



Tuesday, 10 October 2023

No. 68 – 2023

EIGHTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

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

TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2023

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 Namibia is deeply concerned about the escalating hostilities and violence between Israel and Palestine in the Gaza Strip and its impact on innocent lives. Consequently, Parliament calls for an immediate cessation of violence and urge all parties to return to the negotiation table to propose the two-state solution, where Israel and Palestine should coexist side by side, in peace and security, within internationally recognized borders.

It should be kept in mind that peace is not merely the absence of war but the presence of justice, security, and equality. Strengthening the efforts of the United Nations, and working together in achieving peace in this part of the world is the duty of every citizen.

3. **The Deputy Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises laid upon the Table:**

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

- (i) Namibia Tourism Board for the financial year ended 31 March 2022;
- (ii) Town Council of Opuwo for the financial year ended 30 June 2019, 2020 and 2021; and

(iii) Town Council of Ongwediva for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 and 2022.

4. **The Minister of Works and Transport laid upon the Table:**

The Namibia Civil Aviation Authority 2022/23 Annual Report.

5. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**

(i) Hon. Kauandenge (NUDO) to ask the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (No. 189).

(ii) Hon. Dienda (PDM) to ask the Minister of Information Communication and Technology (No. 190).

(iii) Hon. Dienda (PDM) to ask the Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises (No. 191).

(iv) Hon. Dienda (PDM) to ask the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 192).

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 Hon. Calle Schlettwein due to official duties until further notice.

Agreed to.

7. **Ministerial Statements in terms of Rule 98 of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

The Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare made a Ministerial Statement regarding the operational status of government-owned gender-based violence (GBV) shelters in our nation.

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

Hon. McHenry Venaani moved, seconded by Hon. Van Wyk:

That leave be given to introduce a Private Member's Bill to regulate the provision of free sanitary materials to school girls in need in the Republic of Namibia; to establish a framework for identification, distribution and monitoring; and to provide for incidental matters thereto.

The Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation, the Minister of Urban and Rural Development and the Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare raised an Objection.

The Speaker ordered division of the House in terms of Rule 78 of the Standing Rules and Orders.

In favour of the Motion = 18

Against the Motion = 41

Abstaining = 0

Motion rejected.

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

The Minister of Justice moved, seconded by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1944, so as to insert a definition of "primary home"; to empower the Rules Board to make rules in connection with sales in execution of immovable property; to increase the jurisdiction of magistrates' courts; to impose restrictions on the sale in execution of immovable property; and to deal with incidental matters.

Agreed to.

Magistrates' Court Amendment Bill [B.17 – 2023] read a First Time.

The Minister of Justice moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Hon. Masua, seconded by Hon. Mbundu, debate adjourned until Wednesday, 11 October 2023.

10. **THIRD NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

The Minister of Justice moved, seconded by the Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the High Court Act, 1990, so as to insert a definition of "primary home"; to impose restrictions on the sale in execution of immovable property; to empower the Judge-President to make rules regulating the procedure for cession of rights for matters brought before the court by certain litigants; to make rules regulating the procedure for the adjudication of commercial disputes; to make rules relating to the appointment, administration, security, jurisdiction and the fees of deputy-sheriffs and assistants to deputy-sheriffs; to make rules relating to the conduct and disciplinary procedures of deputy-sheriffs and assistants to deputy-sheriffs; and to deal with incidental matters.

Agreed to.

High Court Amendment Bill [B.18 – 2023] read a First Time.

The Minister of Justice moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

On the motion of Hon. Muharukua, seconded by Hon. Kavetuna debate adjourned until Wednesday, 11 October 2023.

11. **FIFTH NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Hon. McHenry Venaani moved, seconded by Hon. Araes:

That this Assembly debates the following –

According to the World Health Organisation and UNICEF’s Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) 2020 data, Namibia ranks sixth for highest rates of open defecation in the world at 47%. Less than half of the country’s 2.5 million citizens use facilities that safely separate waste from human contact, while some 5% use inadequate facilities such as open pits, buckets and hanging latrines.

In sharp contrast to the rest of Southern Africa, where sanitation coverage is severe, Namibia has extremely low levels of sanitation. Its rates of open defecation are over five times greater than those of either neighbouring Botswana or Zambia and more than twice as high as those of Angola. These conditions put Namibians, especially children, at risk of deadly faecal-oral diseases and infections that cause diarrhea, the second-biggest killer of under-fives in the country, while sanitation-related deficiencies such as malnutrition and stunted growth are also prevalent.

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

On the motion of the Minister of Health and Social Services, seconded by the Minister of Mines and Energy debate adjourned until Tuesday, 17 October 2023.

12. In terms of Rule 99(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:47 until Wednesday, 11 October 2023.

MS. L. KANDETU
Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by H. Christiaans