



Kenya Women Parliamentary Association

Kenya National Assembly
P. O. Box 41842-00100 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 20 2848 397
Fax: +254 20 2243 694
Email: info@kewopa.org
Website: www.kewopa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KEWOPA STATEMENT ON THE CALOUS REMARKS MADE BY HON. NIMROD MBAI ABOUT GOVERNOR CHARITY NGILU

NAIROBI, 12TH September 2017; The Kenya Women Parliamentary Association is appalled at the offensive and misogynist comments directed at Gov. Charity Ngilu by Kitui East MP Hon. Nimrod Mbai. His statement that *'Charity Ngilu Should be raped in her office if she doesn't drop her hard political stance against Uhuru Kenyatta'* was not only reckless but also undermines the seriousness of violence against women in this country as an issue that is still pervasive.

"We as women parliamentarians are extremely disappointed and appalled by the statement made by Hon. Mbai; it is lamentable that a personality, held in such high esteem in the community and in whom confidence is entrusted by the electorate should betray that trust by his inconsiderate utterances. We as KEWOPA strongly denounce these remarks and call upon Hon. Mbai to issue an apology to Gov. Ngilu and the Kenyan women at large.

The statement by Hon. Mbai promoting rape in a country where women have struggled and made significant gains against violence is unfortunate and has no place in our society. Further the statement by Hon. Mbai is in direct contravention of the laws of Kenya and more specifically Chapter 6 of the Constitution of Kenya on leadership and integrity that speak to the responsibilities of leaders and conduct of state officers.

KEWOPA further calls on the government to honor its commitment to protect the rights of women across the country as stipulated in the constitution and added that KEWOPA Members will present a statement to the speaker of National Assembly on the actions that have been taken by responsible agencies to redress this issue."

"We as KEWOPA will not stand by as thoughtless leaders continue to perpetuate the culture of rape targeted at women merely because these people do not agree with the views, thoughts or political stands that the woman in question takes; We stand in solidarity with Gov. Ngilu and the women of Kenya in fighting for and ensuring that their rights are respected and protected."

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Contacts:

For further information, contact KEWOPA - Communications, info@kewopa.org/jared.onsongo@kewopa.org or call on 0723 155 655