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KENYA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NINTH PARLIAMENT-FOURTH SESSION

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LANDS AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES

REPORT ON THE TOUR OF GARISSA LIVESTOCK MARKET IN  
GARISSA DISTRICT, NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE

(7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2005)

Clerk's chambers,  
National Assembly,  
**NAIROBI**

September, 2005

KENYA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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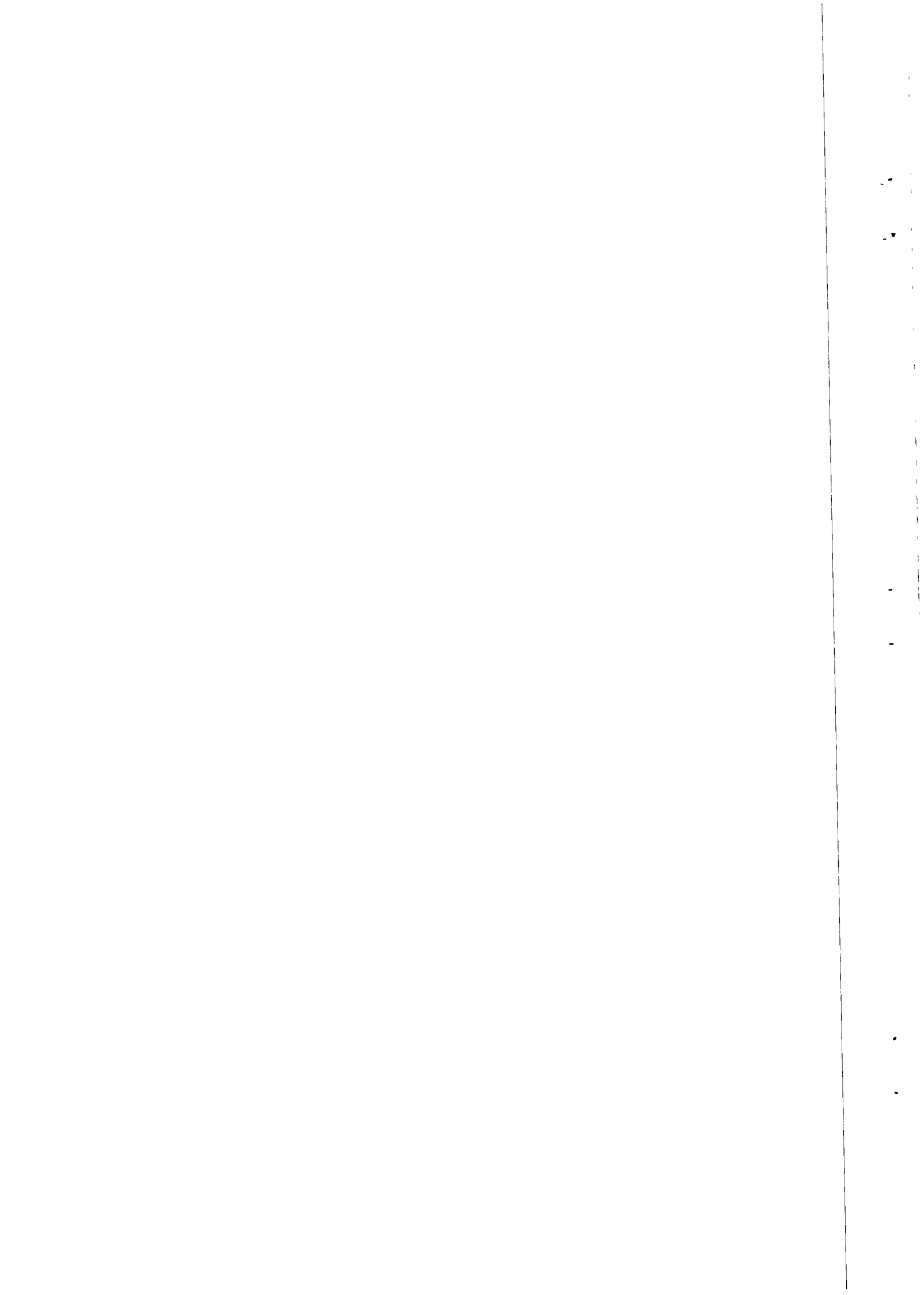
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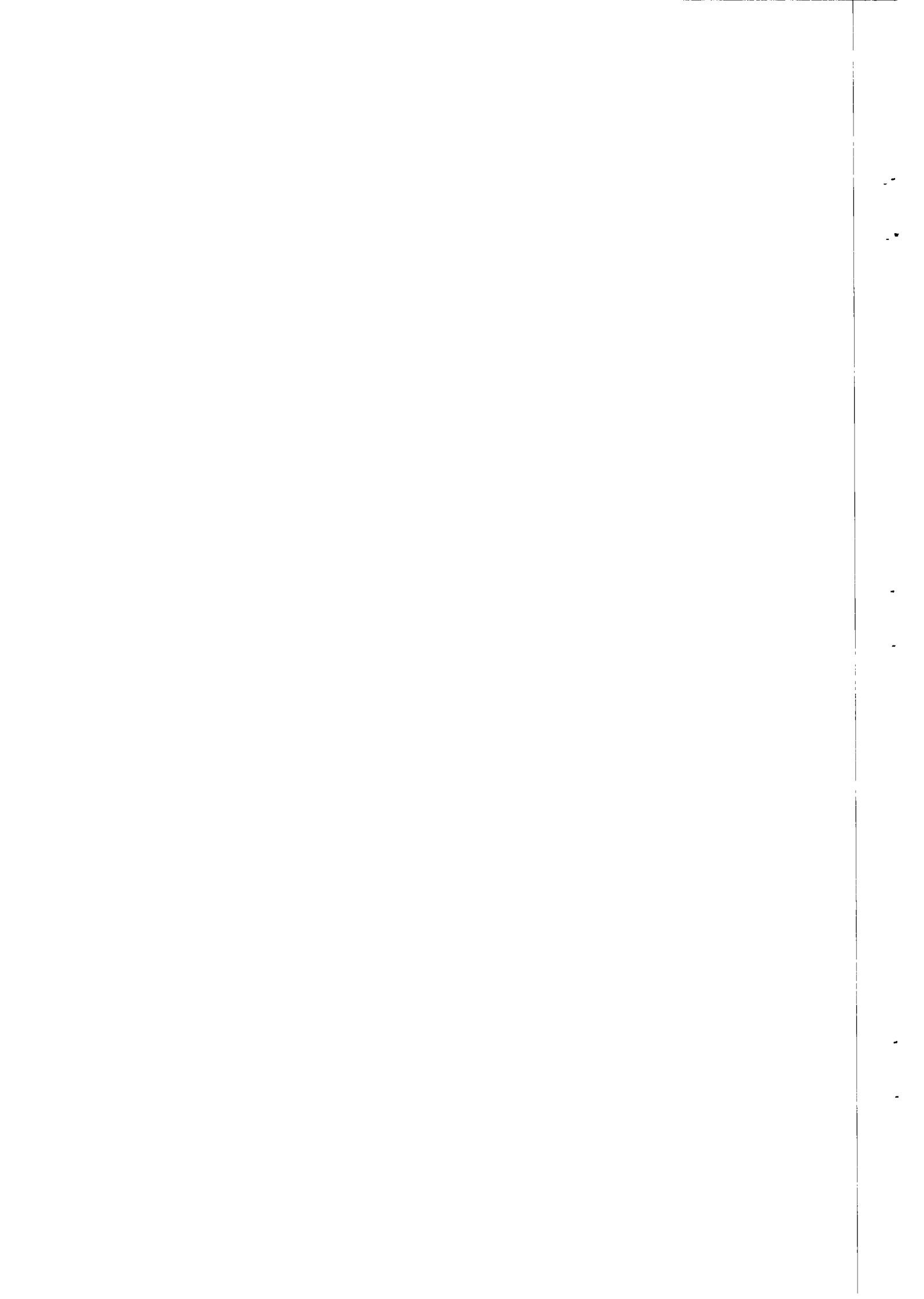


**REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE'S TOUR OF GARISSA LIVESTOCK  
MARKET IN GARISSA, NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE**

**PREFACE**

**Hon. Speaker Sir,**

1. The Departmental Committee "A" on Agriculture, Lands and Natural Resources was constituted at the commencement of the Ninth Parliament pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 151; whose paragraph (4) mandates the Committee to carry out these functions:-
  - (a) *to investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to its mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned ministries and departments;*
  - (b) *to study the programme and policy objectives of ministries and departments and the effectiveness for the implementation;*
  - (c) *to study and review all legislation after the First Reading subject to the exemptions under Standing Order 101A(4);*
  - (d) *to study, assess and analyze the relative success of the Ministries and Departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with its stated objectives;*
  - (e) *to investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned Ministries and departments as it deems necessary and as may be referred to it by the House or a Minister; and*



(f) *to make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible including recommendation of proposed legislation.*

2. The subjects falling within the purview of the Committee are:-

- i. Crop and livestock production;
- ii. Marketing;
- iii. Lands and settlement;
- iv. Natural Resources;
- v. Water resources;
- vi. Land reclamation and irrigation; and
- vii. Co-operative development.

3. The membership of the Committee comprise:-

- i. The Hon. Franklin Bett, M.P. - Chairperson
- ii. The Hon. Mwanicha S.N. Okioma, M.P.
- iii. The Hon. (Prof) Patrick A. Olweny, M.P.
- iv. The Hon. Mwangi Waithaka, M.P.
- v. The Hon. Julius Arunga, M.P.
- vi. The Hon. Patrick Muiruri, M.P.
- vii. The Hon. John Serut, M.P.
- viii. The Hon. Philip Rotino, M.P.
- ix. The Hon. P.G. Muriithi, M.P.
- x. The Hon. J.N. Gachagua, M.P; and
- xi. The Hon. Isaack Shaaban, M.P.

