



PARLIAMENT OF NAMIBIA

MEDIA RELEASE

February 3, 2021

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE PARLIAMENT, 2021

The Presiding Officers of Parliament, Hon Prof. Peter H. Katjavivi (Speaker of the National Assembly) and Hon. Lukas S. Muha (Chairperson of the National Council) hereby announce the Official Opening of Parliament for the year 2021. This event will take place at the Parliament Building on **Tuesday, 9 February, from 14h30.**

This year, the Official Opening on Tuesday coincides with Constitution day, which is normally celebrated on the 9th of February. Thirty-One (31) years ago, on this day the Founding Fathers and Mothers of our Republic adopted the Namibian Constitution. In keeping with the provisions of Rule 15 of the Standing Rules and Orders, His Excellency Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia, will officially open Parliament.

Parliament has decided to scale down on the activities that are normally associated with the opening ceremony due to the COVID-19 health protocols. Traditional activities related with this event are therefore negated.

This means that:

- No military procession and all ceremonies associated with it will take place.
- No guests will be invited as well as reception will be hosted.
- No cultural and school children performances.

Moreover, attendance will be limited to only fifty members, inclusive of the presidential entourage, the Chief Justice and Deputy Chief Justice as well as the three uniform service Chiefs. This important annual event on the calendar of the Republic brings together under one roof the three main Organs of the State.

Media practitioners who wish to attend and cover this event are kindly advised to adhere to the covid-19 preventative measures, and at all times display their current MICT accreditation badges. The number of media practitioners will be very limited in order to comply with the regulations.

The following are some of the Bills that would be tabled during the 2021 Parliamentary Year.

1. Combating of Rape Amendment Bill
2. Combating of Domestic Violence Amendment Bill
3. Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill
4. High Court Amendment Bill
5. Magistrates Court amendment Bill
6. Divorce Bill
7. Ombudsman Bill
8. Child Justice Bill
9. Marriage Bill
10. Uniform Marriages Bill.
11. Banking Institutions Amendment Bill
12. Metrology Bill

The public is hereby informed and advised to follow the live-stream of this important event on the parliament's Facebook page @Parliament of the Republic of Namibia, starting from 14h30.

Please take note that Robert Mugabe Avenue and Love Street (around the Parliament Gardens) might be closed-off to the public and traffic between 11h30 and 17h00.

For enquiries, contact:

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