 3% in 2021/2022 owing to the impacts of Covid19 and the financial crisis felt across the globe. The Chairman then noted that it is envisaged that the opening of borders as well as the reviving of businesses for the tourism industry would garner revenues for the government by 6% in 2022/2023.

The Committee Chair mentioned the consideration stage undertaken by the Committee, and asserted that discussions revolved around possible ways of reviving the economy through the encouragement of farming and cultivating of our lands and boosting the agriculture sector. Furthermore, the Committee also considered possible methods to ensure the safety, preparedness and adaptation of our people from the effects of Climate Change which is a critical issue prioritized by Pacific countries thus the importance of Samoa to take a proactive stance towards climate change, this is in addition to the Covid19 pandemic which Samoa faces together with the world.

The Chairman further noted an addition of \$STA11.6 million in the Supplementary Bill 2021/2022 to cater for implementation and completion of projects for 3 Ministries, which include the Ministry of Agriculture as well as the Audit Office. There was also mention of the increase in Dividends and Grants which was noted by the Committee.

* Dividend 7million

* Grants 28million

The Committee Chair also noted a reduction in collection of electricity receipts from EPC and made mention of the 12.8million from the Asian Development Bank which is not noted in the tabled budget, however will be incorporated in the next FY.

The Committee Chair then attempted to respond to the issues and queries raised by Members:

In regards to consultations and review with the Samoa Tourism Authority, the reduction to the budget allocated for STA is due to the Authority's remaining funds from the previous FY of 11million expected to roll over to the FY 2022/2023 to make approximately 20million to cover for the needs of the Authority. On the issue of reduction of grants as noted by several members, the Chairman commented that this was due to numerous projects drawing near to its completion.

In regards to the appropriation for the Samoa Water Authority and Electric Power Corporation, the Committee Chair noted that the foreign grant had decreased as the European Union grant for the Independent Water Scheme had terminated. The Chairman noted that the fund was 8.4million. Furthermore, Chairman elaborated that towards the end of the project the Ministry of Finance carried forward this project as clarified in the budget on page xvi during consultations the major sponsor for the SWA is from European Union, and the SWA hopes to continue and strengthen this collaboration with European Union.

The Chairman noted that the Minister of Finance asserted that there are other means of collecting revenue for the corporation and this will help them in this FY. The committee was also notified that there will be a chance for consultations and to review matters of CSO's for EPC in this FY.

Hon Mr. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker advised the Chairperson for the Finance and Expenditure to refrain from speaking in detail when making reference to the Appropriation Bill rather to speak on their overall findings on the budget to avoid Members' queries.

• **Afioga LUPEMATASILA Galumalemana Tologata Togia Tile Leia, Member for Falelatai and Samatau - interjection**

The Member queried the Chairman whether the 1 million appropriated for Community Service Obligation (CSO) was sufficient to cover for all the street lights, considering the amount of arrears; he further queried the whether an update of the Corporation's arrears was sought by the Committee.

Afioga FALEOMAVEGA Titimaea Tafua: Aleipata itupa i lalo/Chairperson Finance & Expenditures Committee

The Chairperson reminded the Member for Falelatai & Samatau to raise his questions during the consideration in detail stage of the budget. He then continued by mentioning the debt servicing suspension initiative which allowed Samoa to suspend its repayments for 2 years- nothing that Samoa will resume repayments in the next Financial Year.

Afioga FALEOMAVEGA then noted an allocation of 2.5 million for the tourism sector in the FY 2022/2023. Furthermore there is an allocation of 3million to the Samoa Business Hub to assist small businesses in developing and making necessary preparations for their businesses to cater for the opening of borders in August 2022. In addition to assistance for the Business Hub, the Committee Chair also mentioned an appropriation of 5 million for the Development Bank of Samoa to provide a loaning scheme for small businesses and entrepreneurs to enable them to revive their businesses and again make necessary preparations for when borders open.