4. On 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2005, the Committee made a fact finding tour of the Garissa livestock market in Garissa District, North Eastern Province. During the tour, the Committee held a meeting with the North Eastern Provincial Commissioner at his office. The meeting centered on livestock activities in the province. The Committee also held a meeting with livestock farmers





at the Garissa Farmers College who presented memoranda to the Committee. The Provincial Director of Livestock was with the Committee during the entire tour.

The delegation comprised:-

- i. The Hon. Franklin Bett, M.P. - Chairperson
- ii. The Hon. Prof. Patrick A. Olweny, M.P.
- iii. The Hon. Philip Rotino, M.P;
- iv. The Hon. Julius Arunga, M.P.
- v. The Hon. Isaack Shaaban, M.P.
- vi. The Hon. John Serut, M.P.

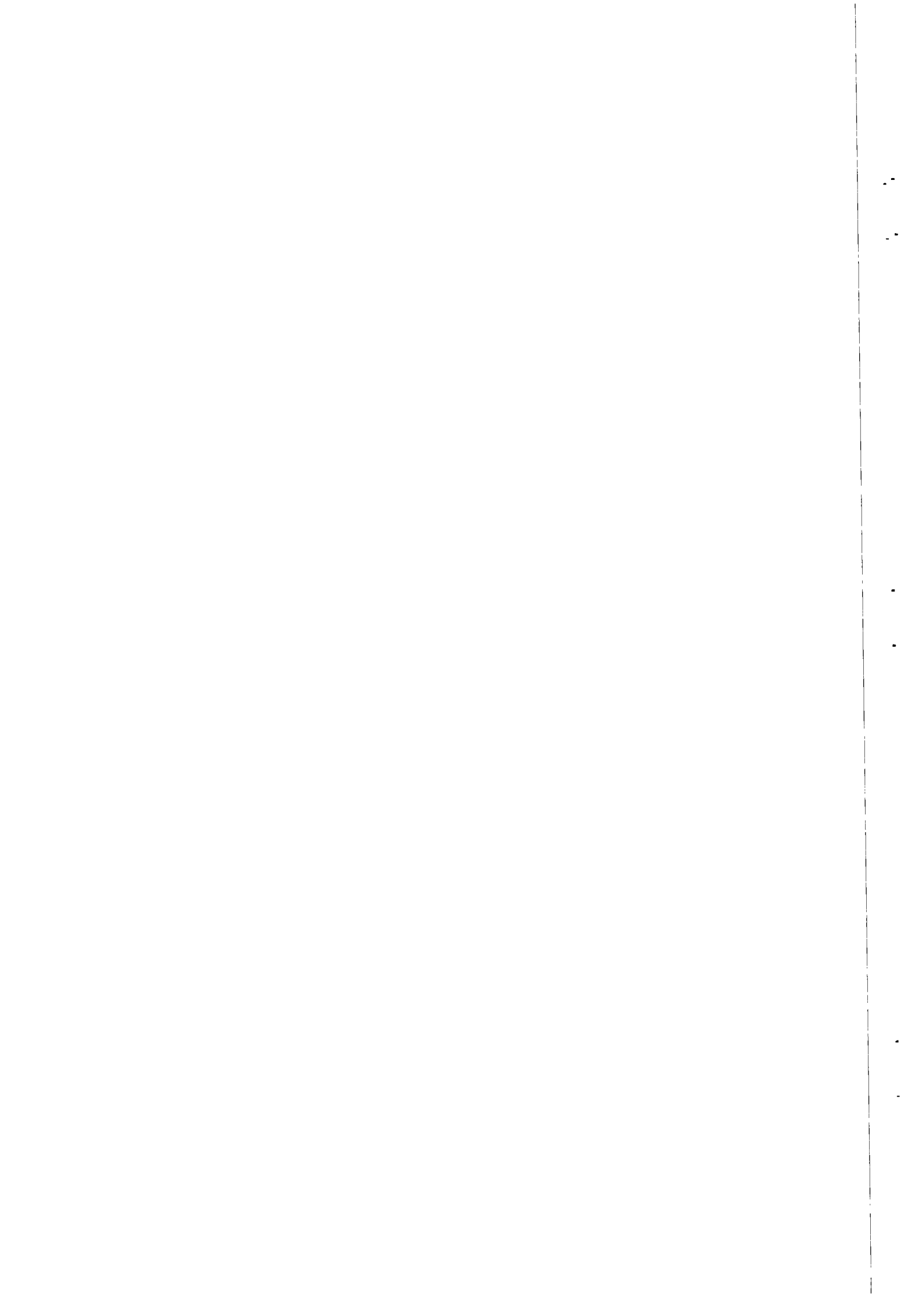
Mr. George Gazemba was the Secretary to the delegation.

6. The Committee expresses gratitude to the Speaker, the Clerk and the Liaison Committee for sanctioning the visit and further the Clerk for providing technical support. The Committee also expresses gratitude to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development for making arrangements on ground without which the tour would not have been successful.

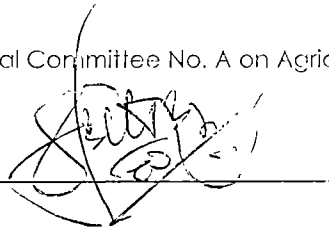
**Hon. Speaker Sir,**

7. On behalf of the Committee, I now wish to lay on the Table of the House the report of the Committee in respect of the visit, pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 162.

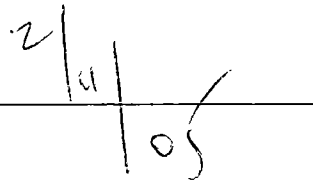
**THE HON. FRANKLIN BETT, M.P.**  
**CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,**  
**LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

