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Thursday, 3 March 2022

No. 8 – 2022

FIFTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

ORDER PAPER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY, 3 MARCH 2022 (14:30 – 17:45)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

I. 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.

II. 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.

III. 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.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

- I. Consideration of Reports of the Electoral Commission of Namibia [Speaker].
- II. Resumption of Debate on the introduction of free wi-fi at all schools, towns, public places and public transport [Ms. Becker].
- III. Resumption of Debate on Second Reading *Combating of Rape Amendment Bill* [B. 2 2022].
- IV. Resumption of Debate on the conditions of Local Authorities and why many of them fail to execute their mandates [Mr. Kauandenge].
- V. Resumption of Debate on the challenges experienced by the Public Transport Industry during the periods of state of emergencies in the country [Mr. Muharukua].
- VI. Resumption of Debate to redress poverty in the Kavango, Kunene, Zambezi and Ohangwena regions [Mr. Venaani].

- VII. Resumption of Debate on Second Reading Combating of Domestic Violence Amendment Bill [B. 1 – 2022] – [Mr. Kauandenge].
- VIII. Resumption of Debate on the impact of the executive on separation of powers [Mr. Muharukua].
- IX. Resumption of Debate on the state of sport development in the regions [Ms. Hengari].
- X. Resumption of Debate on the establishment of an association for the informal sector in Namibia [Minister of Industrialisation and Trade].
- XI. Resumption of Debate on the representation and participation of women in politics [Mr. Van Wyk].
- XII. Resumption of Debate on ways and means to allow all people of Namibia to guide the drawing up of the annual budget [Minister of Finance].
- XIII. Resumption of Debate on the establishment of a state owned dialysis center to cater for state patients with chronic kidney failure [Minister of Health and Social Services].
- XIV. Resumption of Debate on youth unemployment crisis in Namibia, its ramifications, both in the short and medium to long term [Deputy Minister of Works and Transport].

TUESDAY, 8 MARCH 2022

ORDERS OF THE DAY

- I. Resumption of Debate on Second Reading Appropriation Bill [B. 3 2022] [Mr. Smit].
- II. Consideration of a Committee Report on the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop held at Tsumeb [Mr. Karondo].

WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2022

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

I. 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.

II. 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.

III. 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.

IV. 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.

V. 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.

VI. 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.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

- I. Resumption of Debate on the boundary treaty signed between Namibia and Botswana whether it does not violate Article 32(9) of the Constitution and Section 38(a) of the Communal Land Reform Act [Mr. Mwilima].
- II. Resumption of Debate on un-attended government vehicles parked at the government garage and premises country wide [Deputy Minister of Works and Transport].
- III. Resumption of Debate on the introduction of an insurance cover policy that will compensate farmers for damages caused by wildlife [Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform].

TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2022

ORDER OF THE DAY

Deputy Minister of Industrialisation and Trade:

That this Assembly -

Agree to the Protocol on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (the "TRIPS Agreement").