



Wednesday, 20 September 2023

No. 60 – 2023

EIGHTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2023

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.
2. **Announcements by the Speaker in terms of Rule 20(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**
 - (i) The Speaker announced that he has been informed by the Chief Whip of the SWAPO Party that the Party has nominated Hon. Maria Elago and Hon. Dr. Becky Rebecca Ndjoze-Ojo to serve on the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders and Internal Arrangements.
 - (ii) That he has also been informed by the Chief Whip of PDM that the Party has re-assigned and nominated the following Members to the various Parliamentary Standing Committees as follows:
 - Hon. Jennifer van den Heever and Hon. Yvette Araes to serve on the Standing Committee on Economics and Public Administration;
 - Hon. Maximalliant Katjimune and Hon. Jan Van Wyk to serve on the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security;
 - Hon. Inna Hengari, Hon. Hidipo Hamata and Hon. Frans Bertolini to serve on the Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development,
 - Hon. Charmaine Tjirare to serve on the Standing Committee on Information Communication, Technology and Innovation, and
 - Hon. Frans Bertolini to serve on the Standing Committee on Natural Resources.
 - (iii) That he has further been informed by the Chief Whip of LPM that they have nominated Hon. Henny Hendley Seibeb to serve on the Standing Committee on

Human Resources and Community Development; and Standing Committee on Equality, Social Development and Family Affairs.

The Speaker declared these Members as duly elected to the said Parliamentary Standing Committees.

- (iv) The Speaker reported that he has also been informed by the Chief Whip of PDM that the Party has withdrew Hon. McHenry Venaani from the Standing Committee on Economics and Public Administration; and Hon. Charmaine Tjirare from the Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development.
- (v) The Speaker informed the Members about the presence of the parliamentary photographer in the Chamber. He said the photographer will be in the Chamber for 5 – 10 minutes taking pictures of Members for the parliamentary application to be developed.
- (vi) Lastly, the Speaker reported that all Members are being invited during the health break, to a short ceremony in the parliamentary courtyard, where former Ambassador Dr. Riaan Eksteen, is going to donate books on political science and global political memoirs to the Parliament library.

3. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Hon. Diergaardt (PDM) to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services (No. 157).
- (ii) Hon. Diergaardt (PDM) to ask the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 158).
- (iii) Hon. McHenry Venaani (PDM) to ask the Prime Minister (No. 159).
- (iv) Hon. Shekupakela (RDP) to ask the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (No. 160).
- (v) Hon. Shekupakela (RDP) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (No. 161).
- (vi) Hon. Isaaks (LPM) to ask the Minister of Health and Social Services (No. 162).
- (vii) Hon. Van den Heever (PDM) to ask the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation (No. 163).

4. **Hon. Kauandenge moved without Notice in terms of Rule 27(h) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

That leave of absence due to official duties, be granted to Hon. Dr. Ester Muinjangué until further notice:

Agreed to.

5. **Hon. Shekupakela moved without Notice in terms of Rule 27(h) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

That leave of absence be granted to Hon. Erastus Shuumbwa until further notice:

Agreed to.

6. **Hon. Hambyuka moved without Notice in terms of Rule 27(h) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

That leave of absence be granted to the Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare Hon. Doreen Sioka until further notice:

Agreed to.

7. **FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Hon. Seibeb moved, seconded by Hon. Mootu:

That this Assembly –

Discusses the plight of the small-scale miners in the Erongo Region.

Further, that this Motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back.

It was conceded that since the Standing Committee on Natural Resources already had meetings with small-scale miners among others in the Erongo Region on the same issues and concerns raised by Hon. Seibeb during his motivation, that this Motion be set aside to allow consultation to take place first between Hon. Seibeb and the Chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee Hon. Tweya.

8. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Hon. Moongo moved, seconded by Hon. Katjimune:

Pregnancy and maternity are potentially vulnerable time for working women and their families. Expectant mothers and fathers, and nursing mothers require special protection to prevent any potential adverse effects for them and their infants.

That this House therefore –

Discusses the possibility of increasing the amount payable in respect of maternity leave, extending maternity leave duration up to five months with full pay, and including paternity leave in the legislative framework.

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

On the motion of Hon. Araes, seconded by Hon. Hengari, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 3 October 2023.

9. On the motion of the Prime Minister, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises, the Assembly adjourned at 17:44 until Thursday, 21 September 2023.

MS. L. KANDETU
Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by I. Nehoya