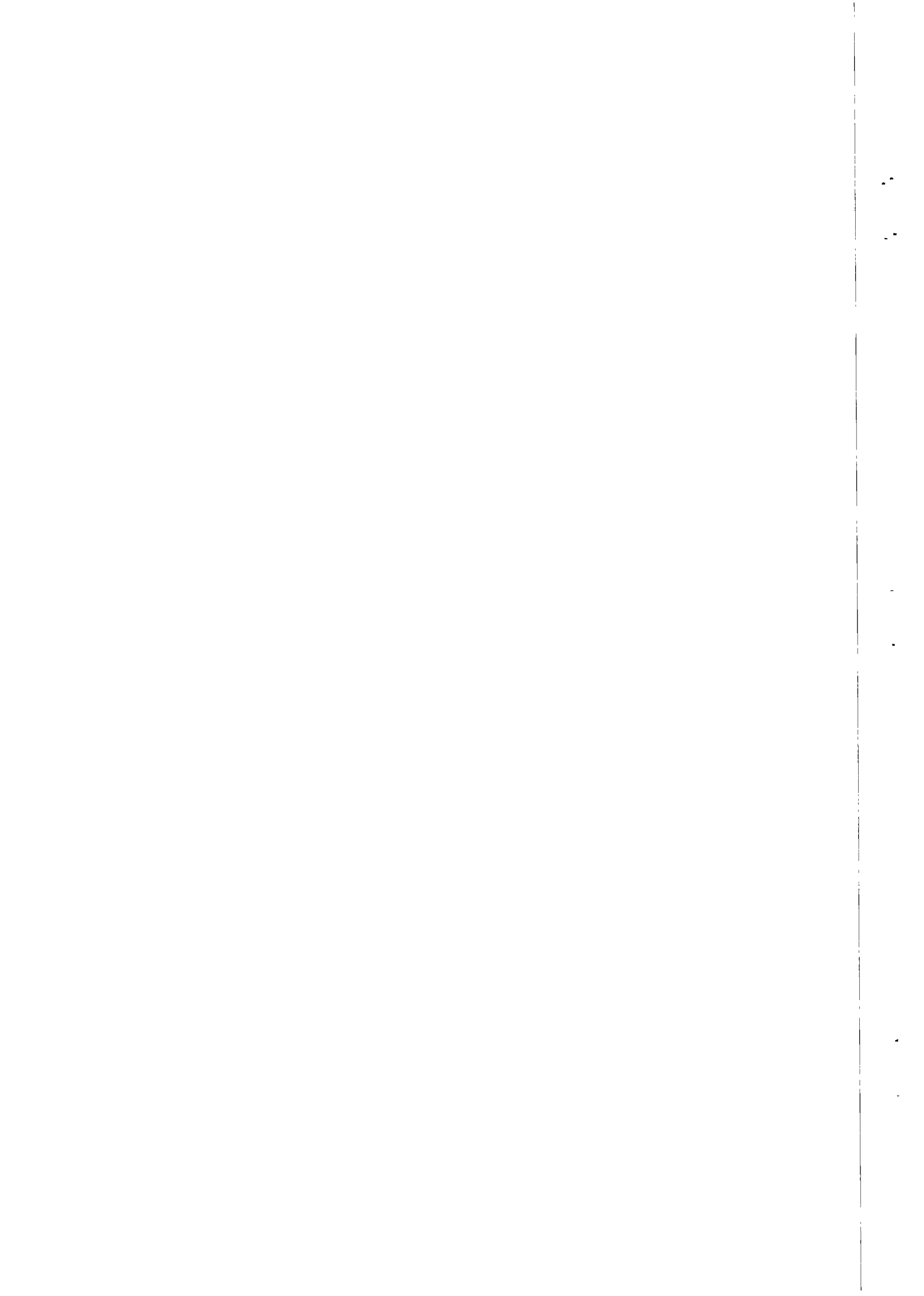


Sign

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Date

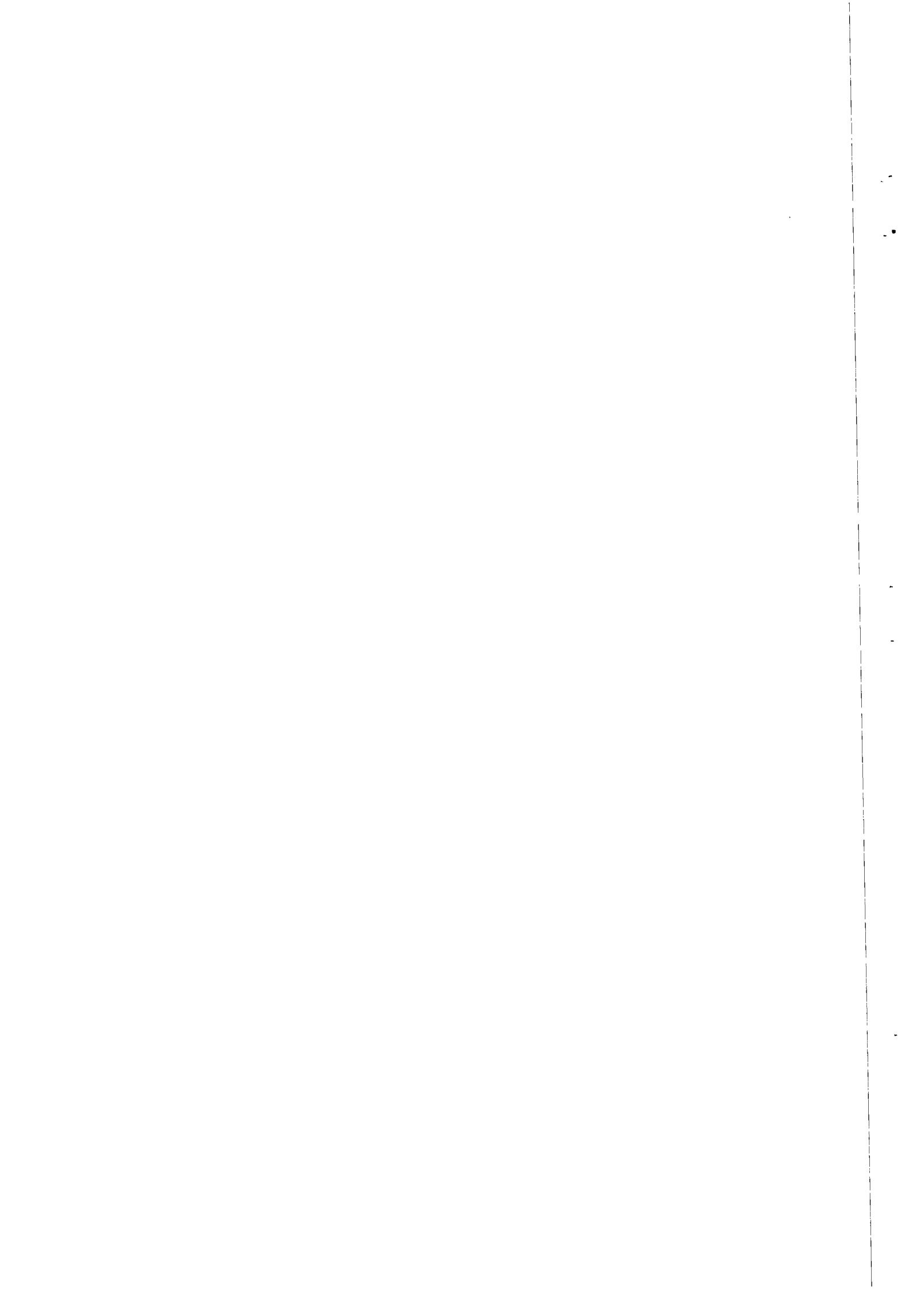
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## **TOUR OF GARISSA LIVESTOCK MARKET IN GARISSA DISTRICT, NORTH EASTERN PROVINCE**

### **Background information**

1. The Garissa livestock market is situated in Garissa District of North Eastern Province. North Eastern Province covers a surface area of 128,902 square Kilometers and borders Ethiopia to the North, Somalia to the West, Eastern Province to the East and Coast Province to the South. Garissa is the headquarters of the province. Other districts constituting the province are Ijara, Mandera and Wajir.
2. The human population of North Eastern Province is estimated at 1,203,000 million giving rise to a population density of 9.3 persons per square kilometer. Only 14.9 % of the population resides in urban centres of the province. The level of poverty in the province currently stands at 64%
3. North Eastern Province receives averagely 350 millimeters of rain annually. The rain comes in two seasons which are from mid March to end of May and November to December. The province experiences high temperatures for most part of the year with average maximum temperature being 39°C and minimum 23°C.
4. North Eastern Province has various classes of vegetation ranging from forest, bushes, woodlands and open grasslands. Dominant wood species include *commiphora* and *acacia*. Dominant grasses are *aristida* sp and *sporobolus* sp.



## **Livestock production in North Eastern Province**

5. Livestock production is the main economic activity of North Eastern Province inhabitants. They rear cattle and camels and are nomadic pastoralists.

### **Beef farming**

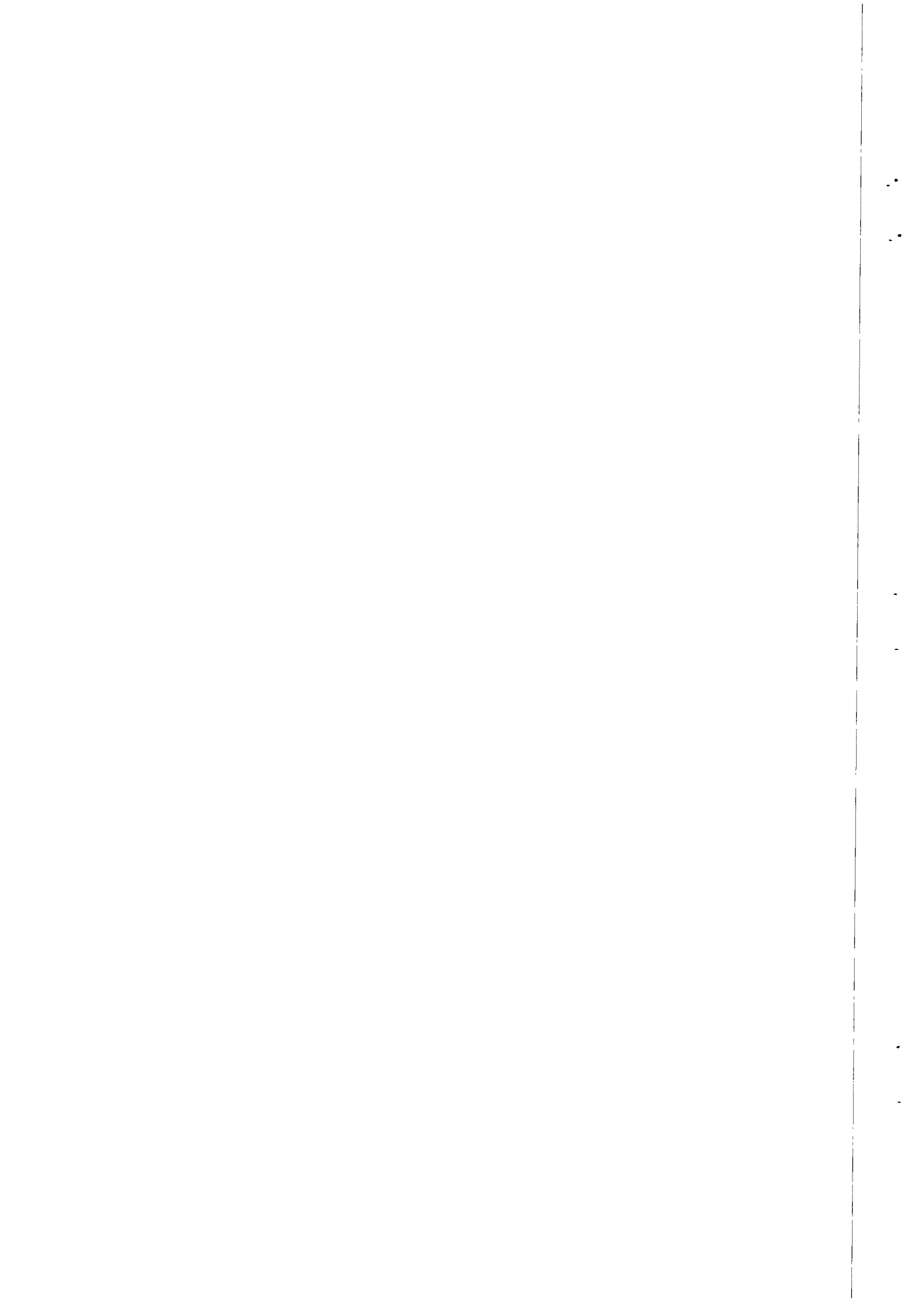
6. Beef farming is carried out all over the Province. The Boran is the main cattle breed reared for the purpose.



