

Wednesday, 23 February 2022

No. 4 - 2022

FIFTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

ORDER PAPER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2022 (14:30 – 17:45)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

I. Minister of Justice:

That leave be given to amend the Combating of Domestic Violence Act, 2003, so as to insert a definition of "primary caretaker"; to extend the scope of "domestic relationship" to the primary caretaker of a child and clarify that a domestic relationship between a child and a parent continues even after the child has attained the age of 18 years; to strengthen safeguards against intimidation of complainants; to clarify the necessity to show urgency in order to obtain an interim protection order on an ex parte basis; to amend procedural matters relating to interim protection orders; to apply provisions of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977, in relation to production of medical records in evidence in protection order proceedings; to apply the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 relating to vulnerable witnesses, cross-examination of witnesses and the admissibility of previous statements of children to proceedings relating to protection orders and domestic violence offences; to amend procedural matters relating to final protection orders; to amend the terms of protection orders so as to add provisions relating to the location or relocation of contents of a joint residence, directing the respondent not to interfere with legal custody of or control over a child and directing the respondent to take part in a counselling or treatment programme; to provide a maximum period pertaining to exclusive occupation of a shared residence on communal land; to provide for the issuing of emergency protection orders; to provide for notification of any breach of a protection order to the court; to provide that temporary maintenance orders included in protection orders be treated in the same way as maintenance orders under the Maintenance Act, 2003; to clarify that criminal proceedings for a domestic violence offence may be initiated simultaneously with proceedings for a protection order; to provide for the initiation of a procedure for suspending a firearm licence in relation to a person involved in the commission of a domestic violence offence; and to provide for incidental matters.

II. Mr. Martin:

That this House -

Debate the state of the sport fraternity in Namibia in terms of facilities, structures, budget and the creation of a culture of a fit and healthy nation, as well as the role of regional and local government in enhancing sport development in the regions.

That this Motion be referred to the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further investigation and report back to this House.

III. Mr. Martin:

That this House –

Debate the establishment of an association for the informal sector. It is disheartening that the importance of informal traders in Namibia continue to be disregarded. They are living in uncertainty and security, and are treated like criminals despite their immense contribution to the formal economy.

That this Motion be referred to the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further investigation and report back to this House.

IV. Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services:

Political Parity/Equivalence is a nonpartisan platform accelerating the energies of dedicated leaders and researchers changing the face of the world politics. Adding more women to national political office is not just a matter of representation but it is our best chance to advance women's civil leadership. Research indicates that women bring a broad perspective to policymaking and wield a more collaborative approach than men alone.

Given that, I move that this Assembly *discusses* representation and participation of women in politics in Namibia; whether women are equally represented at all levels as their menfolk and if not, for this House to come up and adopt a solution to it.

V. Mr. Smit:

Over the past 10 years or so it has become clear that many Namibians have started realizing that the gap between the deliberations of this august House and the people we are elected to serve has been growing rapidly. Much is written in the media about grand new schemes that will bring new wealth to our country but most ordinary Namibians seem to have little faith that any of that money, if the plans become reality, will filter down to them.

That this House *debate* ways and means for bringing about the changes required to allow all the people of Namibia, irrespective of party political affiliation, to guide the drawing up of the annual budget.

That this Motion eventually be referred to the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for investigation and report back to this House.

VI. Mr. Kauandenge:

That this House -

Discuss the conditions of Local Authorities and why many of them fail to execute their mandates and whether sufficient resources are availed by Central Government to empower them.

VII. Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services:

The events of colonisation on the African continent and Namibia in particular are documented since the days of the first European settlers. Much of our history is written from the perspective of the colonisers while the viewpoints and experiences of the Africans is largely ignored.

It was concluded that at independence, perhaps with the excitement and euphoria that prevailed, both the government and the people thought that the new dispensation was going to bring about the healing of wounds and help us all move on. We were all wrong and the truth is quite evident in the communities and amongst the descendants of the victims of the 1904-08 Ovaherero and Nama Genocide. To the contrary, GRN established a Ministry of Veterans' Affairs which deals with matters of those who were involved in the 1966-1990 war of liberation which was fought by all Namibians including the descendants of the victims of the 1904-08 Ovaherero and Nama Genocide even those who were born in the Diaspora.

At this juncture in our lives, it is undeniable that the issue of genocide is not only about reparations and apology. It is more than that, from healing emotional wounds, re-writing our own history to preserving and sharing memoirs of our ancestors. This is an issue that will not end with reparations but it has a long way to go, it needs to be tackled head-on to find a direction, develop indulgence and deal with it on a day-to-day basis from an institutional point of view in a strategic way to help, assist and advance the communities that were almost annihilated by the Kaiser's German imperial regime.

It is therefore, against this background, that I shall move –

That this Assembly *Discusses* and *Recommends* that an Office, Agency or the Commissioner for Descendants of the Victims of the Ovaherero and Nama 1904-08 Genocide be established for humanistic and historical reasons. This is best practice globally, with examples of the Azrieli Foundation in Canada, Shoah Foundations in most countries and many other Agencies/worldwide.

VIII. Ms. Moongo:

That this House –

Discuss and *consider* the establishment of a state owned dialysis center to cater for state patients with chronic kidney failure who are currently receiving hemodialysis therapy in private dialysis units countrywide.

That this Motion be referred to the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further investigation and report back to this House.

IX. Ms. Hengari:

Will *move* to reintroduce the Motion on the youth unemployment crisis in Namibia, its ramifications, both in the short and medium to long term.

