



Wednesday, 19 February 2025

No. 7 – 2025

SPECIAL SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2025

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 117(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**
 - (i) The Speaker announced that his office has been informed by the Chief Whip of the All People's Party (APP), that the party has nominated **Honourable Linus Muchila** to serve on the following Parliamentary Standing Committees:
 - (1) Committee on Public Accounts;
 - (2) Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs and Petitions;
 - (3) Committee on International Relations, Defence and Security; and
 - (4) Committee on Information and Communication Technology.

The Speaker declared **Honourable Muchila** as duly appointed to the said Parliamentary Standing Committees.

- (ii) The Speaker brought to the attention of the House that the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders and Internal Arrangements approved on Wednesday, 19 February 2025 the renaming of various committee meeting rooms and sites within the precincts of Parliament after the following individuals for their contribution and service to this institution.

- (1) The Parliament Gardens to be renamed the **Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob Gardens**;
- (2) The Parliament Library to be renamed the **Prof. Peter Hitjitevi Katjavivi Library**;
- (3) The National Assembly Chamber to be renamed the **Dr. Mosé Penaani Tjitendero Chamber**;
- (4) The C1 Conference Room to be renamed the **Dr. Theo-Ben Gurirab Conference Room**;
- (5) The Blue Room to be renamed the **Dr. Zephania Kameeta Room**; and
- (6) The Pink Room to be renamed the **Hon. Ignatius Shixwameni Room**.

He then indicated that the official renaming ceremony would be held at an appropriate time.

- (iii) The Speaker sought the concurrence of the House by announcing that the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders and Internal Arrangements deliberated on the memorial services of the Founding President and Father of the Nation which are to be held in various regions of the country. He shared that the committee felt that the sittings of the House should be suspended from Thursday, 20 February 2025 and for the rest of the week thereafter, and resume on Tuesday, 4 March 2025.

The House agreed to the proposal.

3. **Hon. Ithete laid upon the Table, the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Economics and Public Administration:**

- (i) Report on the Petition by Lisha Empowerment and Development Organization titled *“Namibia’s National Assembly address the urgent need for reviving the market for livestock in Namibia’s Northern Communal Areas.”* **(For Discussion)**
- (ii) Report on the Motion titled *“In view of helping Informal Traders that the National Assembly discuss social protection of informal traders.”* **(For Discussion)**
- (iii) Report on the Benchmarking visit to the Parliament and Government Ministries and Agencies of Ghana. **(For Note-taking)**
- (iv) Report on the 2023 Parliamentary Global Forum at the World Bank and IMF (April 2023). **(For Note-taking)**
- (v) Report on the 2024 Parliamentary Global Forum at the World Bank and IMF (April 2024). **(For Note-taking)**
- (vi) Report of the 2024 Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF meetings held in Washington-DC, USA (October 2024). **(For Note-taking)**
- (vii) Report on Oversight Visits on Capital Projects earmarked in the Development Budget for the MTEF 2021/22 to 2023/24 Kunene, Omusati, Oshana, Ohangwena and Oshikoto, Zambezi, Kavango East and West and Otjozondjupa. **(For Discussion)**

- (viii) Parliamentary committee workshop on Public Administration under the theme: Maximizing the potential of Public Administration, Public Service Management and Public Service Delivery in Namibia. (*For Discussion*)
- (ix) Report on the Motion titled “*That this House [National Assembly] carries out a comprehensive inquiry into all aspects of the procedures dictating the Tender-Awarding Process of the Central Procurement Board of Namibia.*” (*For Discussion*)
- (x) Report on the Motion on the possibility of investigating the overcharges and unethical multiple charges resulting in over-profiteering by commercial banks in Namibia. (*For Discussion*)
- (xi) Report on the Motion titled “the Notion of One Namibia One Nation and how it relates to various opportunities, equitable wealth distribution and resource allocation.” (*For Discussion*)
- (xii) Report on the visit to the Railway Infrastructure in the Northern Regions. (*For Discussion*)

4. **Hon. Murorua laid upon the Table, the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts for discussion:**

- (i) Report on the review of the Audited Report of the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation for the years ended 31 March 2017/2018;
- (ii) Reports on the Audited Reports of the Namibian Student Financial Assistance Fund for the financial years ended 2011 – 2013 and 2014 – 2019;
- (iii) Report on the Audited Report of the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs for financial year ended 31 March 2019;
- (iv) Report on the Audited Report of the Office of the President for the financial years ended 31 March 2019/2020; and
- (v) Report on the oversight visit to Government residential assets in Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati and Oshikoto Regions.