**The Boran Species, commonly found in North Eastern Province**

### **Dairy farming**

7. Dairy farming is carried out in Garissa and Mandera districts under the semi zero grazing system in the riverine zones. It has great potential in the province. Dairy farming in Garissa is however declining due to high production





costs, diseases and drought. Breeds reared include the sahiwal and mixed crosses of the boran and exotic cattle.

### **Sheep and goat rearing**

8. Sheep and goats are reared for milk, meat and provision of quick cash to meet short term financial obligations. Galla goats and the black head Persian sheep are the predominant breeds.

### **Camel rearing**

9. Camels are reared for transport, milk and meat provision. An export market had been discovered in Saudi Arabia. Camels are drought resistant and versatile in nature. However, high calf mortality and low conception rates occasioned by prevalence of trypanosomiasis and heminthisis had hampered camel production in the province.

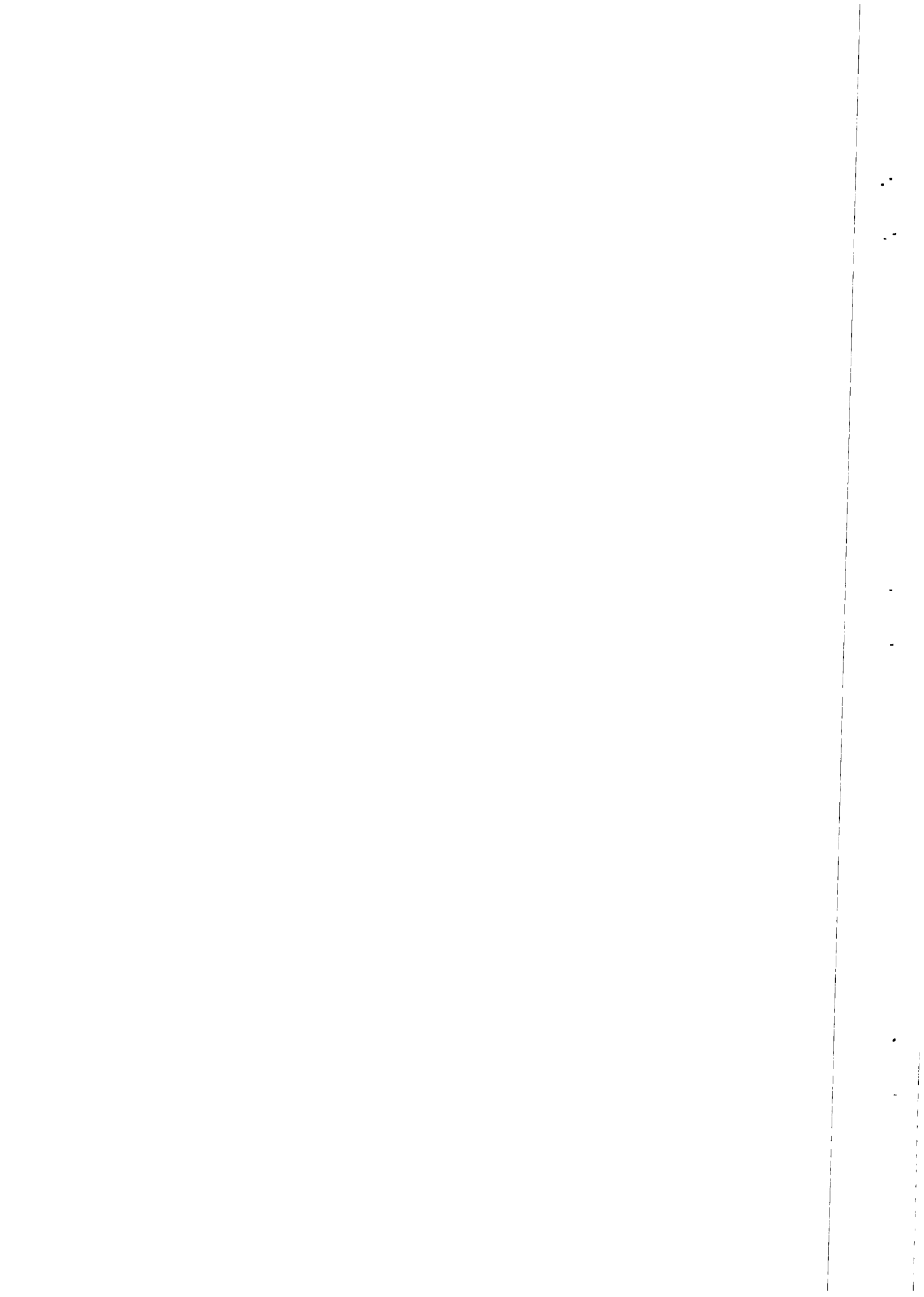
### **Livestock production figures**

10. The livestock production estimates during the year 2004 were as enumerated below:-

<b>Species</b>	<b>Garissa</b>	<b>Wajir</b>	<b>Ijara</b>	<b>Mandera</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cattle</b>	312509	316,000	260,124	214,116	1,117,499
<b>Goat</b>	626919	251,000	73,917	358,463	1,310,299
<b>Sheep</b>	338212	340,000	43,264	237,168	958,668
<b>Camel</b>	102341	291,000	0	187,192	580,533
<b>Donkey</b>	5500	13,300	11,041	8259	38,100
<b>Poultry</b>	34,000	25,300	37,136	49,000	145,436

### **Livestock population trend**

11. The livestock population trend by the year 2004 was as enumerated below:-



Species	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Cattle</b>	945,687	1,018,010	1,056,280	1,117,499
<b>Sheep</b>	1,233,994	557,743	596,662	958,668
<b>Goat</b>	0	782,888	882,931	1,310,299
<b>Camel</b>	502,929	520,116	546,232	580,533
<b>Poultry</b>	122,453	127,349	137,782	145,436
<b>Donkey</b>	30,460	29,579	32,650	38,100

## **Livestock marketing situation in the Province**

### **Facilities**

12. The Garissa livestock market is the leading market in Garissa municipality. There are four other formal markets that serve rural communities. These are:-

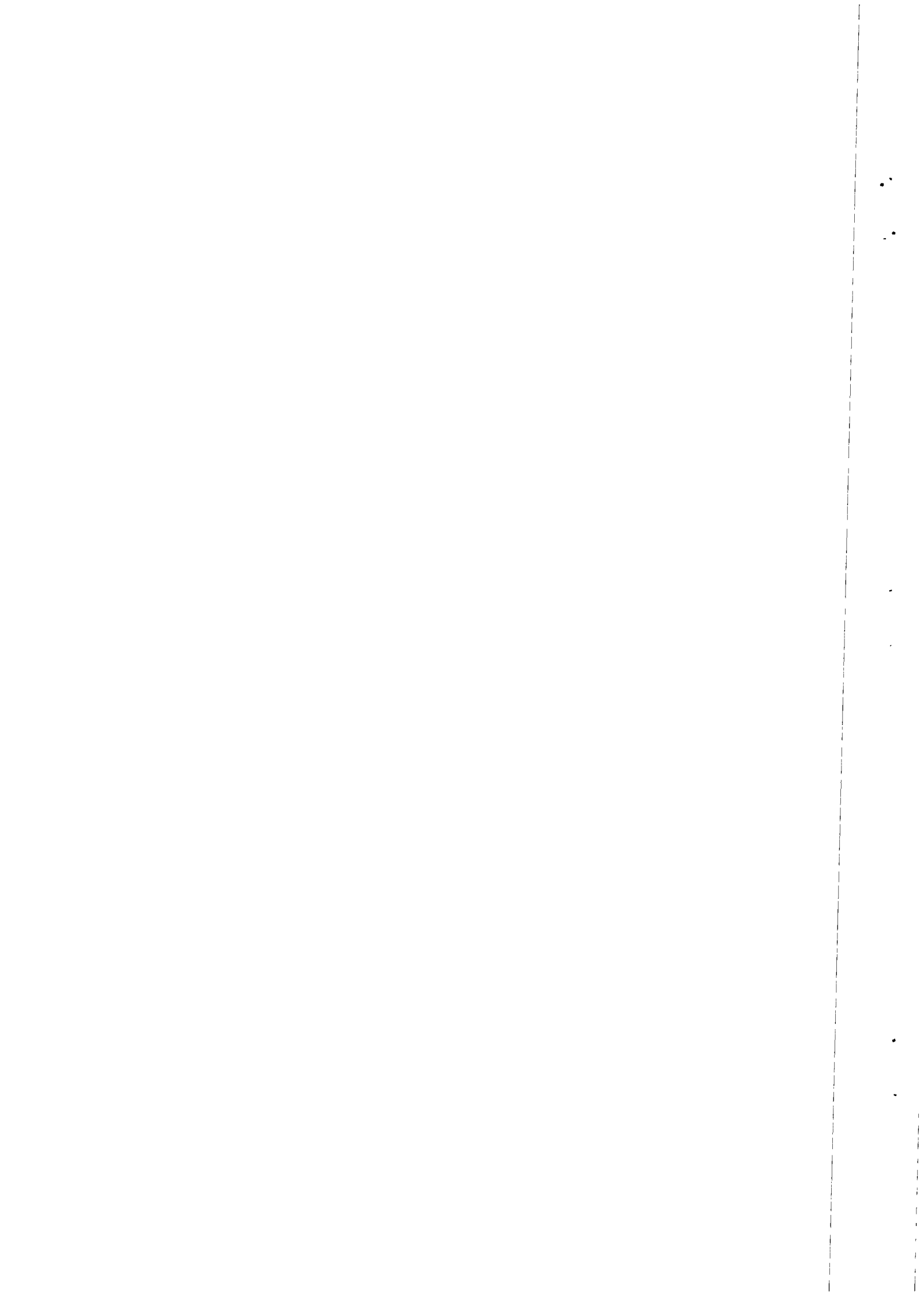
Dagahalley	-	for cattle and camels
Hagardera	-	for small stock
Modogashe	-	for all stock
Benane	-	for all stock

There are other informal markets in the district.

