



Wednesday, 10 April 2024

No. 25 – 2024

NINTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

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

WEDNESDAY, 10 APRIL 2024

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 Honourable Marina Kandumbu to serve on the following Parliamentary Standing Committees:
 - Standing Committee on Economics and Public Administration; and
 - Standing Committee on Gender Equality, Social Development and Family Affairs
 - (ii) Secondly, that he has also been informed by the Chief Whip of PDM that the Party has nominated Honourable Katrina Benz and Honourable Loide Ipinge to serve on the:
 - Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development, and
 - Standing Committee on Gender Equality, Social Development and Family Affairs; and
 - Honourable Inna Hengari, to serve on the Standing Committee on Natural Resources.

- (iii) Thirdly, that he has also been informed by the All People's Party (APP), that the Party has nominated Honourable Maria Kamutali to serve on the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) national group.

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

- (iv) Furthermore, the Speaker reported that he has been informed by the Chief Whip of PDM, that the Party has withdrawn Honourable Inna Hengari from the Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development.
- (v) Lastly, the Speaker reported that it has been communicated to him by the Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee that Honourable Erastus Shuumbwa in accordance with Rule 55(3) of the Standing Rules and Orders failed to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Committee, thus he ceases to be a Member of this Committee.

3. **Hon. Dienda moved without notice in terms of Rule 27(h) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

That leave of absence be granted to Hon. Nico Smit until further notice.

Agreed to.

4. **Hon. Mukapuli moved without notice in terms of Rule 27(i) of the Standing Rules and Orders:**

That in terms of Article 74(1) of the Namibian Constitution and Rule 27(i), read with Rule 119 of the Standing Rules and Orders, this House concur that notice is dispensed with, to table a Motion to refer the following Reports of the Auditor-General for various years starting 31 March 2013 to 2019 financial years.

Local Authorities (1), Regional Councils (14), Municipalities (18), Town Council (28), Village Council (16); in total (77) Audit Reports to the National Council for review and scrutiny.

Agreed to.

5. **FIRST ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Committee Stage – *Appropriation Bill* [B. 1 – 2024].

The Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises replied and moved: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

Appropriation Bill [B. 1 – 2024] read a Third Time, with 58 voting Members and 6 non-voting Members present.

6. **SECOND and THIRD ORDER** deferred by the Deputy Speaker to Tuesday, 16 April 2024.

7. **FOURTH ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on SMEs financing in Namibia in efforts to unleash greater access and economic potential for this crucial sector of our country.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 26 March 2024, as moved by Hon. Katjimune (page 14).

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

Agreed to.

8. **FIFTH ORDER** deferred by Hon. Katamelolo to Wednesday, 17 April 2024.
9. **SIXTH ORDER** deferred by the Deputy Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs to Thursday, 18 April 2024.
10. **FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION** by Hon. Longinus Ipumbu is agreed upon to be amended by the Mover on the request of the Members of the House.
11. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Hon. Hamata moved, seconded by Hon. Katjimune:

That this Assembly *discusses* the following –

Engaging the services of a professional collection agency is not always the best option when it comes to debt collection because in most cases the agency will take a portion of the amount collected or levy a fee for their services. One of the effective debt collection measures is therefore, to offer easy payment options.

The Motion proposes the abolition of RedForce Debt Management in local authorities and urges an investigation into the true owners of the company. It advocates for councils/municipalities to manage their own collections, amid concerns that RedForce benefits certain individuals at the expense of the less privileged residents.

That the Motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back,

On the motion of the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security, seconded by Hon. Dingara, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

12. In terms of Rule 99(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:45 until Tuesday, 16 April 2024.

MS. L. KANDETU
Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by I. Nehoya