



*Monday, 28 April 2025*

No. 14 – 2025

FIRST SESSION, EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

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

**MONDAY, 28 APRIL 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 reported to the House that the former President of the Republic of Namibia, His Excellency, Dr. Nangolo Mbumba, in his communication to her office indicated that it has been ascertained that the Definition of Spouse and the Marriage Amendment Private Member's Bills, tabled by Hon. Jerry Ekandjo in the 7<sup>th</sup> Parliament and transmitted to the Office of the President on 23 July 2023 and 04 October 2023 for his assent, were passed by a simple majority of less than two-thirds of the voting members of the National Assembly, which confirms that the requirements of Article 56(2) have not been met, and therefore, the assent is not mandatory.

Additionally, that the legal advice sought by the Office of the President on the content of the two Bills and their possible legal implications considered in view of the provisions of Article 56 of the Namibian Constitution, found that the Bills not only contain inaccuracies related to the Supreme Court Judgment in the Digashu matter (which likely gave rise to their tabling), but also presented ambiguity, possible adverse constitutional implications, interpretative and implementation challenges and would lead to legislative fragmentation, if enacted. Therefore, in light of the matters raised above, the President's assent to these Bills, was declined in terms of Article 56(3) of the Namibian Constitution.

- (ii) The Speaker brought to the attention of the House that as per the communication from the Office of the President, Her Excellency, Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Hon. Dr. Mac-Albert Hengari has been withdrawn from the National Assembly, in terms of Article 32(6) of the Namibian Constitution and therefore ceases to be a Member of the National Assembly with immediate effect.

**3. URGENT ORAL QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Hon. Kalangula (IPC) asked the Minister of Works and Transport (No. 16) – *To be put in writing.*
- (ii) Hon. Kambala (AR) asked the Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture (No. 17) – *Replied to.*
- (iii) Hon. Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Health and Social Services (No. 18) – *To be put in writing.*

**4. Hon. Herunga moved without Notice:**

That the proceedings on Votes 01, 02, 03, 04, 11, 26, 28, and 30 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 159(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45.

Agreed to.

**5. ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Committee Stage – *Appropriation Bill* [B.6 – 2025].

The Minister of Finance moved, seconded by the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

**ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:**

The Chairperson of the Whole House Committee stated that when progress was reported on Friday, 25 April 2025, Votes 01, 02, 04 and 26 had been introduced.

For introduction:

Vote 03 – National Assembly: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 11 – National Council: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 28 – Electoral Commission of Namibia: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 30 – Anti-Corruption Commission: Introduced by the Speaker.

For discussion and adoption:

Vote 01 – President: Discussed and agreed to.

Vote 02 – Prime Minister: Discussed and agreed to.

Vote 04 – Auditor-General: Agreed to.

Vote 26 – National Planning Commission: Discussed and agreed to.

**ASSEMBLY RESUMED:**

Progress reported and leave granted to sit again.

6. **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

The Speaker informed the House that as per Rule 32 of the Standing Rules and Orders, the election of the Deputy Chairpersons of the Whole House is to take place as soon as is practical after the commencement of every Assembly. The Speaker therefore suggested that this process be conducted at the next sitting day before the House deals with the Order of the Day. Members are also advised to prepare themselves accordingly to make the process a success.

Agreed to.

7. In terms of Rule 155(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 22:00 until Tuesday, 29 April 2025.

**MR. O.S MUYATWA**

*Acting Secretary: National Assembly*

*Compiled by Ms. H. Christiaans*