



Tuesday, 4 March 2025

No. 8 – 2025

SPECIAL SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

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

TUESDAY, 4 MARCH 2025

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.
2. **Announcement by the Deputy Speaker in terms of Rule 117(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

The Deputy Speaker announced that the Bank of Namibia is inviting all the Members to the launch of the Dr. Hage G. Geingob Commemorative Bank note. The event will be officiated by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia and will take place tomorrow, Wednesday, 5 March 2025 at 09:30 at the Mercure Hotel (the former Safari Hotel).

3. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**
 - (i) Hon. Muchila (APP) to ask the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 105).
 - (ii) Hon. Muchila (APP) to ask the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs (No. 106).
4. **Ministerial Statement in terms of Rule 136 of the Standing Rules of Orders:**

The Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources addressed the Assembly on the matter of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing along Namibia's northern maritime border.

The Deputy Minister said recent reports, accompanied by videos and photographs circulating on various social media platforms, have raised significant concerns regarding foreign fishing vessels allegedly operating illegally within the Namibian Economic Exclusive Zone (EEZ).

In response to those reports, the Deputy Minister told the Assembly that the Ministry, concerned by the veracity of the reports, undertook a thorough analysis to ascertain the presence and activities of the vessels depicted, and the findings confirm that at no point were the vessels involved in fishing activities within the Namibian Economic Exclusive Zone.

5. **FIRST ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *Regional and Constituency Development Fund Bill* [B. 22 – 2023].

Question before the Assembly on Wednesday, 5 February 2025, as moved by the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (page 8): That the Bill be read a Second Time.

The Deputy Minister of Information and Communication Technology adjourned the debate to Tuesday, 11 March 2025, for consultation.

6. **SECOND ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate to approve the amended rules of the Members of Parliament and Other Office Bearers Pension Fund.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 18 February 2025, as moved by the Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises (page 18): That the amended Rules be adopted.

The Deputy Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises deferred the debate on behalf of her Minister to Thursday, 6 March 2025, as the Minister is still consulting.

7. **THIRD ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *Ombudsman Bill* [B. 17 – 2024].

Question before the Assembly on Wednesday, 19 February 2025, as moved by the Minister of Justice (page 24): That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of the Minister of Justice, seconded by Hon. Dingara, debate adjourned until Wednesday, 5 March 2025, for her reply.

8. **NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

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

That this Assembly –

Discuss and Adopt the School Grant Policy whose primary objectives are:

- (a) To ensure an equitable funding mechanism that addresses the basic education curriculum attainment, the individual learner, and the school needs;
- (b) To enhance efficient and effective use of financial resources at school level;
- (c) To improve timelines of fund disbursement to schools; and
- (d) To ensure transparency and accountability in the utilization of the education grant.

On the motion of Hon. Dienda, seconded by Hon. Vries, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 11 March 2025.

- 9. In terms of Rule 155(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:57 until Wednesday, 5 March 2025.

MR. O. MUYATWA

Acting Secretary: National Assembly

Compiled by I. Nehoya