The Motion seeks:

- For Parliament to resolve that a state of emergency be declared on the youth unemployment crisis by His Excellency the President, Dr. Hage Geingob.
- To discuss and agree on a long-term and short-term interventions to resolving the crisis.

That this Motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back to this Assembly.

X. Mr. Kauandenge:

That this House discuss the following –

The Government of Namibia was advised by the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) not to sign the boundary treaty with Botswana in 2016. In disregard of this advice, Namibia and Botswana signed this boundary treaty in February 2018, without consulting the inhabitants of that area.

Since this treaty was ratified by this Assembly, it is proper and prudent to ask this House whether this treaty does not violate Article 32(9) of the Namibian Constitution and Section 38(a) of the Communal Land Reform Act.

XI. Mr. Mukwilongo:

That this Assembly –

Discuss the un-attended government cars parked at the government garage and also on government premises country wide.

That this Motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back to this Assembly.

XII. Mr. Mwilima:

That this House –

Discuss the introduction of an insurance cover policy which may assit to fully compensate farmers in terms of damages caused by wildlife to human conflict.

That this Motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further investigation and report back to this Assembly.

XIII. Minister of Justice:

That this Assembly –

Agree to the Ratification of Cooperation between the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Namibia and the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation.

XIV. Minister of Justice:

Agree to the Ratification of the Treaty between the Republic of Namibia and the Russian Federation on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.

XV. Minister of Justice:

Agree to the Ratification of the Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Botswana and the Government of the Republic of Namibia on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.

XVI. Minister of Justice:

Agree to the Ratification of the Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and the Government of the Republic of Botswana on Extradition.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

- I. Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – Combating of Rape Amendment Bill.
- II. Consideration of Reports of the Electoral Commission of Namibia – [Speaker].
- III. Resumption of Debate on the challenges experienced by the Public Transport Industry during the periods of state of emergencies in the country – [Mr. Muharukua].
- IV. Resumption of Debate to redress poverty in the Kavango, Kunene, Zambezi and Ohangwena regions – [Mr. Venaani].
- V. Resumption of Debate on the introduction of free wi-fi at all schools, towns, public places and public transport – [Ms. Becker].

THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2022

NOTICE OF A MOTION

Minister of Finance:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to appropriate amounts of money to meet the financial requirements of the State during the financial year ending 31 March 2023.

TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2022

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

I. Mr. Venaani:

That this Assembly discuss the following –

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines Universal Health Coverage (UHC) as "access to key promotive, preventative and rehabilitative health interventions for all at an affordable cost, thereby achieving equity in access." This was also endorsed as part of the World Health Assembly Resolution 58.33 (2005) that urges member states to "ensure that health financing systems include pre-payment methods with views to sharing risk among populations and avoiding catastrophic health care expenditure."

In Namibia, only about 18 percent of the population has regular access to private health services. The rest of Namibia's population (82 percent) is dependent on a public health system.

This House should therefore discuss the importance of having a universal health coverage, the affordability to implement it and concrete steps Namibia can take in achieving it.

That this Motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further investigation and report back to this Assembly.

II. Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services:

Namibia is one of the few countries in Africa that pays out social grants to various categories and I would like to commend the GRN in this regard. My focus is more on Namibia's old age social pension, but during my motivation of the motion, I might touch on other social grants as well such as the foster care grant etc. This old age pension or social grant guarantees all Namibians over 60 years of age (Men and women) a monthly unconditional allowance of 1 300 Namibian dollars (N\$) per month. The universal social pension combined with social services can be an effective instrument to lift older people out of extreme poverty, to strengthen their dignity and to stimulate local economies. The provision of regular and adequate pension benefit not only the older persons, but also benefit other members of the extended family, especially grandchildren. Importantly, these pensions addressed the plight of the poor older persons giving them a sense of dignity and full sense of citizenship.

Hon Speaker, it is unfortunate that there are reports or incidents of pensioner abuse by family members and in most cases own children. Pensioners are being threatened and abused over their grants. In some instances some are even assaulted physically, and or threatened with death if they don't hand over their monthly payouts to younger relatives whom they are taking care of. There are also cases where the older persons themselves abuse the money and spend it on alcohol instead of buying food.

Given that, that this Assembly –

Discusses the plight of older persons in relation to the abuse they endure regarding their old age pensions. Equally discusses possible ways to help older persons spend their pension/social grant wisely instead of spending it on alcohol. That this Motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further analysis and report back to this House.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Resumption of Deb	pate on the impact of the e	executive on separation of	f powers – [Mr. Muharukua,].

NOTICE OF A MOTION

Dr. Iijambo:

That this Assembly –

Discusses and debates the retirement age(s) of academics and vocational trainers at our universities and institutions of higher learning.

THURSDAY, 3 MARCH 2022

NOTICE OF A MOTION

Mr. Venaani:

That this Assembly –

Discuss alternative housing financing schemes, necessitated by the exuberant sums of money that banks charge home-owners, the bank mortgage credit processes that discriminate against self-employed and lower-income earning individuals and the slow production of housing that has inflated housing prices, making them unaffordable to the lower mass market segment.

The key affordable housing issues in Namibia are high urbanization rates, the lack of access to affordable housing and finance, the lack of serviced land, the poor production of housing stock, and the increasing number of informal settlements across the country. Currently, there are 285 informal settlements in towns across Namibia, meaning 40% of its urban inhabitants or 216 000 urban households are informally settled, which is indicative of the high urbanization rates across the country.

That this Motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back to this Assembly.