The Chairman informed the House, that their Committee queried the reduction of the allocation to district hospitals and was given the response that there was 3million from the current financial year 2021/2022 which will roll over in order to cater and service the hospitals in areas such as:

- 1 million - renovations for district hospitals
- 1 million - for doctors housing in respective constituencies with district hospitals

Furthermore, in regards to the reduction of the appropriation for overseas referrals, the Chairman asserted that this is owed to having no more isolation and quarantine requirements for patients.

in regards to Foreign Reserves, the Member noted that there is currently 774million, and that this amount was more than enough to cater for our nation. He then commented on the Sports Development Fund which has an increase of 2million, clarifying that this amount is appropriated to the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture. The Member asserted that all requests will be made to the Ministry for proper process and distribution of funds for each sport.

- **Tofa Hon. LAUOFO FONOTOE Nuafesili Lauofo, Member for Anoamaa 2**

The Member queried the rationale for this, as the fund was usually allocated under each sport for their development. The Hon Member further queried how the fund will be distributed to the different Sport Bodies. Further queried the allocation for the Ministry of Health, and stated that this was under 'personnel' rather than under renovations and sought clarification whether the employees were terminated due to missing funds under personnel

Afioga FALEOMAVAEGA Titimaea Tafua: Aleipata itupa i lalo/Chairperson Finance & Expenditures Committee

The Chairman reiterated that the appropriation for sports was usually 1 million, this has now been increased to 2 million to cater for all sports, noting that respective sport bodies must write to the Minsitry for appropriate funding.

- **Tofa Hon. LAUOFO FONOTOE Nuafesili Lauofo, Member for Anoamaa 2**

The Hon Member again queried the allocation of the fund under MESC, and raised the requirements for making requests. Hon Member questioned whether school associations are eligible to this fund

Tofa Hon. LEATINUU Wayne Soialo - Minister for MCIL, MPE, SLC

The Minister clarified that the Gambling Authority also provided assistance of 500,000 to the Rugby Union, asserting that this assistance began in 2018. Hon Minister elaborated that other sports also seek assistance from the Gambling Authority and SIFA, while other requests come through Cabinet.

Susuga Hon. LAAULI Leuatea Polataivao Fosi - Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

The Minister commented that Government has moved towards centralising sports, by restructuring the sports associations in order to have one main source of funds. The Minister further clarified that usually the SASNOC was responsible for the allocation of funds for sports, however it seems the but now there are quite a few where all associations go to for funds but now rather than having many different main source of funds to maintain to one.

Afioga FALEOMAVAEGA Titimaea Tafua: Aleipata itupa i lalo/Chairperson Finance & Expenditures Committee cont'

The Member continued his address by asserting that a prerequisite for the 2 million assistance for sports, is the ability to see the sport is growing and providing good results. The Chairman further highlighted that approximately 90% of our people have benefitted from the price deduction in water and electricity charges enforced by the government.

The chairman acknowledged his constituency, and briefly noted requests from his constituency including:

Minister for Works Transport and Infrastructure:

The need for more access roads at Satitooa, Amaile, Utufaalalafa, Lotopue; and furthermore the Chairman thanked the Minister of MWTI for the bridge at fiord at Tiavea

The Chairman acknowledges the Samoa 7s team coach Muliagatele Brian Lima and assistant coach Faamaoni Lalomilo as well as the 7s team for their performance in the past tournaments and wished the Samoa 7s all the best with the last leg. He further encouraged the boys to not think about the rewards but their service and what they can do for the country. It was in this regard that he requested the Minister of Finance to increase funds for the Samoa rugby and weightlifting associations as they have the most coverage for Samoa. Furthermore, the Chairman acknowledged the contribution of the previous Committee Chair and the Finance and Expenditure Committee also the officers of the OCLA. He then concluded by wishing everyone well.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSES:

Afioga Hon. TUALA Tevaga Iosefo Ponifasio, Deputy Prime Minister

The Hon Deputy PM commended the Chairman and Committee of Finance and Expenditure on their scrutiny and preparation on the report for budget. As well as, acknowledged all questions and comments raised by members of parliament and thus, they will answer accordingly.

