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Tuesday, 12 April 2022

No. 26 – 2022

FIFTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 2022

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.

# 2. Announcement by the Speaker in terms of Rule 20(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:

The Speaker reported that today, 12 April, marks the 129<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the Hoornkraanz Massacre of 1893 at the hands of the German colonial forces. The Speaker said Namibians are looking forward to the day they will collectively commemorate events of this nature that have occurred in the history of Namibia.

#### 3. Presentation of a Petition in terms of Rule 96(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders:

The Speaker reported that a Petition was submitted to his Office on 29 March 2022 by the Caprivi Concerned Group.

The Petition is calling on the National Assembly to "exercise its powers in terms of Article 63(2)(g) of the Namibian Constitution, to initiate, approve or decide to hold a referendum in Caprivi Strip for natives or customary people of that territory to themselves democratically and constitutionally decide whether or not they want to be independent from Namibia".

The Speaker said the Petition is going to be submitted to the Standing Committee dealing with Petitions, and once the Committee has considered it, it shall submit its recommendations to the Standing Committee on Rules and Orders and Internal Arrangements, for referral to the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for investigation and report back to this Assembly.

#### 4. The Minister of Finance laid upon the Table:

Reports of the Auditor-General on the Accounts of the -

- (i) Ministry of Justice for the financial year ended 31 March 2021;
- (ii) Ministry of Finance for the financial year ended 31 March 2021;
- (iii) Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare for the financial year ended 31 March 2021;
- (iv) National Youth Service for the financial year ended 30 June 2020; and
- (v) Town Council of Aranos for the financial year ended 30 June 2019 and 2020.

#### 5. Mr. Hambyuka moved without notice:

That the proceedings on Votes 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 26, 28 and 30 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 103(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45.

Agreed to.

#### 6. Ministerial Statement in terms of Rule 98 of the Standing Rules and Orders:

The Minister of Finance addressed the Assembly on the Financial Institutions and Markets Act which was passed in 2020, to consolidate and harmonise the laws regulating financial institutions, financial intermediaries and financial markets in Namibia.

Under Section 465(8)(m) of this Act, the Minister of Finance is empowered to make regulations relating to the preservation of retirement benefits. The regulation seeks to give effect to compulsory preservation of retirement benefits for people who change jobs or stop working and seek to withdraw their retirement benefits before they are old enough to retire.

The Minister emphasized that these regulations are still in draft stage, and the public is encouraged to provide inputs for consideration.

#### 7. **FIRST ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Committee Stage – Appropriation Bill [B. 3 – 2022].

The Minister of Finance moved, seconded by the Minister of Sport, Youth and National Service: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

#### ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:

The Chairperson of the Whole House Committee reported that when progress was reported yesterday, 11 April 2022, Votes 1, 2, 4, 7 and 26 had been introduced.

Vote 3 – National Assembly: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 11 – National Council: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 28 – Electoral Commission of Namibia: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 30 – Anti-Corruption Commission: Introduced by the Speaker.

Vote 9 – Finance: Introduced by the Deputy Minister of Finance.

Vote 1 – President: Discussed but no Voting quorum. Question to adopt stands over.

Vote 2 - Prime Minister: Discussed but no Voting quorum. Question to adopt stands over. Vote 4 - Auditor-General: Discussed but no Voting quorum. Question to adopt stands over.

Vote 26 – National Planning Commission: Discussed but no Voting quorum. Question to adopt stands over.

Vote 7 – International Relations and Cooperation: Discussed but no Voting quorum. Question to adopt stands over.

#### ASSEMBLY RESUMED:

Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

8. In terms of Rule 99(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 23:47 until Wednesday, 13 April 2022.

**MS. L. KANDETU** Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by I. Nehoya