13. Garissa market has an organized market day on every Wednesday. The town has a modern privately owned slaughter house with capacity to slaughter 50 animals per day. There are 10 slaughter slabs in the rural markets in the district.

### **Livestock slaughter figures from the year 2003 to 2004**

14. The livestock slaughter figures from the year 2003 to the year 2004 were as outlined below:-



	<b>GARISSA</b>		<b>IJARA</b>		<b>MANDERA</b>		<b>WAJIR</b>	
<b>Species</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Cattle</b>	197	75	159	82	1502	868	578	<b>287</b>
<b>Goats</b>	5,682	9,338	3,507	1561	11,963	8,690	4,033	6,308
<b>Sheep</b>								
<b>Camel</b>	3,083	2,062	-	-	2,580	2,382	3,563	2,691

There was a general reduction in meat consumption in the year 2004 due to reduced purchasing power of pastoralists. This was as a result of prolonged drought.

### **Hides and skins figures 2004**

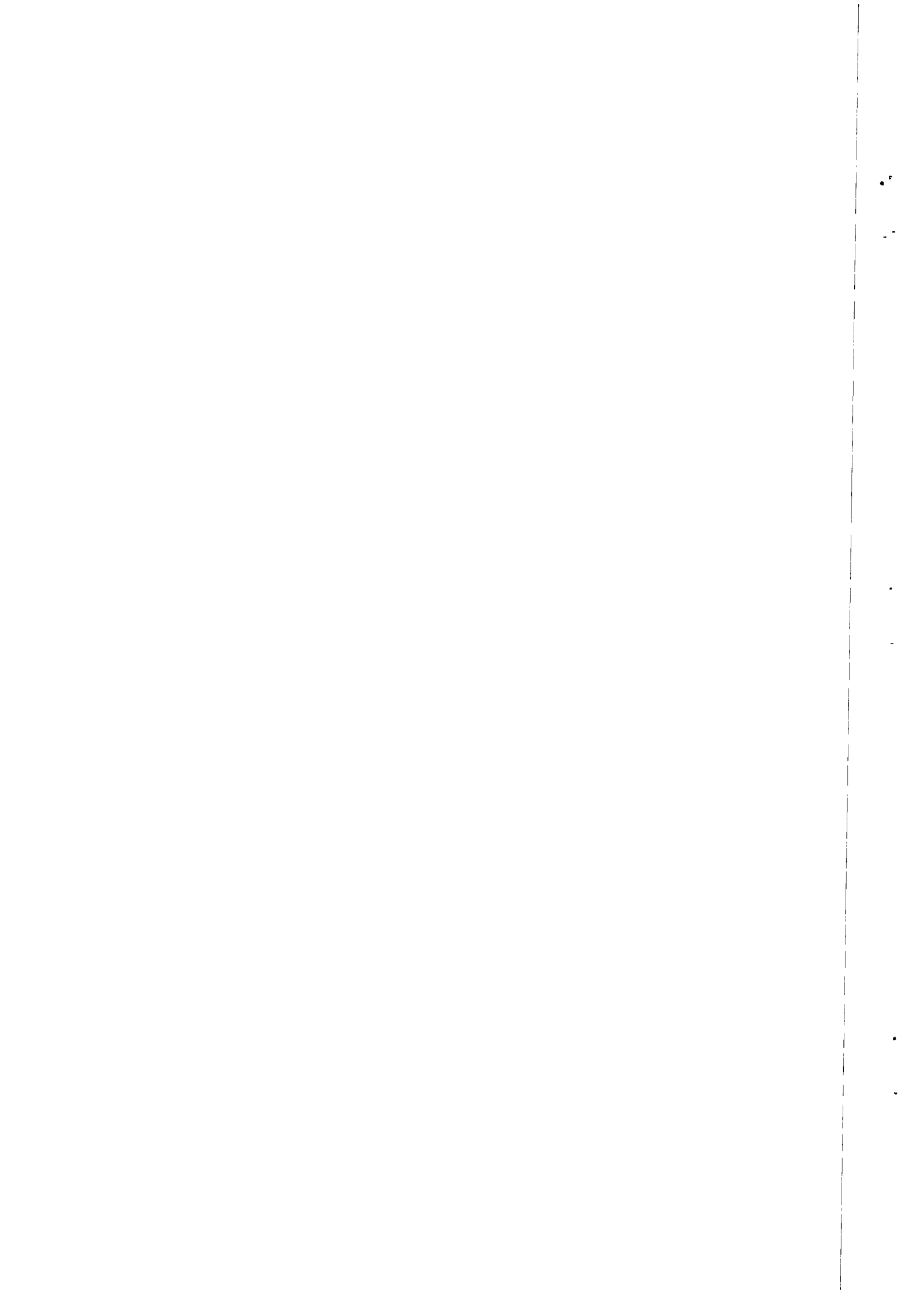
15. Hides and skins produced in the province in the year 2004 were as enumerated below:-

<b>Species</b>	<b>GARISSA</b>	<b>IJARA</b>	<b>MANDERA</b>	<b>WAJIR</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Cow</b>	3,888	88	471		4,447
<b>Camel</b>	12,156	-	-	4,064	16,220
<b>Goats</b>	82,524	27,477	-	82,538	162,539

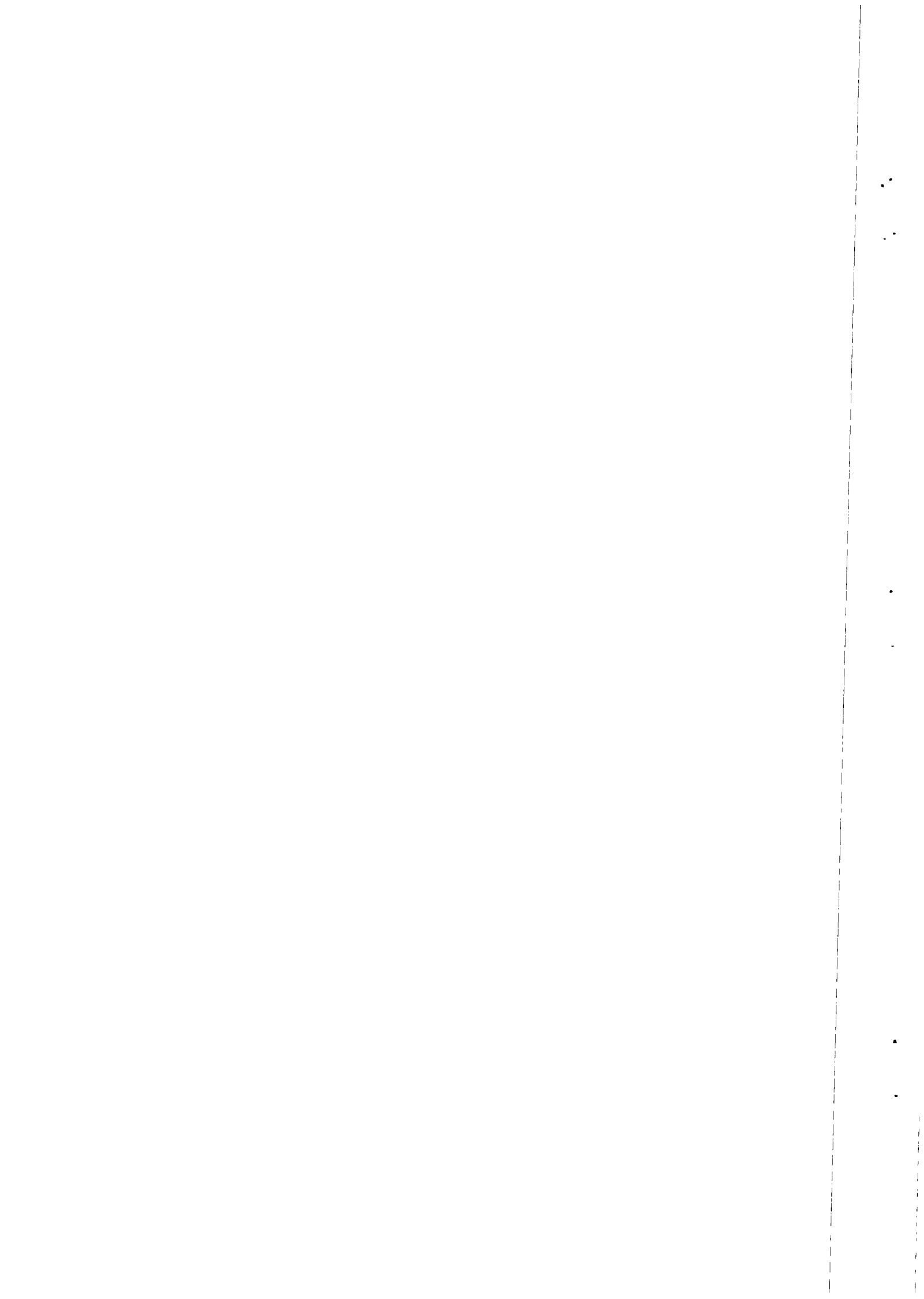
An appreciable quantity of hides and skins came from Ethiopia and Somalia.

