



*Tuesday, 16 April 2024*

No. 26 – 2024

NINTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

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

**TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 2024**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

1. The Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer and Affirmation.
2. **The Speaker laid upon the Table, in terms of Rule 96(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders –**

A Petition by Mr. Saddam Amushelelo of Namibia Economic Freedom Fighters (NEFF).

In the Petition, it is demanded that Parliament make use of Article 44 to establish an Unemployment Fund similar to the Veterans Act No. 2 of 2008.

The Speaker reported that the Petition is going to be submitted to the Standing Committee dealing with Petitions, to draw up rules governing the treatment of requests and complaints and shall use them as the basis for its decisions in each case.

3. **Hon. Mbundu, on behalf of Hon. Ithete laid upon the Table for consideration:**
  - (i) Report on the Stakeholder Consultative and Oversight Workshop on the Financial Institutions and Markets Act (FIMA), held from 22 to 24 May 2023 in Swakopmund;
  - (ii) Report on the oversight visit to the management of Railway Infrastructure in //Kharas, Hardap, Khomas and Erongo regions held from 28 August to 1 September 2023;
  - (iii) Report on the benchmarking study visit to the Parliament of Angola, held in Lusaka, Angola (7 to 11 August 2023);

- (iv) Oversight visits to Skeleton Coast in Erongo and Kunene regions focusing on Possible Diamond Deposits (7 to 12 August 2023); and
- (v) Report on the Benchmarking Study Visit to the Parliament of Sweden and various Government Offices and Agencies held in Stockholm, Sweden (25 to 29 September 2023).

4. **Hon. Karondo laid upon the Table for consideration:**

- (i) Report on the Petition on the Management of the Bwabwata Communal Land by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, from March 2022 to September 2023; and
- (ii) Report on the Oversight Visits of Community Courts and Magistrates Courts in Kunene, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Zambezi and Otjozondjupa Regions from May to August 2022.

5. **Hon. Tweya laid upon the Table for consideration:**

Report of the Joint Parliamentary Standing Committees on Natural Resources and Economics and Public Administration on the Workshop on Maximizing the Potential of the Mining and Energy Sectors in Namibia, held in Swakopmund from 29 May to 3 June 2023.

6. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Hon. Katjimune (PDM) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation (No. 34).
- (ii) Hon. Benz (PDM) to ask the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (No. 35).

7. **Hon. Katoma moved without notice in terms of Rule 27(g) of the Standing Rules and Orders, an unopposed Motion this this Assembly affirm its solidarity and support to the friendly people of the Republic of Cuba and urge:**

That this Assembly –

*RECOGNISING* the enduring historical connections, robust friendships, and flourishing bilateral relations between Namibia and Cuba, while also recalling the selfless sacrifices and substantial contributions made by Cuban compatriots during our prolonged struggle for national independence from colonialism and apartheid;

*GIVEN* the extension history of aggression, attempted assassination of Cuban leadership as well as a range of attacks at international platforms against Cuba, by successive administrations of the United States of America;

*ACKNOWLEDGING* the prolonged suffering endured by the Cuban people due to the severe and disproportionate economic embargo imposed by successive administrations of the United States of America;

*AWARE* of the continued illegal occupation of part of Cuban territory in Guantanamo by successive administration of the United States of America;

*MINDFUL* that the inclusion of Cuba in the list of states sponsoring terrorism is not conforming to the truth and adverse economic ramifications this inclusion inflicts upon the resilient Cuban populace;

THEREFORE, AND WHEREFORE:

*DEMAND* the cessation of the inhumane and unwarranted economic blockade imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba and its citizens;

*DEMAND* the immediate removal of Cuba from the list of states sponsoring terrorism and the prompt repeal of economic sanctions against the Cuban people;

*FURTHER DEMAND* the immediate and unconditional closure of the United States of America's base at Guantanamo Bay in the Republic of Cuba;

*RE-AFFIRM* our unwavering support for the Cuban Revolution, which has granted the Cuban people sovereignty, dignity, education, healthcare, and other significant advancements.

Question put: That the Motion be adopted.

