



22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference and Meeting of the Association of Parliamentary Libraries in Eastern and Southern Africa (APLESA)  
Organized by the Parliament of Namibia 15-21 June 2025

The Parliament of Namibia invites you to submit abstracts, posters, and paper presentations for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference and Meeting of APLESA. The conference will take place from 15-21 June 2025 in Swakopmund, Namibia.

Conference Theme: "Parliamentary Libraries and Democracy in the Digital Age"		
1. <b>The Role of Parliamentary Libraries in Strengthening Democracy</b>	<i>Information Access and Open Parliaments</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing public access to parliamentary information to foster transparency and accountability.</li> <li>The role of parliamentary libraries in promoting open government and citizen engagement.</li> </ul>
	<i>Bridging the Information Gap for Lawmakers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting evidence-based decision-making through timely and credible information.</li> <li>Customised research &amp; digital tools for MPs.</li> </ul>
	<i>Parliamentary Libraries as Custodians of Legislative Memory</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserving parliamentary history and records for future generations in a digital world.</li> <li>Digital archiving strategies for legislative libraries.</li> </ul>
2. <b>Digital Transformation of Parliamentary Libraries</b>	<i>Embracing Emerging Technologies in Parliamentary Libraries</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leveraging Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, and machine learning for parliamentary library services.</li> <li>Implementing digital platforms for knowledge management and dissemination.</li> </ul>
	<i>E-Resources and the Digital Divide</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balancing digital access and equitable information delivery to diverse parliamentary stakeholders.</li> <li>Addressing ICT infrastructure and skills Gaps in parliamentary libraries.</li> </ul>
	<i>Cybersecurity and Data Privacy in Parliamentary Libraries</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguarding sensitive parliamentary data in the digital age.</li> <li>Best practices for information security and managing digital risks.</li> </ul>
3. <b>Collaboration, Capacity Building, and the Future of Parliamentary Libraries</b>	<i>Regional and International Collaboration for Knowledge Sharing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening parliamentary library services through APLESA and global partnerships.</li> <li>Lessons from cross-border cooperation in digital platforms and e-governance.</li> </ul>
	<i>Building Digital Skills for Library Professionals</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upskilling library staff for evolving roles in a technology-driven parliamentary environment.</li> </ul>
	<i>The Future of Parliamentary Libraries: Trends and Innovations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parliamentary libraries in the next decade: emerging trends, digital literacy, and innovation</li> <li>Sustaining democracy in the digital age: a vision for parliamentary libraries.</li> </ul>

#### Submission Guidelines:

- Abstracts (with a maximum of 250 words) on the main and sub-themes must be formatted to font size 12 in Times New Roman and MS Word.
- The submission should indicate the following: Title of the Paper, Name of the Author(s), Institution/Affiliation, Email, Abstract, Keywords.
- Number of pages for the main paper: less than 20 pages.
- Number of PowerPoint Slides: preferably 10 slides
- Total time allocated for presentation of slides and Discussion: 15-20 minutes.
- Prepare a mini biography/profile about yourself focusing on the ensuing features;
  - First name(s) and Last name
  - State your current position and area of specialization
  - Include at least one professional accomplishment, if any
  - Briefly describe your values and career aspirations
  - Summatively inform the readers on your social affiliation

#### Extended Deadline for Submission:

Abstracts: 31 March 2025

Full papers/Posters: 30 April 2025

Abstracts, posters and full papers must be submitted electronically to Mr. Fabian Kapepiso: [f.kapepiso@parliament.na](mailto:f.kapepiso@parliament.na) and Ms. Belinda Karuaera: [b.karuera@parliament.na](mailto:b.karuera@parliament.na)