### **Livestock sales**

16. It was widely acknowledged by stakeholders that livestock farming was the key to poverty alleviation in the province. Consequently, the Livestock Department had a role to play as advisor to all stakeholders. To achieve the objective, the department was *inter alia* working on the following:-
- i. Improvement of livestock marketing by gathering and disseminating information;
  - ii. improvement of livestock marketing infrastructure;



- iii. reduction and or elimination of livestock trade barriers; and
  - iv. establishment of external markets.
17. Livestock diseases were however a major hindrance to livestock production and trade in the province. The province was said to be Contagious Bovin Pleuropneumonia (CBPP) endemic. In fact the Livestock Department had restricted movement of livestock. Other factors impeding livestock production and trade in the province were:-
  - i. inadequate financial support to both departments of Veterinary Services and Livestock Production;
  - ii. insecurity;
  - iii. land tenure and resource utilization conflict;
  - iv. difficulties in accessing to credit facilities;
  - v. high cost of inputs;
  - vi. recurrent draught;
  - vii. poor market infrastructure e.g. holding grounds; and
  - viii. poor animal husbandry practices.
18. Livestock sales figures and income from sale of livestock and products in the year 2004 were as follows:-





### Livestock sales figures in the year 2004

Species	Garissa	Ijara	Mandera	Wajir
Cow	83,656	18,120	16,813	21,454
Camel	2,480	-	6,982	16,237
Sheep	27,788	17,288	48,220	64,918
Goats		11,270	11,922	38,708
Donkey		17	2,331	1,328

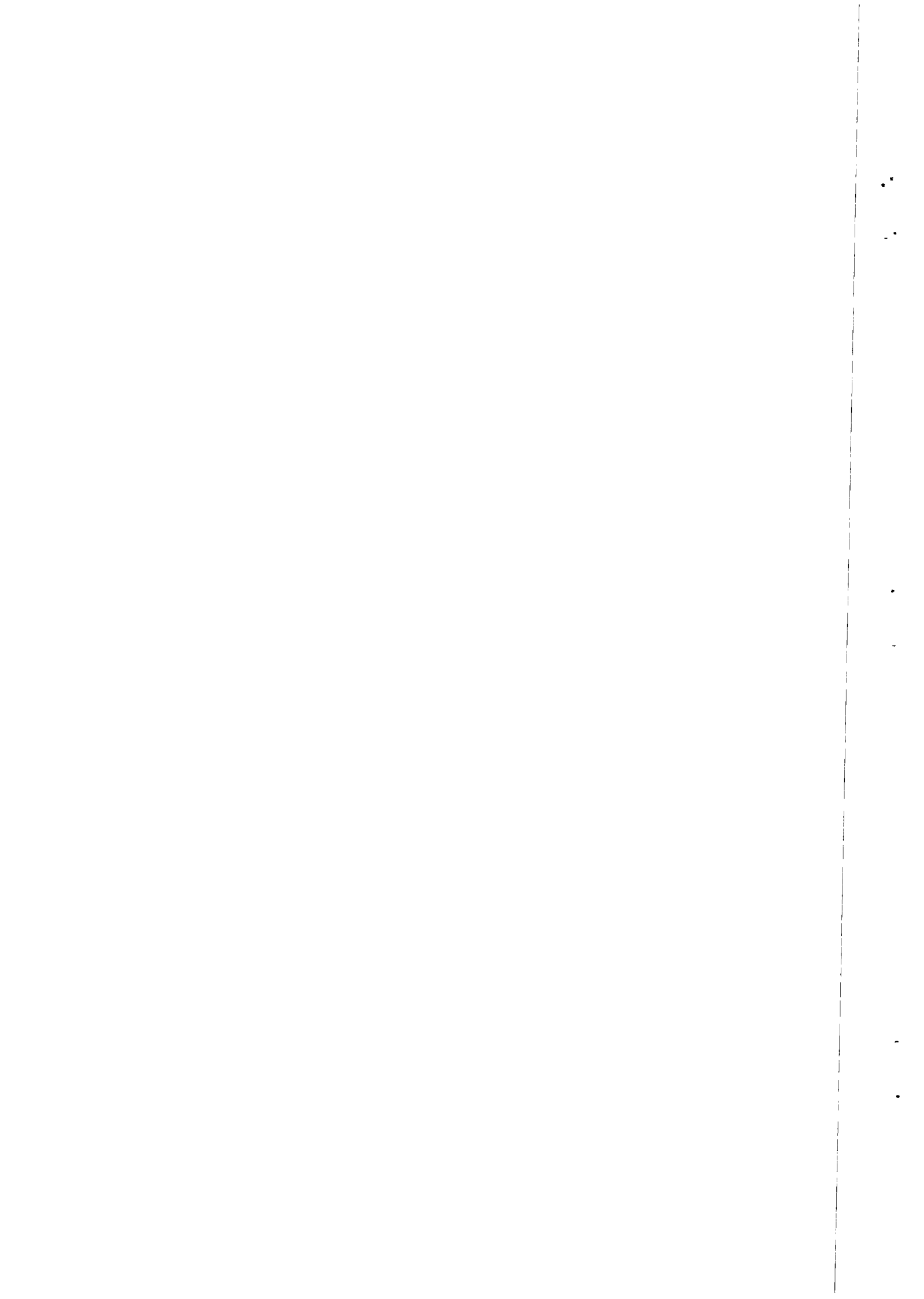
### Income from sale of livestock and livestock products (in Kshs)

SPECIES	IJARA	GARISSA	WAJIR	MANDERA
Cow	142,695,000	700,200,720	198,342,230	100,878,000
Goat	17,660,800	41,246,352	77,557,010	43,406,100
Sheep	15,214,500		32,705,725	8,345,400
Donkey	85,000	-	6,932,530	6,993,000
Camel	-	33,901,601	182,666,250	48,874,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185,655,300</b>	<b>775,348,672</b>	<b>498,223,735</b>	<b>208,496,500</b>

Income from sale of livestock 2004 was 1,667,724,207 compared to 1,964,750,914 in 2003. The decline was attributed to prolonged drought.

### Income from sale of meat

SPECIES	WAJIR	GARISSA	IJARA	MANDERA
Cow	4,132,800	1,260,000	1,377,600	104,160,000
Goat	8,580,600	14,990,800	9,993,200	8,677,200
Sheep	3,199,680	-	-	3,488,800
Camel	4,438,000	49,488,000	11,848,200	47,640,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,352,080</b>	<b>65,688,800</b>	<b>23,219,000</b>	<b>70,222,000</b>

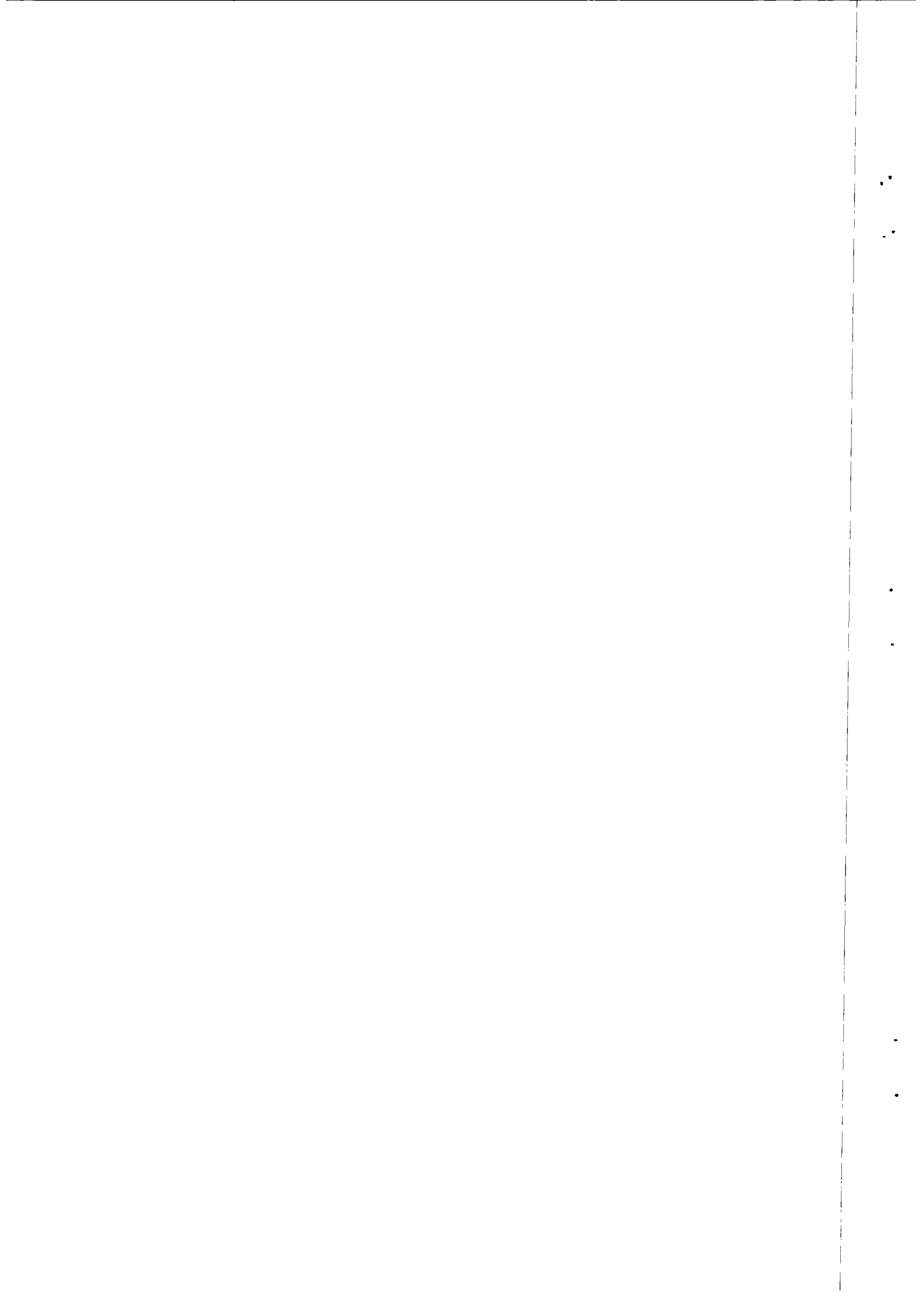




The Committee at the market listening to the Superintendent. From left:- Hon. John Serut (3<sup>rd</sup>) Hon. Julius Arunga (5<sup>th</sup>, Hon Franklin Bett (7<sup>th</sup>), Hon Prof. Patrick A. Olweny (9<sup>th</sup>) and Hon. Isaack Shaaban (10<sup>th</sup>)