1. Afioga Hon TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Schuster, Minister for MNRE and STA

The Hon Minister greeted the house and acknowledged his constituency, he then highlighted on the notable increase in the MAF appropriation which is intended to increase the development of our country. The Minister noted the priorities of the Government for the budget, for the development of our national economy including the 51million initiative which will offer numerous employment opportunities for our people through Committee Offices, as well as the establishment of new

projects and businesses. Furthermore, the Member noted that the 51million can generate an extra 1000 employment opportunities. The opening of borders bring numerous possibilities and benefit to develop our economy. The Hon Minister also touched on the development of agriculture sector and also providing employment opportunities. The focus of the government on agricultural development will provide more employment opportunities and small business ventures for our locals. In its entirety, the Hon Minister noted that the proposed and ongoing development can create close to 4,000 employment opportunities for our people

- **Tofa Hon. LAUOFO FONOTOE Nuafesili Laufofo, Member for Anoamaa 2**

The Hon Member queried how 4,000 employment can be created within a short span, considering that the world is in a financial crisis. Furthermore, the Member asserted that it is important to be practical, in the sense that the tourism industry is not going to peak instantly rather progress slightly as we are working on reviving it. Again queried for clarification on whether the committee which the Minister made reference to was the District Committees chosen by Government and sought an explanation as to why the awareness programs were removed and posed the question whether this would assist funding for the District projects. The Hon Member reiterated from his main speech that he noticed in the budget that the allocation for 4 awareness programs have been removed and perceived that the funding will probably go into implementing and funding the district project.

Afioga Hon TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Schuster, Minister for MNRE and STA (cont.)

The Hon Minister clarified that respective committees have approximately 14 members, noting the duties of these committee members. The minister highlighted that although the money in the budget for 22/23 is not as much, but this amount includes money appropriated from previous FY's which have not been utilized due to the pandemic for instance; the STA which has approximately 12million left from previous FY which will now be used in the upcoming FY.

The Minister further noted that the Government spent approximately 19million last year on assisting the Samoa Tourism Authority with development work, such as the provision of quarantine, training to upskill workers since most became unemployed, the provision of programs to assist with paying workers in the Tourism Industry.

Proceedings set aside at 10:38am and resumed at 11:03am

Hon Deputy Prime Minister - MOTION

The Deputy PM moved a motion to set aside S.O.32 and proceed sitting until 1pm and reconvene at 6pm until 10pm; the motion was carried.

Afioga Hon TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Schuster, Minister for MNRE and STA (cont.)

The Hon Minister continued by stating that there was 11 million unused funds by STA from the previous years due to closing of borders, as well as 3million appropriated for Samoa Business Hub to assist Small businesses and resorts and hotels for their preparation towards the opening of the borders and prepare for tourists coming in. Furthermore there is 5million with the Development Bank of Samoa to assist with businesses and STA-related activities as they reopen for tourists. The Hon Minister informed the House that the Government has signed an agreement with NZ in regards to continued assistance of NZD\$4.6million for the next 3 years, which is an addition to the 1.3million unused funds from the previous FY to assist with developments in the tourism industry to develop the resorts and hotels in preparation for the opening of Samoa's international borders.

- **Afioga LUPEMATASILA Galumalemana Tologata Togia Tile Leia - Falelatai & Samatau**
The Member queried why unused funds have not been mentioned in the tabled budget.

Afioga Hon TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Schuster, Minister for MNRE and STA (cont.)

The Hon Minister continued by stating that these funds will roll over to the current budget once approved to continue and progress the projects.

- **Tofa Hon. LAUOFO FONOTOE Nuafesili Laufofo, Member for Anoamaa 2**

The Hon Member sought clarification regarding the roll-over of unused funds that are not mentioned in the budget as it should have been in the Appropriation Bill or in the Supplementary Appropriation Bill to ensure Parliament has approved and passed such an amount and such funds can be utilized lawfully.

