



SECOND SPECIAL SITTING, FIFTH NATIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday, April 25, 2016

(09:30 - 13:00)

No. 6 – 2016

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

- 1.0 The Vice-Chairperson took the Chair.
- 2.0 The Vice-Chairperson read the Prayer and Affirmation.
- 3.0 A SPECIAL SITTING OF THE COUNCIL CALLED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER

The Vice-Chairperson of the National Council made a Statement to the House at the Special Session of the Council on the 25th April 2016 which is reproduced verbatim hereunder.

“Honourable Members,

On 11 February 2016, this august House adopted the Year Calendar for Sittings of the House for 2016. According to our Year Calendar our next ordinary session is scheduled to commence on 09 May 2016. Therefore, this Session is convened in terms of Rule 25 of our Standing Rules and Orders which deals with the special sittings of the Council. Rule 25 provides that *“The Chairperson/Presiding Officer, after consultation with the Leader of Government Business in Parliament, may determine dates for special sittings of the Council”*.

I shall now proceed to set forth the reasons for convening this special sitting of the House.

Honourable Members,

Allow me to quote **Article 75(8)** of our Constitution in full, it reads: “*The National Council shall report to the Speaker on all bills dealing with the levying of taxes or the appropriations of public monies within thirty (30) days of the date on which such bills were referred to it by the Speaker, and on all other bills within three (3) months of the date of referral by the Speaker, failing which the National Council will be deemed to have confirmed such bills and the Speaker shall then refer them promptly to the President to enable the President to deal with the bills under Articles 56 and 64 hereof.*”

As accountable representatives of the Namibian people; we are expected to act in the best interest of the public at all times. Hence, we are here to discuss the Bill and pass it within the prescribed timeframe of 30 days in order to allow the Treasury to disburse and release monies to the various Offices, Ministries and Agencies to enable these institutions to implement their projects and programmes for the financial year 2016/2017. This Session will thus only last until Wednesday, 27 April 2016.

Honourable Members, I am sure this brief explanation is sufficient; and I shall now turn my attention to matters that the House needs to deal with”.

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER: APPOINTMENT OF HONOURABLE KATAMELO TO THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENT OF HONOURABLE BOOIS TO THE STANDING RULES AND ORDERS COMMITTEE

“Honourable Members,

- a. Rule 152(1) of our Standing Rules and Orders defines the composition of the Privileges and Immunities Committee. In particular, Rule 152(1)(d) empowers the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders to appoint, with the exception of those Members provided for under Rule 152(1)(a)-(c), any other Member to the Privileges and Immunities Committee. Therefore, the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders exercised its powers in accordance with this Rule and has decided to appoint *Honourable Phillipus Wido Katamelo* to the Privileges and Immunities Committee.

Honourable Members,

- b. Similarly, Rule 150 defines the composition of the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders. In particular, Rule 150(5) empowers the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders to appoint, with the exception of those Members provided for under Rule 150(1)-(4), any other Member to the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders. Therefore, the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders once more exercised its powers under this Rule and has decided to appoint *Honourable Dawid Boois* to the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders.

I wish to congratulate the two Honourable Members for their appointment to the two respective Committees. I am confident that they will make valuable contributions to the work of the said Committees”.

5.0 ELECTION OF FIRST VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL [RULE 17]

The Vice-Chairperson called for nominations of the position of First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole Council, in terms of Rule 17 of the Standing Rules and Orders of the National Council.

Agreed to.

Hon. Katamelo seconded by Hon. Kaula, nominated Hon. Sipapela Cletius Sipapela for the position of the First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole Council.

There being no further nominations, the Vice-Chairperson of the National Council declared Hon. *Sipapela Cletius Sipapela* duly elected as the First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole Council.

6.0 NOTICE OF MOTION(S)

- 6.1 Hon. Tobias moved a motion without notice: That the proceedings on the *Appropriation Bill* [B.1 – 2016] be, in accordance with Rule 26 of the National Council Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 13:00 hours.

6.2 Hon. Tobias moved without notice: That, in accordance with Rule 75 of the Standing Rules and Orders of the National Council, the First and Second Reading Stages of the *Appropriation Bill* [B.1 – 2016] be taken today, Monday, 25 April 2016.

7.0 MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Vice-Chairperson announced to the National Council that the National Assembly has passed and referred the *Appropriation Bill* [B.1 – 2016] to the National Council for review in accordance with Article 75(1) of the Namibian Constitution.

The Vice-Chairperson then called upon the Secretary to read the Bill a First Time.

The Secretary then read the Bill a First Time.

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

8.0 DEBATE ON SECOND READING

ORDER READ

Debate on Second Reading – *Appropriation Bill* [B.1. 2016].

The Chairperson put the question: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

Agreed to.

The Secretary then read the Bill a Second Time.

The Bill stood referred to **Committee Stage**.

9.0 On the motion of Hon. Boois, seconded by Hon. Nicanor, the Council was adjourned at 13:10 until Tuesday, 26 April 2016.

E. Mkusa
Secretary to the National Council
