

Section 9 (1) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, 2011, empowers the Governor, on the resolution of the County Assembly, to confer on a qualifying town, the status of a Municipality by grant of a Charter;

The public participation forum discussed in details two major issues that is;

- Overview of Urban and Cities Act.
- Overview of the Municipal Charter

OVERVIEW OF URBAN AREAS AND CITIES ACT

The County legal team took the participants present through a detailed presentation of the Urban Areas and Cities Act,2011.

The legal team informed the participants that Parliament enacted the Urban Areas and Cities Act in the year 2011. Section 9 (1) of the Urban Areas and Cities Act ,2011 empowers the Governor, on the resolution of the County Assembly, to confer on a qualifying town ,the status of a Municipality by grant of a Charter.

Following the detailed presentation and participation by the participants during this session it was found out that based on conditions for establishment of a Municipality provided by this act of parliament , Marsabit town will become a Municipality because of being the County Headquarters.

Some participants complained that they have waited for long these detailed information on municipality and felt the need for message to be cascaded down to village level within the proposed municipality before the launch of the municipality.

However, the legal team informed the participants all their local leaders have been involved in this process since inception . That is as early as the official opening of the Second County Assembly of Marsabit in his inaugural speech H.E. the Governor asked all members of the County assembly and the general public to support and participate in the plans to elevate Marsabit town to Municipal status as it will greatly improve service delivery to the residents of the Municipality and County at large being the County headquarters. The participants agreed that they have heard about Municipality from their leaders and through local media however they wanted more understanding as it was a new thing to some. The Town Administrator and the County legal office team agreed to their concerns and assured the participants that more sensitization will be done regularly with availability of resources.