- **Afioga SULAMANAIA Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa, Member for Vaimauga 1**

The Member queried the matter of 'roll over', he also noted that this is new to him, insisting that maybe it's a new policy for the new government.

Afioga Hon TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Schuster, Minister for MNRE and STA (cont.)

The Hon Minister noted 9 million assistance from NZ to develop Samoa's tourism industry. Furthermore, he made mention the 1 million district development project which will also assist communities. In reference to national developments queried by some members, the Minister outlined that the government's focus is on marketing tourism through the utilization of prominent Samoan local players who can promote our country, as well as the government is willing to work together with MWTI to increase number of flights into the country.

In regards to the issue of lands, the Minister clarified the LTRA is leasing of freehold lands only but the Licensing and Leasing of Customary Lands are only to lease customary lands for businesses, such as leasing land to telecommunication companies to set up their towers of connection, such as Digicel and Vodafone, or land leased to the Samoa Water Authority for their pumps. The Hon Minister elaborated that the Minister is only involved in the process of leasing and licensing as a 'trustee' to act and serve the best interest of the families involved as well as to ensure no dispute arises from the leasing of customary lands.

- **Tofa Ale Vena Ale, Member for Faleata 4**

The Member queried payment of lease to the Ministry, and suggested that the payment of lease should be made to the family and rather than to the Ministry.

Afioga Hon TOEOLESULUSULU Cedric Schuster, Minister for MNRE and STA (cont.)

The Minister clarified that a policy is in place to monitor the generation of renewable energy. The minister further outlined the Ministry's (MNRE) current programs including re-forestation to ensure protection/adaptation from climate change. Hon TOEOLESULUSULU also spoke on the foreign policy, where our country is to report on issues regarding climate change and ways that will resolve it. The Minister acknowledge his constituency and their plans towards their 1 million, he will soon meet with them so they could discuss and correlate towards projects that will utilize the 1 million project funds and developments for the constituency.

2. Afioga Hon TOELUPE Poumulinuku Onesemo - Minister for MCIT/OOTR/OCLA

After addressing the House and Samoa in their respective salutations and acknowledging his constituency for their support, the Hon Minister proceeded by responding to issues raised by Members towards agencies under his Ministerial portfolio.

The Minister addressed our neighboring country American Samoa in all her honorific salutations and asserted that Government's focus for the Ministry of Communications is to enhance internet connection and access through IEXP especially paying particular attention on students. The Ministry is developing an IEXP (International Exchange Point) that ensures affordable, accessible of internet usage. The Minister emphasized on the importance of the school connectivity within schools, although not many Members mentioned this issue in their speeches.

The Hon Minister elaborated that the Ministry is currently working on school connectivity for 120 schools out of 148 schools. Furthermore, there is a task force which includes MESC and MCIT, for the school connectivity project, to make sure that there is always coverage, service and connectivity for the schools and students. The Minister clarified some challenges with the project that he mentioned that connectivity was not the problem but the connection between the school rooms, offices and libraries as the funding was not enough to cater for the needs of each school. Therefore, the Ministry have resolved to use satellites or Wi-Fi so that the coverage of the internet can be accessible from each room, office or library. The minister clarified that challenges presents an opportunity for improvement, explained that satellites have make it easier for them in their work. In regards to having to plan costs for contractors that are responsible in installing internet connectivity in schools, the Ministry are working hard in trying to speed up the work to ensure it is within the budget.

- **Afioga LEANA Ronnie Posini - Member for Safata 1**

The Member for Safata 1 acknowledged the Minister's efforts in prioritizing internet connectivity for schools. The member touched on the allocation of the appropriated 600k in the budget for the project, putting the question of how many satellites will be removed and changed from Church Ministers' houses as an estimate; if the total number of satellites is 200, then 200k is the cost of removing and re-installing these satellites, rather than 600k. He then sought clarification on the 600k allocation.