Unanimously agreed to

8. **Hon. Masua moved without notice in terms of Rule 27(g) of the Standing Rules and Orders, an unopposed Motion this this Assembly strongly assert and reaffirm its support to the urgent decolonization of Western Sahara and the right to self-determination of the Saharawi people and urge:**

That this Assembly –

*ACKNOWLEDGING* the shared challenges faced by a pre-colonial Namibia and the Saharawi people of Western Sahara under the bondage of colonial oppression,

*RECALLING* the enduring struggle for self-determination waged by both nations against colonial rule and foreign domination,

*AWARE* of the continued occupation and illegal annexation of Western Sahara by the Kingdom of Morocco, in blatant violation of international law and numerous United Nations resolutions,

THAT THIS HOUSE THEREFORE:

*CONDEMNS* in the strongest terms, the persistent violations of human rights and suppression of the Sahrawi people's right to self-determination by the Moroccan authorities,

*CALLS UPON* the international community to uphold the principles of justice and decolonization by actively supporting the Sahrawi people's legitimate struggle for independence,

*DEMANDS* the immediate cessation of all hostilities and the withdrawal of Moroccan military forces from the occupied territories of Western Sahara,

*URGES* the United Nations to expedite the organization of a free and fair referendum in accordance with international law, allowing the Sahrawi people to exercise their right to self-determination,

*AFFIRMS* our unwavering solidarity with the Sahrawi people in their quest for freedom, dignity, and sovereignty over their ancestral land,

*DECLARES* our continued commitment to stand in solidarity with Western Sahara until justice is achieved and the Saharawi people are able to exercise their inherent right to determine their own future.

Question put: That the Motion be adopted.

Unanimously agreed to.

9. **Hon. Seibeb moved without notice in terms of Rule 27(g) of the Standing Rules and Orders, an unopposed Motion this this Assembly affirm its solidarity and support to the friendly people of Palestine and urge:**

That this Assembly –

*AFFIRMING* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Namibian Constitution,

*ALARMED* by the grave humanitarian consequences of the ongoing escalation of conflict in the Gaza Strip,

*EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONCERN* over the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation and the far-reaching ramifications of escalating violence for the broader Middle East region, and its exacerbation of geopolitical tensions,

*REAFFIRMING* that the Gaza Strip constitutes an integral part of the territory occupied in 1967, and reaffirming support for the widely endorsed Two-State solution, which envisions two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, coexisting peacefully alongside each other within secure and recognized borders, in accordance with the international law and pertinent United Nations resolutions,

*EMPHASIZING* the imperative for all parties involved in conflicts to adhere strictly to their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*RECOGNIZING* the disproportionate impact of the conflict on the lives and well-being of children, women, and other vulnerable civilian populations, and underscoring the humanitarian principles of compassion, equity, impartiality, neutrality, and autonomy,

*STRESSING* the vital importance of safeguarding civilians and civilian infrastructure in accordance with international law,

**THEREFORE:**

*CONDEMNS* all breaches of international humanitarian law, including indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian objects, as well as all forms of violence and hostilities targeting civilians,

*DEMANDS* that the international community, including the United Nations Security Council, pursuant to their mandate to uphold international peace and security, promptly facilitate an immediate ceasefire to prevent further loss of human life and escalation of the situation on the ground; ensure unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance to all civilians in need throughout Gaza; and put an end to the forced displacement and transfer of Palestinians,

*FURTHER DEMANDS* the immediate cessation of violence and to end hostilities and support for efforts aimed at achieving a sustainable solution to the conflict,

*AFFIRMS* our support and solidarity to the Palestinian Authority and expresses hope for a future where they can live in peace and harmony, rebuild their State, and rightfully assume their place among the community of nations.

Question put: That the Motion be adopted.

Unanimously agreed to.

10. **FIRST ORDER** deferred for consideration after 10 working days.

11. **SECOND ORDER READ:**

Consideration of Reports of the Electoral Commission of Namibia.

The Deputy Speaker moved, seconded by Hon. Dr. Aupindi: That the Reports be now considered.

Agreed to.

Question put: That the Reports be adopted.

Agreed to.

12. **THIRD ORDER READ:**

Resumption of Debate on government to avail adequate resources for public schools to also excel like private schools.

Question before the Assembly on Tuesday, 26 March 2024, as moved by Hon. Hamata (page 14): That the Motion be adopted.

On the motion of Hon. Katjimune, seconded by Hon. Vries, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

13. **FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION** deferred by the Deputy Minister of Information and Communication Technology to Wednesday, 17 April 2024.

14. **SECOND NOTICE OF A MOTION** withdrawn by the Mover in terms of Rule 30(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders.

15. **THIRD NOTICE OF A MOTION** withdrawn by the Mover in terms of Rule 30(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders.

16. **FOURTH NOTICE OF A MOTION:**

Hon. Hamata moved, seconded by Hon. Vries:

That this Assembly *discusses* the following –

Creation of a market that prioritises our local farmers over those who import meat from beyond the redline.

That this Motion be referred to the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny and report back to this House.

On the motion of Hon. Katjimune, seconded by Hon. Moongo, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

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

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

*Compiled by I. Nehoya*