



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

NATIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, August 15, 2013

(09:30 - 13:00)

No.10 – 2013

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

- 1.0 The Chairperson took the Chair.
- 2.0 The Vice-Chairperson recited the Prayer and Affirmation.
- 3.0 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

“I have received the following message from the Speaker of the National Assembly:

That the National Assembly has passed and referred the following Bill to the National Council for review in accordance with Article 75(1) of the Namibian Constitution: *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013]

Honourable Members this Bill referred to the National Council is of an urgent nature because it is the result of a proclamation by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba who directed that the National Assembly should conduct a special session to deal with this Bill as a matter of urgency.

Honourable Members the ten year period for the Voters’ Role will expire on 31 August 2013 as per the Electoral Act, 1992 as amended. This amendment Bill is therefore urgent to set a new date for the extension of the period within which the third registration of voters will take place. Thus, it will give time for registration of voters before the next elections in November 2014.

The Honourable Speaker consulted with me for the National Council to deal with it as an urgent matter. I therefore in terms of Rule 6 of the Standing Rules and Orders called for a special session of the National Council to consider *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013].”

The Secretary shall now read the Bill for a First Time.

4.0 NOTICES OF MOTION(S)

Hon. Nhinda moved a motion without noticed: That the Second Reading, Committee Stage and Third Reading of the *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013] be taken today, Thursday, August 15, 2013 in accordance with Rule 75 of the Standing Rules and Orders of the National Council. The reason being that the Bill is of an urgent nature.

Furthermore, that the proceedings on the *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013] be, in accordance with Rule 15(3) of the Standing Rules and Orders of the National Council, not interrupted if still under consideration at 13:00 hours.

5.0 DEBATE ON SECOND READING

FIRST ORDER READ

Debate on Second Reading – *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013]

The Chairperson put the question: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

Agreed to.

The Chairperson called upon the Secretary to read the Bill a Second Time.

The Secretary then read the Bill a Second Time.

The Bill stood referred to a **Committee Stage**.

6.0 DEBATE ON COMMITTEE STAGE

SECOND ORDER READ

Debate on Committee Stage – *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013]

The Chairperson put the question: That he leaves the Chair.

Agreed to.

The Chairperson then called upon the Vice-Chairperson of the National Council and the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole Council to take the Chair.

The Vice-Chairperson then took the Chair.

Council in Committee:

Votes **1** and **2 the Short Title**, was put and agreed to.

Council resumed:

The Vice-Chairperson of the National Council and Chairperson of the Committee of Whole Council then reported the Bill **without amendments**.

7.0 DEBATE ON THIRD READING

THIRD ORDER READ

Debate on Third Reading – *Electoral Amendment Bill* [B.8 – 2013]

The Chairperson put the question: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

The Chairperson called upon the Secretary to read the Bill a Third Time.

The Secretary then read the Bill a **Third Time**.

The Bill was passed **without amendments**.

- 8.0 On the motion of Hon. Nhinda, seconded by Hon. Kavara, the Council was adjourned at 10:45 until further notice.

P.N. Shmutwiken
Secretary of the National Council
