



*Tuesday, 11 June 2024*

No. 35 – 2024

NINTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE**  
**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**TUESDAY, 11 JUNE 2024**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.
2. **Announcements by the Speaker in terms of Rule 20(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

With deep sorrow the Speaker announced the passing on of Dr. Esau Chiviya, former Secretary General of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, on Monday, 3 June 2024.

The Speaker reported that Dr. Chiviya served as Secretary General of SADC (PF) from 1 August 2009 until 30 June 2019. He was a dedicated and respected professional who served the Forum with distinction.

On behalf of the National Assembly, the Speaker expressed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, relatives and friends of Dr. Chiviya.

3. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**
  - (i) Hon. Katjimune (PDM) to ask the Minister of Justice (No. 48).
  - (ii) Hon. Mootu (LPM) to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services (No. 49).
  - (iii) Hon. Van den Heever (PDM) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (No. 50).

- (iv) Hon. Tjirare (PDM) to ask the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 51).
- (v) Hon. Mike Venaani (PDM) to ask the Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (No. 52).

4. **Ministerial Statement in terms of Rule 98 of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

The Minister of Information and Communication Technology updated the Assembly on the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) registration exercise initiated in 2021. The Minister reported that following the SIM card registration deadline on 31 March 2024, registration statistics increased from 70.6% in February 2024 to 91% as of 30 April 2024 as revealed by CRAN.

The Minister urged the Hon. Members to help the Ministry of ICT by encouraging the communities to utilise the remaining time to register the SIM cards.

5. **Announcement by the Deputy Speaker:**

On behalf of the Speaker the Deputy Speaker reported that today they met with the Chief Whips and Leaders of Parties to discuss on how to proceed with the Draft Standing Rules and Orders and Committee Rules of the National Assembly, and it has been agreed that tomorrow the Agenda items on the Order Paper will be set aside in favour of the consideration of the Draft Standing Rules and Orders and Committee Rules of the Assembly.

Agreed to.

6. **FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

The Minister of Justice moved, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Works and Transport:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to consolidate and reform the law on divorces related to civil marriages; abolish the common law grounds for divorce as well as grounds for divorce which applied under legislation before the commencement of this Act; provide for custody, guardianship of, and access, to children of the marriage; provide for spousal maintenance, child maintenance, financial and other consequences of divorce; provide for periodical allowance, financial and other consequences of annulment of marriage; provide for forfeiture of patrimonial benefits; provide for privacy of certain proceedings; restrict access to publication of certain court proceedings; abolish orders for restitution of conjugal rights and judicial separation amend the High Court Act, 1990, so as to make certain consequential amendments; amend the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1944, so as to confer jurisdiction on a court established in terms of that Act to deal with divorces proceedings; and to provide for incidental matters.

Agreed to.

*Divorce Bill [B.3 – 2024]* read a First Time.

The Minister of Justice moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by Hon. Mareka: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Hon. Dienda, seconded by Hon. Tjirare, debate adjourned until Wednesday, 26 June 2024.

7. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade moved, seconded by Hon. Kooper:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to provide for the regulation of property practitioners; to provide for the continuation of the Namibian Estate Agents Board as the Property Practitioners Regulatory Authority; to provide for the governance, administration and financing of the Authority; to provide for the continuation of the Estate Agents Fidelity Fund as the Property Practitioners Fidelity Fund; to provide for the registration of property practitioners; to provide for the issuing of fidelity fund certificates; to provide for the keeping of trust accounts and records of transactions by property practitioners; to provide for the professional conduct and behaviour of property practitioners; to provide for compliance with and enforcement of the provisions of the Act; to provide resolution of disputes between property practitioners and consumers; to establish an Appeal Board to hear and determine appeals against certain decisions; to repeal the Estate Agents Act, 1976; and to provide for incidental matters.

Agreed to.

*Property Practitioners Bill* [B.2 – 2024] read a First Time.

The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by Hon. Ithete: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Hon. Katjimune, seconded by Hon. Vries, debate adjourned until Wednesday, 26 June 2024.

8. **THIRD NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

The Deputy Minister of Works and Transport moved, on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Transport, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Education, Arts and Culture:

That this Assembly –

*Agree* to the Ratification of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 Relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977.

On the motion of Hon. Dienda, seconded by Hon. Mike Venaani, debate adjourned until Thursday, 27 June 2024.

9. **FOURTH NOTICE OF A MOTION**

The Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services moved the following, seconded by Hon. Shekupakela:

Communal farmers whose free-roaming livestock are involved in accidents with vehicles on the country's public roads are held liable for damages sustained on the vehicle.

Even when cows, horses, or goats are livestock on private property, these animals can still wander into public roads. When that happens, the livestock owner is generally liable for the accident.

This can have profound implications for livestock owners across our nation. A recent Court ruling asserts that livestock owners are legally liable if their animals stray and cause motor accidents on public roads.

Given that:

That this Assembly –

*Discusses* the legal, social, and economic ramifications of road accidents caused by livestock, especially in communal areas, and further to propose a course of action that will protect both road users and livestock owners.

That this Motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further analysis and report back to this House.

On the motion of the Deputy Minister of Works and Transport, seconded by Hon. Dr. Aupindi, debate adjourned until Thursday, 13 June 2024.

10. In terms of Rule 99(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:49 until Wednesday, 12 June 2024.

**MS. L. KANDETU**  
*Secretary of the National  
Assembly*

*Compiled by I. Nehoya*