



Memorandum on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2020

To the Chairperson Budget and Appropriations Committee

30th April 2020

About TISA

The Institute for Social Accountability (TISA) is a civil society organization committed towards the achievement of sound policy and good governance in local development, to uplift livelihoods of, especially, the poor and marginalized in Kenya. TISA has been operational since March 2008, and is a locally registered Trust that has engaged with various relevant state and non-state actors in the quest to promote effective local governance in Kenya

Review of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2020

We find the proposed reallocations in the Supplementary Appropriation Bill to be evenly distributed and carefully considered so as not to incapacitate affected ministries. However,

1. Both the supplementary program based budget and supplementary proposals require explanations and justifications.
2. Almost eight weeks into the pandemic, the government has still not outlined a clear plan on COVID-19 response. The supplementary budget should provide an estimated target of the funds needed for the COVID response, the remaining shortfall and how it will be met.
3. The supplementary budget needs to be accompanied by the supplementary debt management statement on account of the debt relief and proposed debt procurement.
4. County governments should receive their full share of allocated revenue as they are on the frontline in supporting local communities manage the impacts of the pandemic.
5. The supplementary program-based budget and bill need to provide an updated performance management framework for monitoring of the response.

Some specific concerns

1. Nairobi Metropolitan Services has an allocation of 1.2 B (010500) and 2.2B (074500) totaling 3.4B. This may result in double funding. All allocations to the agency should be captured on the same budget line.
2. The reason for increasing allocations to the infrastructure and roads sector during a national pandemic when food security might be at risk is hard to fathom, other than perhaps for political mileage. It is noteworthy that without a strategic rationale of essential and non-essential spending, reallocation decisions are informed by political clout and interests, and not the contribution to the fight. We propose all non-essential infrastructure development be put on hold.
3. The cut in reproductive health allocations by 4.7B is a concern especially in view of the closure of the PEPFAR project. The bill should explain the rationale and how this amount will be met to ensure continuity of services.
4. Cuts to the ministry of planning M&E will compound the lack of data for cuts to the ministry of planning for monitoring and evaluation will undermine the ability of government to capture adopt a data lead approach to the COVID response.

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