5. **Hon. Karondo laid upon the Table, the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs:**

- (i) Report on the benchmark and study visit on the effectiveness of traditional courts/community courts in Zambia (November 2022). (*For Note-taking*)
- (ii) Report on the benchmark and study visit on the effectiveness of traditional courts/community courts in Botswana (February/March 2023). (*For Note-taking*)
- (iii) Report on the Impact of Government Programmes and Projects and Activities of the Marginalised Communities of Namibia (September 2024). (*For Discussion*)

- (iv) Report on Capital Projects of the Ministry of Justice (Vote 16) Medium Term Framework, from 2020/2021 up to 2024/25. (*For Discussion*)
- (v) Report on the benchmark visit to Parliament of Ghana (July 2024). (*For Note-taking*)
- (vi) Report on the benchmark visit to Parliament of Zimbabwe (May 2023). (*For Note-taking*)

6. **Hon. Karondo laid upon the Table for discussion:**

The Report on the Motion of Illegal Lithium Mining in Uis, Daures Constituency in Erongo Region of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

7. **Hon. Kafula laid upon the Table for discussion:**

The Report on the Motion on Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

8. **Hon. Kafula laid upon the Table on behalf of Hon. Katoma, the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security for discussion:**

- (i) Report for the Motion on the Deplorable Conditions in which Holding and Correctional Facilities are in, with the objective of Protecting the Human Rights of all Persons with Dignity;
- (ii) Report on the Benchmarking visit to Parliament of Botswana; and
- (iii) Report on the Benchmarking visit to Parliament of Zambia.

9. **Hon. Katjingsiua laid upon the Table for discussion:**

The Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development on the Motion on Devastating Strike at the Namibian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC).

10. **URGENT ORAL QUESTION:**

Hon. Tjiveze (RP) asked the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services (No. 25) – *Replied to.*

11. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Hon. Van Den Heever (PDM) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (No. 103).
- (ii) Hon. Diergaardt (PDM) to ask the Minister of Information and Communication Technology (No. 104).

12. **FIRST ORDER READ** deferred by the Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises until Tuesday, 4 March 2025, to allow for further discussions in the House.

13. **SECOND ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on the Ratification of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as Amended.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 18 February 2025 as moved by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Transport (page 18).

Question put: That the Ratification of the Convention be agreed to, as amended.

Agreed to (Total of 57 voting Members).

14. **THIRD ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on the Ratification of the Revised African Maritime Transport Charter.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 18 February 2025 as moved by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Transport (page 19).

Question put: That the Ratification of the Charter be agreed to.

Agreed to (Total of 57 voting Members).

15. **FOURTH ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on the Ratification of the draft Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on the Inter-State Transfer of Sentenced Offenders.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 18 February 2025 as moved by the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (page 19).

Question put: That the Ratification of the Protocol be agreed to.

Agreed to (Total of 57 voting Members).

16. **FIFTH ORDER READ** deferred by the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security until Wednesday, 5 March 2025.

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

Minister of Justice moved, seconded by the Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation.

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to define and prescribe the powers, duties and functions of the Ombudsman; to provide for the appointment of the Deputy Ombudsman and an acting Ombudsman; to establish the Office of the Ombudsman as an office in the public service; and to provide for incidental matters.

Agreed to.

Ombudsman Bill [B.17 – 2024] read a First Time.

The Minister of Justice moved, subject to Rule 168(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by the Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Hon. Hengari, seconded by Hon. Tjirare, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 4 March 2025.

18. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION** withdrawn from the Order Paper by Hon. Mootu in terms of Rule 126(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders.
19. In terms of Rule 155(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 15:57 until further notice.

MR. O.S MUYATWA

Deputy Secretary: National Assembly

Compiled by Ms. H. Christiaans