



SECOND SESSION, SIXTH NATIONAL COUNCIL



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday, May 10, 2021

(09:30 - 13:00)

No. 1 – 2021

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

1.0 The Chairperson took the Chair.

2.0 The Chairperson read the Prayer and Affirmation.

3.0 OPENING STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON

Hon. Lukas Sinimbo Muha, Chairperson of the 6th National Council delivered his Opening Statement to the Members of the 6th National Council on Monday, 10 May 2021. The Opening Statement is reproduced hereunder:

“ Hon. Victoria Mbawo Kauma, Vice-Chairperson

- Hon. Gerhard Shiimi, Chief Whip Majority Party
- Hon. Whips of other Political Parties
- Honourable Members
- Adv. Tousy Namiseb, Secretary to the National Council and other staffs
- Media Representative
- Ladies and Gentleman

GOOD MORNING.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS,

I feel humbled and delighted to receive you back to your second duty station. Chapter 8 of the Namibian Constitution read together with Article 41 of the same constitution gives you the power to among others:

- to consider in terms of Article 75 hereof all bills pass by the National Assembly,
- to investigate and report to the National Assembly on any subordinate legislation, reports and documents, and
- most importantly to recommend legislation on matters of regional concern for submission and consideration by the National Assembly

As a house of Parliament, lets us make use of our legislative power to appropriately execute our constitutional mandate.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS,

We are political leaders of this institution, therefore, it is further expected of us, inter alia, to:

1. Enhance the notion of team work in order to do away with egocentric tendency which can easily result into suspicious and unnecessary accusations.
2. We should be constant readers of legislative framework and other literatures in order to remain relevant to the contemporary world and to the institution in particular. By so doing, we shall make informed contributions and decisions.
3. It is also expected of us to consult the people that we represent in the process of taking decisions.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS,

We are continuously building a nation, a nation that was left fragmented by the colonisers. This is one of the daunting tasks ahead of us. Therefore, we should devise

tangible strategies that are gearing toward nation-building and togetherness. We should intensify unity and peace by considering ourselves as Namibians first before any other group to which we belong. We have challenges and unsolved matters in this country. However, these challenges and unsolved matters should not be permitted to further tear us (Namibians) into pieces. We should not allow regressive tendency to take a centre-stage in our leadership. We rather use those crawling challenges to firmly re-group and re-organised ourselves toward achieving our set goals and targets as clearly spelled out in the Vision 2030.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS,

While I am talking about peace, allow me to thank Dr. Sam “Shafiishuna” Nuyoma **(THE FOUNDING FATHER)** Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba **(THE FORMER PRESIDENT)** and our current President Dr. Hage G. Geingob for being stewards of peace and for instituting democratic government that they collectively maintained for the past three decades and that they are still maintaining up to date. It’s this democratic process and peace that enabled our seating today.

As we are sitting today, we are expected to mainly focus on our constitutional duties as they are enshrined in the Namibian Constitution.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS,

We are known for a review function yet we have numerous legislation that are not in tandem with the supreme law. An example, if one looks at Article 69 (1) of the Namibian Constitution and read it together with Section 26 (1) of the Regional Council Act, 22 of 1992- as amended, one is left with more questions than answers. Therefore, it is us to make sure that these two provisions speak to each other.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS;

During this short period of three weeks it is anticipated that we shall do the following, but not limited to:

1. Review our National Council Standing Rules and Orders as amended;
2. Review Bills referred to us by National Assembly as provided for under Article 75 of the Namibian Constitution;
3. Constitute Parliamentary Committees;
4. Plan and submit our plenaries of committee activities to the Secretariat for specific budgetary allocations, and
5. Perform other functions as provided for under Article 74 (1) (D) of the Namibian Constitution.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS,

As I conclude, I wish to indicate that I look forward to preside over debates and contributions that are constructively and freely expressed.

Enjoy your stay at Parliament. But, carefully take care of yourself against Covid-19. If you haven't got a chance for vaccination and you are willing to do so, please inform my office to arrange for such opportunities. And we shall gladly assist.

I THANK YOU!”

4.0 MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The Chairperson announced to the National Council that the National Assembly has passed and referred the *Appropriation Bill* [B.5 – 2021] to the National Council for review in accordance with Article 75(1) of the Namibian Constitution:

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

The Secretary read the Bill a First Time.

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

5.0 Honourable Shiimi adjourned the Council at 10:00 until Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 09:30.

Mr Tousy Namiseb
Secretary to the National Council