- **Afioga Fepuleai Faasavalu Faimata Sua - Member for Salega 1**

The Member commended the work carried out in schools in his village and constituency through internet coverage. He also queried that, those satellites were removed from the schools upon instructions, he then questioned why they were being taken away and now re-installed.

Susuga Hon. LAAULI Leuatea Polataivao Fosi - Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries

The Hon Minister made comparison on unfinished projects costing millions in the previous Government as well as the current; then emphasised that the Government of the day intends to provide all schools with internet access.

Tofa Hon. OLO Fiti Afoa Vaai, Minister for Works Transport and Infrastructure

The Minister clarified that projects with single source, is usually based on the availability of resources to start a project. The Minister also clarified that there are a lot of companies but some of them are not able to provide or supply for the project.

- **Tofa Hon. LAUOFO FONOTOE Nuafesili Laufo, Member for Anoamaa 2**

The Hon Member commended the Minister for MWTI for clarification but his concern was that it was tendered and a few companies expressed interest and placed their bids but the government resolved to single source the project, thus his query.

Afioga Hon TOELUPE Poumulinuku Onesemo - Minister for MCIT/Falealili 1

The Hon Minister clarified that the expenses of the Ministry for ICT infrastructure services every year is almost 5 million and SNBH is almost 2 million not including other services under infrastructure such as; DMO, Police and FESA. Thus, the Government intends to create the 'One Government ICT platform' with the aim to save money spent on infrastructure services but also to re-develop the ICT infrastructure of Government. The Hon Minister noted that these technologies are highly expensive. Also, this platform intends to capture local capacity ensuring locals can facilitate the latest technologies. The Minister also mentioned e-economy which the country has yet to fully develop, and noted that the launching of the One-Government ICT platform will assist with moving Samoa to the next step of ICT infrastructure.

Furthermore, the Hon Minister explained that the Government is drafting policy frameworks for the ISP (Internet Service Providers) that monitors Samoa's infrastructures ensuring that there is good and cheap/affordable internet connection for our people. The Minister further noted that currently the government does not have a fixed amount of payment for Service Providers nor do they have any funds given to assist small ISPs. Thus, the reason why the government will undergo an ISP policy review. The Hon Minister commented on the importance of having satellites considering what happened in Tonga during natural disasters, satellites will ensure stable connection and communications during these times.

The Hon Minister then addressed issues raised on the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and provided clarification. On the issue of induction programs for Members, the Hon Minister echoed sentiments from previous Members on the importance of this program hence the Office was prepared to carry this program, however due to factors outside our control (such as the pandemic and lockdown). Furthermore, the project for the Office of the Legislative Assembly is in progress as well as the financial separation of the Office which is currently underway. Hon Minister also mentioned the constitutional review project and

informed the House that the Office has conducted negotiations with a close contact from the Tasmanian parliament for this project.

The Hon Minister concluded his response by addressing the Regulator, Lematua Gisa Fuatai-Purcell on her application to the Deputy Secretary General post for the ICT-UN and emphasized the importance of such an appointment for our country then urged all CEO's to consider such options for themselves as well as for our country.

3. Afioga Hon. SEUULA loane - Minister of Education Sports and Culture

The Hon Minister commended the Ministry of Education Sports and Culture, management and staff for their hard work with their duties, school inspectors and teachers. He further commended the Ministries, the flag bearers in sports for representing our country internationally and acknowledged the parents for their responsibilities in preparing children for school; acknowledged the clergies for their prayers in order for children to be protected; acknowledged the companies such as SSAB, BSL and others for always providing educational and sporting needs for the development of students.

The Hon Minister commended the Minister of Finance and her Ministry for the hard work and effort put in the compilation of the budget. Further commended the Members of Parliament for coming together and sorting out what is best for this country. The Minister clarified on the process for building a new school for each constituency.

