



PARLIAMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Namibian Members of Parliament sworn in as Members of the Pan-African Parliament

Midrand, South Africa – Monday, 21 July 2025 – Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Phillipus Katamelolo, along with fellow Members of Parliament Hon. Uahekua Herunga, Hon. Anseline Beukes, and Hon. Rodney Cloete, were today officially sworn in as members of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP).

The four parliamentarians were designated by both Houses of Parliament to represent Namibia at the continental legislative body. They were sworn in during the official opening ceremony of the Fifth Ordinary Session and other related meetings of the Sixth Pan-African Parliament, currently taking place in Midrand, Johannesburg.

They join Hon. Gerhard Shiimi, who has served on the PAP for the past four years. Membership to the PAP is held until the end of a parliamentarian's term.

Hon. Katamelolo, Hon. Herunga, and Hon. Cloete are from the National Assembly, while Hon. Shiimi and Hon. Beukes are members of the National Council.

In accordance with Article 4 of the Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to the Pan-African Parliament, each member state must designate five parliamentarians, with at least one being a woman, and in a manner that reflects the political diversity of the national legislature. Under Article 5 of the same Protocol, members are elected or designated by their respective national parliaments.

Namibia, as a member state of the African Union (AU), affirms its commitment to the PAP, which serves as the legislative organ of the AU. The PAP provides a platform for African citizens to engage in dialogue and decision-making on

critical continental issues such as human rights, democratic consolidation, good governance, and the rule of law.

The Parliament also works to coordinate and harmonise policies and programmes among Regional Economic Communities and other parliamentary fora across the continent.

The Fifth Ordinary Session is being held under the African Union Theme of the Year for 2025 “*Justice for Africans and Persons of African Descent Through Reparations.*” Over the course of the session, members will deliberate on key issues including the state of governance, peace and security in Africa, the international financial system and Africa's position within it, and the role of the PAP in promoting African integration. Regional caucus meetings, including for the Southern African region, will also take place. The session will end on 1 August 2025.

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