



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

## NATIONAL COUNCIL



## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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*Monday, 17 August 2015*

(09:30 - 13:00)

No 14 - 2015

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The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

1.0 The Chairperson took the Chair.

2.0 Honourable Mensah-Williams recited the Prayer and Affirmation.

### 3.0 ADMINISTRATION OF AN OATH

The Chairperson of the National Council welcomed the Chief Justice, His Lordship Honourable Peter Shivute to the august House, and called upon him to swear-in, in terms of Article 71 of the Namibian Constitution, Honourable Fransina Ghauz, who replaced the late Honourable Ndapewoshali Nambili from Otjozondjupa Region.

The Chairperson sincerely thanked the Chief Justice for coming to swear-in the new Honourable Member of the National Council.

Thereafter, the Chairperson welcomed the new Member, Honourable Ghauz and wished her all the best in her endeavours as a Member of Parliament.

### 4.0 STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER

Honourable Asser Kapere, Chairperson of the National Council made a Statement to the House at the resumption of the National Council Session on 17 July 2015. The Statement is reproduced verbatim hereunder.

“Honourable Vice-Chairperson of the National Council;

Honourable Chief Whip;

Honourable Deputy Ministers;

Honourable Members of the National Council;

Secretary to the National Council;

It is my singular honour and privilege to welcome you to this session of the National Council which might be the final one before the Regional and Local Authorities elections slated for November this year.

I appreciate your presence here today knowing that your presence is equally needed in your respective constituencies where you are expected to wrap up your activities before the November elections marking the end of our five year terms.

Honourable Members, before we commence with our constitutional responsibility of legislating laws, it is sorrowful to mention that we will miss amidst us, the late Honourable Ndapewoshali Nangula Nambili who passed on in June this year. The late Honourable Nambili was the Councillor of Otavi Constituency and Otjozondjupa Region representative in the National Council and shall further be remembered for her selfless sacrifice to the empowerment of the marginalised members of our society, more in particular the women, the youth and the workers.

Further, on 14<sup>th</sup> July this year we lost the leader of the Shambyu Traditional Authority, Hompa Angelina Matumbo Ribebe who was the principal custodian of the traditional norms and values of her community.

Honourable Members, we also lost Comrade Sandra Tjitendero, wife of the first Speaker of the National Assembly, who passed on last month in Germany on the 26th of July this year.

The late Comrade Sandra Tjitendero was an icon of our liberation struggle in her own right and will be remembered as someone who imparted motherly care and education to many Namibians, young and old, in exile during the liberation struggle.

Therefore, Honourable Members, in memory and paying tribute to these gallant daughters of the soil, may I request you Honourable Members to rise for a minute of silence.

May their souls rest in eternal peace and rise in glory.

Honourable Members, we continue to observe that gender based violence is being perpetrated unabatedly despite our vigorous condemnation and uncoordinated efforts. As Namibians we have to stand together and advocate against gender-based violence, we need to continue informing the nation not to part with the values instilled in us by our forefathers.

Therefore, it is imperative that we create meaningful partnership between Government, the Media, Private Sector, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organisations with a view to continuously sensitise the public to effectively join the fight against gender based violence.

For a start, Honourable Members, as we go out there to do our campaigns for the upcoming elections, let us make gender based violence a central focus of our campaign messages by informing the Namibian Nation that violence against women, men and children is wrong. Let us inform the Namibian Nation that anyone who is being victimised should report such atrocities of violence to the Police.

Honourable Members, I have noted with great concern the significant loss of human life due to cancer-related diseases, particularly cervical and breast cancer among women and prostate cancer among men.

Since such deceases are largely preventable and curable when detected early I believe it is high time that we adopt the same approach applied in our fight against HIV/AIDS by urging stakeholders such as religious, traditional and community leaders, as well as civil society organizations and the media to promote awareness, healthy lifestyle choices, screening, early detection, treatment and palliation to improve the prognosis of cervical, breast and prostate cancers.

Honourable Members, the Electoral Commission of Namibia is currently conducting Supplementary Voters Registration in all constituencies across the country. I therefore call upon the Namibian people to take this exercise seriously and to obtain and update their voter registration card in order to avoid the disappointment of missing on your

constitutional right of voting the leaders of your choice during the Regional and Local Authorities Elections at the end of this year.

Please be reminded that the supplementary registration process that started two weeks ago is now in its final week.

On that note, I welcome you once more Honourable Members and wish you successful deliberations ahead.

I thank you and God bless”.

#### 5.0 NOTICE OF MOTION(S)

Honourable Tobias gave notice: That on Wednesday, 19 August 2015, he shall move the Report of the National Council Standing Committee on Regional Development and Reports on the consultative meetings on the establishment of Constituency Development Fund and proposed amendments on the Regional Councils Act 22 of 1992, held in 14 regions in Namibia from 19 June 2015 to 22 July 2015.

#### 6.0 MESSAGE FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairperson announced that he has received a message from the Speaker of the National Assembly: That the National Assembly has passed and referred the following Bills to the National Council for review in accordance with Article 75(1) of the Namibian Constitution:

- (a) Public Enterprises Governance Amendment Bill [B.6 – 2015]
- (b) Marine Resources Amendment Bill [B.7 – 2015]

The Chairperson then called upon the Secretary to read the Bills a First Time.

The Secretary then read the Bills a First Time.

The Bills stood referred to a **Second Reading**.

- 7.0 On the motion of Honourable Sibalatani, seconded by Honourable Tobias, the Council was adjourned at 10:18 until Tuesday, 18 August 2015 at 09:30.

*Emilia Mkusa*  
*Secretary to the National Council*