The Hon Minister mentioned the TVET program and explained that the program was carried out online, however it is now taught by teachers in schools, he also mentioned that NUS and other schools have started taking up the course as this can help students in job hunting and in furthering their own fields of study. The Minister noted that there is a total of 7 schools in Faleata 1 including; 3 Secondary Schools, 3 Private Schools, and a Mission School. In this regard, he is certain that there is more than enough schools for this constituency. However, with the issue of not having enough schools it is because of those families who move in town areas for work and bringing their kids with them to be educated in urban schools, leaving our rural schools with only 60 or so students which satisfies the ratio per teacher which is (30 students : 1 teacher) This is why schools in rural areas have only 1 or 2 teachers it is relative to the number of students. The Hon Minister then noted that the number of students in a school determine the amount of teachers which should be understood by our people, as this is one of the most common requests made by Members, to have more teachers.

- **Tofa MANULELEUA Paletasala T. Tovale - Member for Faleata 1**

The Member corrected that there are only two public schools in his constituency, hence his request for another school to cater for the increasing population in his constituency.

Afioga Hon. SEUULA Ioane - Minister of Education Sports and Culture (cont)

The Hon Minister reminded Members of the theme for this year's FY "Inspiring growth through an inclusive and resilient recovery for Samoa", he asserted that the word he would like to emphasize from the theme is "Inspire". The Hon Minister urged the House, inspire to grow, to work, to be educated, to contribute, etc...

Hon SEUULA reminded the House of the process for new developments; that a letter is to be prepared with the necessary details, addressed to the Japanese Ambassador for funding assistance. He mentioned that recently the Lepea Primary school have secured a funding from China for their new school building. The Minister also confirmed schools that have been fortunate to receive a funding for a 'sports field' (school from Falealili and 1 from Savaii). Then commended the importance of inspectors for schools and that a recommendation was put for possible increase for their salaries. Noted that 5 individuals have already been prepared to be inspectors.

One Government Grant:

The Hon Minister clarified that the Ministry will look into a raise for teachers' salaries for both Private Schools and Mission schools noting that under the OGG, 60% of these funding given to schools is to finance salaries of teachers while the other 40% is for their operational activities. The Minister further noted that for government school teachers their salaries will be reviewed and discussed by the PSC. The Hon Minister informed the House that the pandemic impacted the operation and calendar of schools. The Hon Minister elaborated that during the lockdown, the Ministry had to improve its services and rolled out their online learning, as well as for the first time introduced online registration for the University students.

• Afioga LEANA Ronnie Posini – Member for Safata 1

The Member commended the Minister for the well informed clarifications but further enquired that the calendar be classified in accordance to needs of the students further implying as this calendar has 300+ pages but only a few pages are useful to a student. The Member then suggested the University look into ways to decrease the registration fees.

• Afioga Hon LOAU Sola Keneti Sio – Member for Sagaga 1

The Member for Sagaga 1 commended the Minister for Education on his clarification especially on teachers' salaries and TVET programs. However, his concern is that the 60% from the OGG given to fund teachers' salaries is not sufficient from his point of view especially for pre-school teachers. Further stressed that it is now binding under an Act the commencing of school at 4years old for pre-school.

Afioga Hon. SEUULA Ioane - Minister of Education Sports and Culture (cont.)

The Minister noted and commended the advise from the Member regarding the NUS school calendar, he noted that the Ministry will look into thinning it, just to include important information for the students

- Fees for the University.

The Minister noted that it has been 5 years since the increase of school fees for the University and there are ways offered to parents to assist with paying school fees for students, 2 months are given to them after registration to pay off school fees. Furthermore, also noted that this is university level, school fees are paid so that when they graduate, they are well educated and equipped and this is a challenge for them, to be able to stay in school, they need to consider the amount of money and time that the parents put in for them to be in school.

The Minister noted the 5% reduction of school fees for University students and the period of late fees and paying of these fees are now extended to due in the week before the exams, however parents are encouraged to meet with the school to make necessary arrangements. The Minister noted that, children should also consider how hard their parents work day and night just so that school fees are paid on time so they need to work hard and learn as much as they can to match the hard work their parents put in to pay for their school fees

Proceedings adjourned 1:02pm and will resume at 6pm