19. At the time of the Committee's tour of the market, the prices for livestock (in Kshs) were:

<b>i.</b>	<b><u>Cows</u></b>		
	Mature	-	11,000 to 15,000
	3-4 years	-	8,000
	2-3 years	-	6,000
<b>ii.</b>	<b><u>Camels</u></b>		
	Mature male	-	20,000



Mature female	-	14,000
Heifer	-	9,000

iii. **Goats**

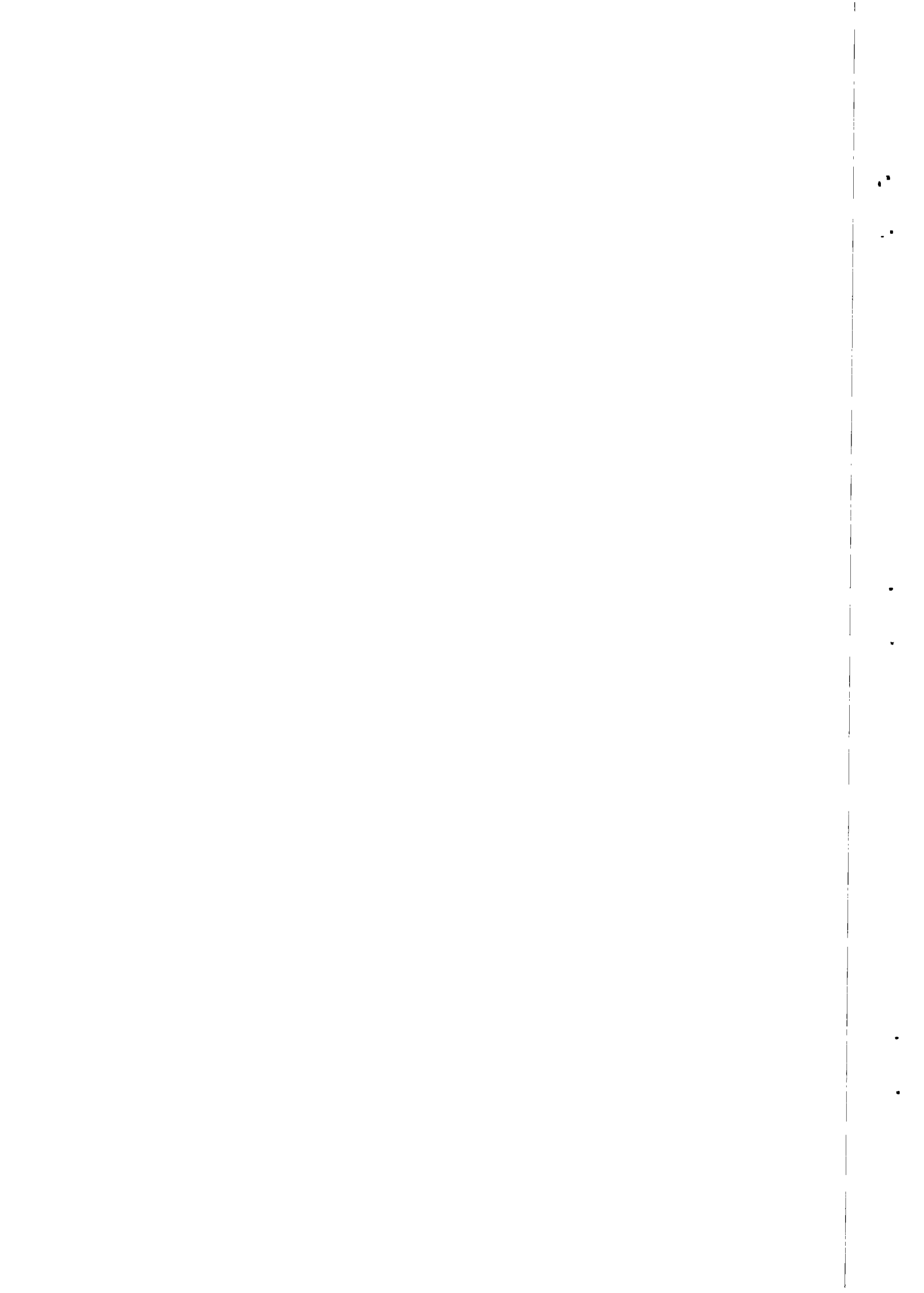
Average size (20-25Kgs)	-	1800
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iv. **Sheep**

Average size (18-20 Kgs)	-	1500
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**The Livestock Information and Network System (LINKS)**

20. The Livestock Information Network and Knowledge System (LINKS) project is sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). LINKS was working with key government and other agencies with interest in livestock marketing information to help build human capacity and technology to provide timely information to pastoral communities, livestock traders and policy makers.
21. LINKS had established a network of market monitors in the region at key markets and was in the process of implementing a market reporting system using a new market code system transmitted by Short Messaging System (SMS). Reporting was underway at Garissa, Wajir, Moyale, Isiolo and Marsabit markets. As the cell phone use capacity expanded in the region so would be the LINKS marketing reporting system.

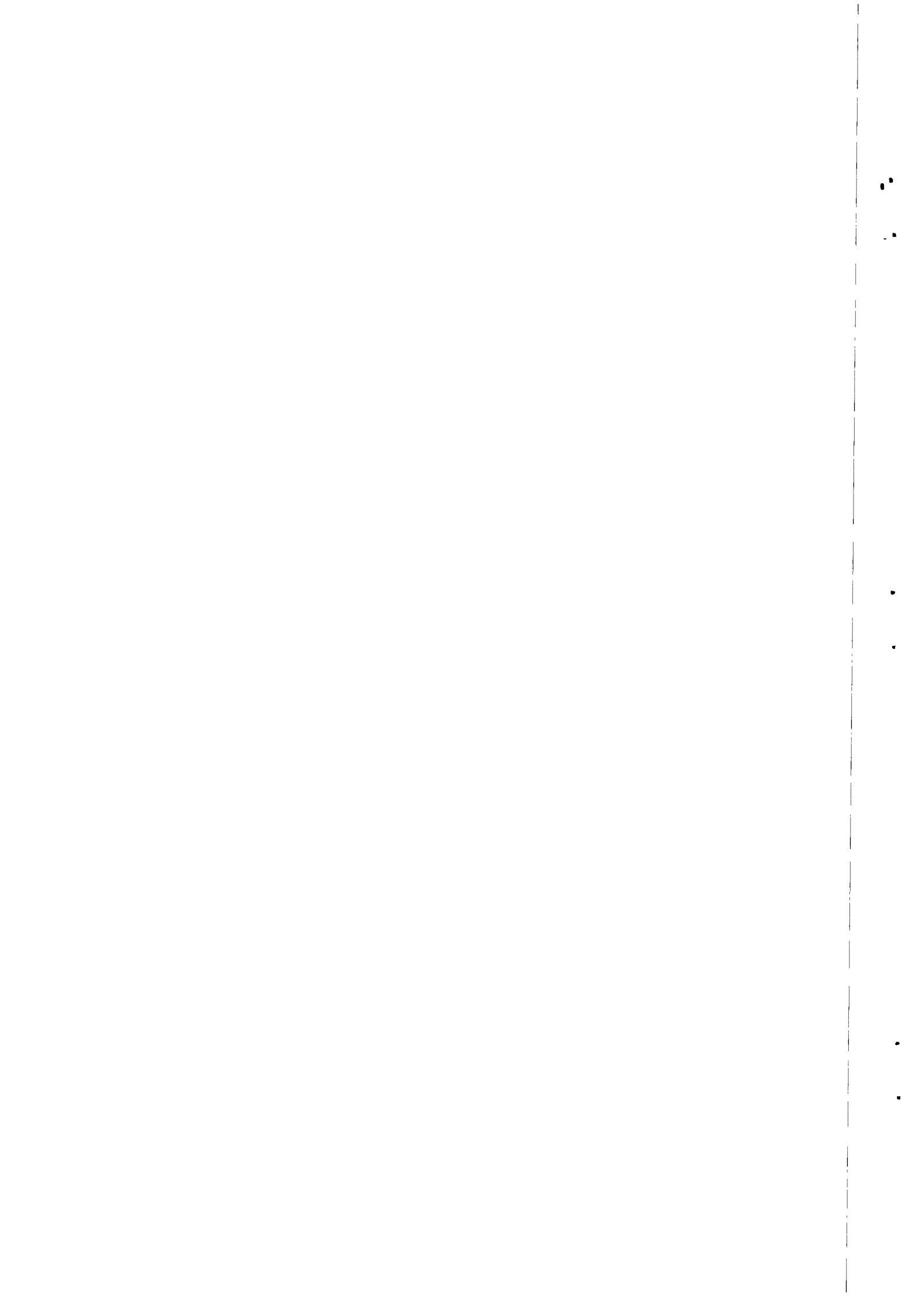




**A livestock farmer presenting a memorandum to the Committee at Garissa Farmers College.**

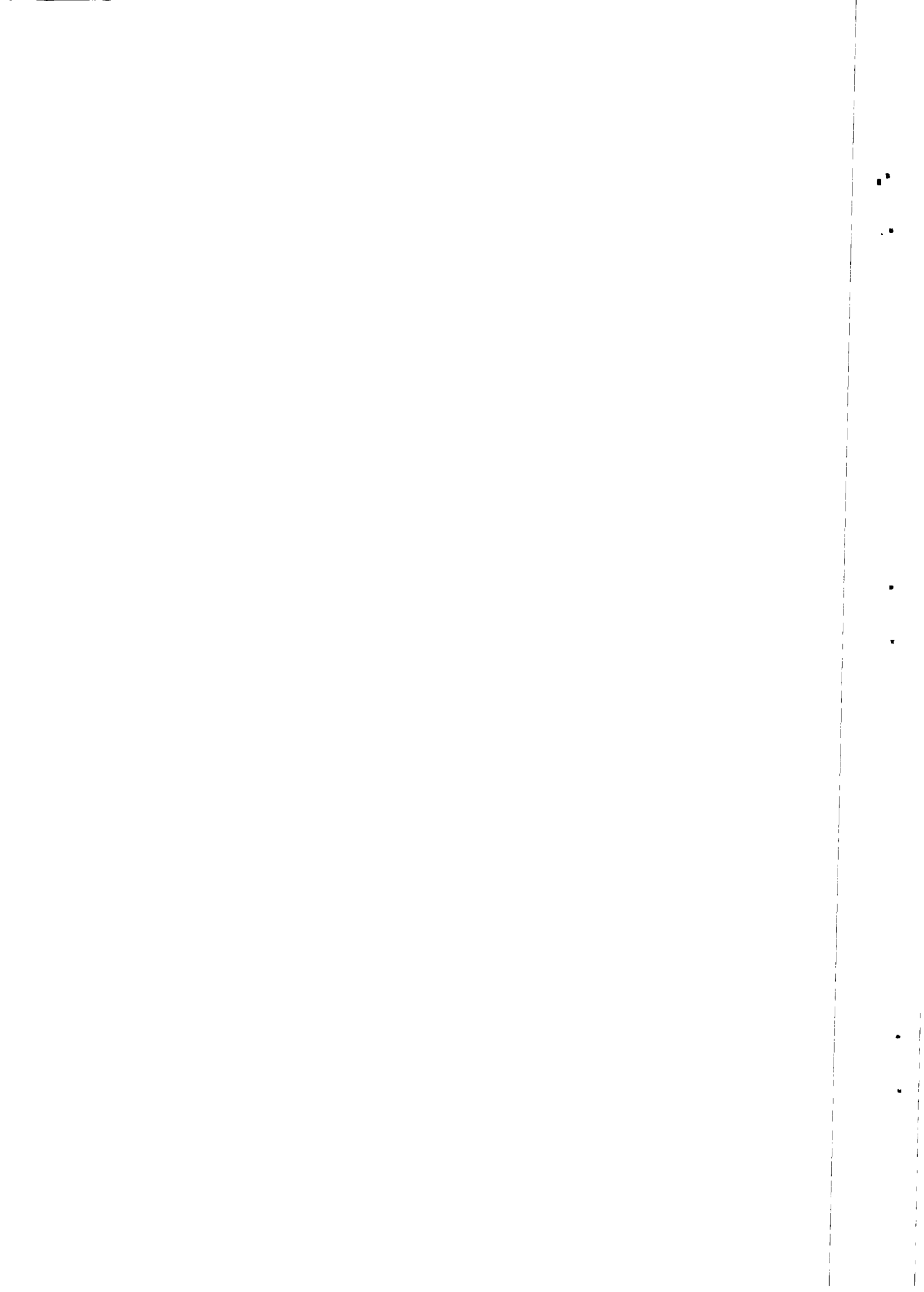
### **Recommendations**

22. Following the tour, the Committee recommends as follows:-
- i. The government should allocate adequate funds to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development to enable it effectively carry out its operations.
  - ii. The government should improve on the inadequate and dilapidated marketing infrastructure in North Eastern Province particularly :-
    - the establishment of abattoirs at strategic places in the Province;



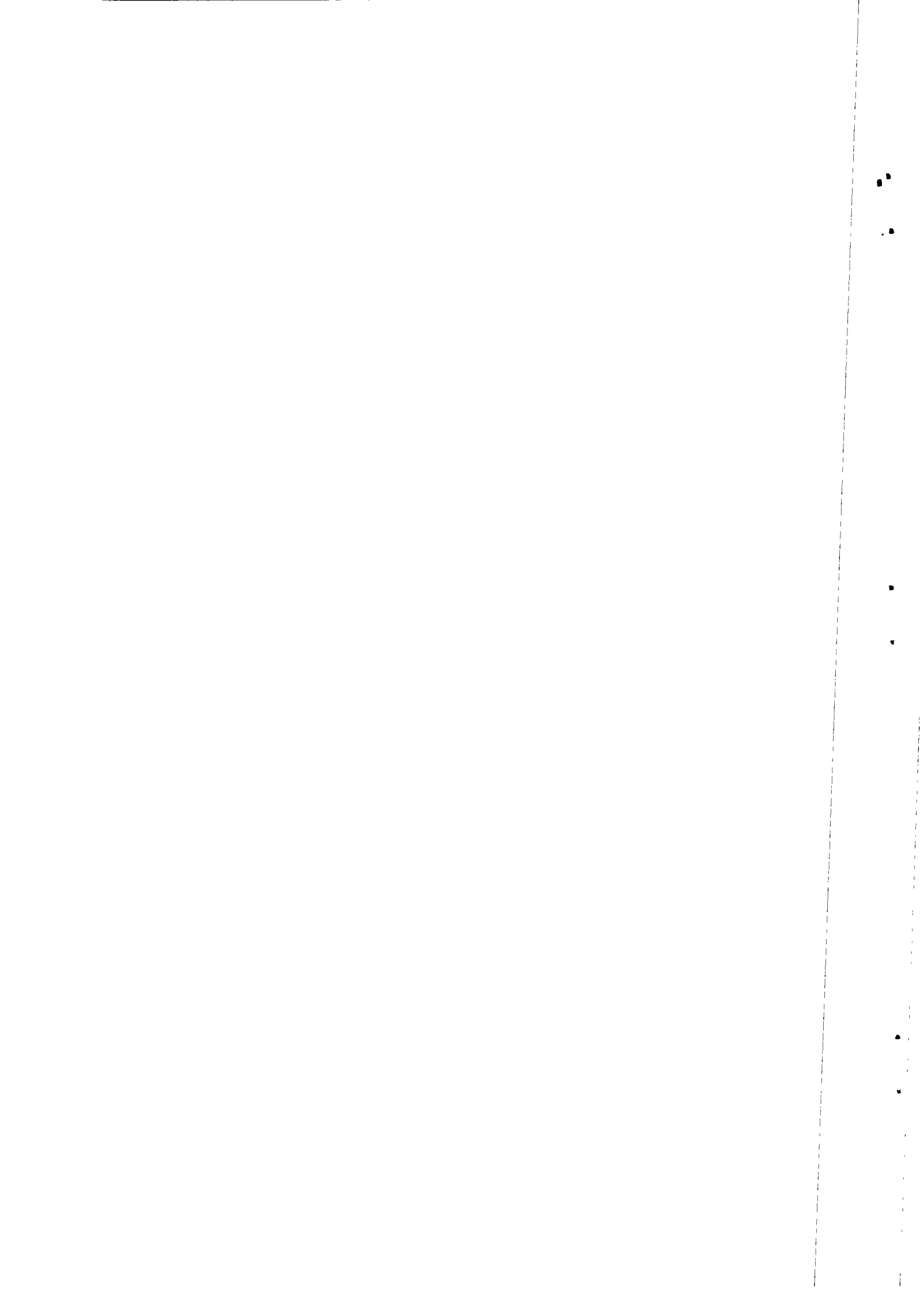


- creation of stock routes; and
  - establishment and or repossession of holding grounds in livestock markets.
- iii. The revival of Kenya Meat Commission is vital for the country's livestock industry. The government should expedite the Commission's revival.
  - iv. The government should improve on provision of extension services and capacity building to livestock farmers. Veterinary services should also be improved. Doctors available are inadequate.
  - v. The only research station in the province is moribund. The government should revive it and intensify research activities in the province.
  - vi. The government should step up efforts in disease and pest control in the province. Disease free zones should be created and surveillance increased.
  - vii. Insecurity in the province is a major threat to the development of the livestock industry. The government should arrest the situation.
  - viii. Land tenure and resource utilization systems have given rise to conflicts in the province. The government should address the issue.
  - ix. The government should as practically as possible reduce taxes on inputs to enable farmers buy all inputs required.



- x. The government should facilitate easy access to credit facilities by livestock farmers in the province.
- xi. The government should enact a comprehensive policy for the livestock industry.
- xii. The government should move with speed to provide adequate alternative water facilities to the people of North Eastern.
- xiii. The government should stop traffic police from collecting bribes from livestock transporters. Investigations should be launched into past incidents and culprits brought to book.

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