



Thursday, 11 July 2024

No. 49 – 2024

NINTH SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY, 11 JULY 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 in accordance with Article 59(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, the National Assembly on the 9th July 2024 adopted the new Standing Rules of Procedure for the conduct of its business and proceedings, commonly known as the *Standing Rules and Orders*.

Further, the Speaker said that in addition, on the 10th July 2024, this August House also adopted the Rules for the establishing, functioning and procedures of Committees, commonly known as the *Committee Rules*. As a result of this adoption, both sets of Rules came into operation on the respective dates as indicated above, and a copy of these Rules will be distributed after formal editing.

- (ii) The Speaker reported that he had a consultation with the Deputy Speaker and Chief Whips of various political parties this morning. They agreed to recommend to the House that the Assembly adjourn today, and reconvene from the 5th – 9th August 2024 to attend to the Orders that will remain on the Order Paper.

Agreed to.

- (iii) The Speaker also urged all Members of the House to take their functions seriously and attend to the session timeously when the House reconvene, so that they can have ample time to disposed all items.
- (iv) Fourthly, the Speaker reported that he has requested the Secretariat to re-arrange the Order Paper of today, the Assembly first consider the Tenth Notice of Motion by the Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises, followed by the Orders of the day starting with the *Committee Stage* of the *Marriage Bill* and the *Committee Stage* of the *Property Practitioners Bill*, followed by Order Number 12 on the Order Paper. Thereafter the House will revert back to the Order Paper as it is.
- (v) The Speaker also informed all Honourable Members that the 6th Session of the Children's Parliament will commence on Monday, 15 July 2024 until Friday 19th July 2024. The official opening ceremony will take place on Monday, 15 July 2024 at 14:00 and will be officiated by His Excellency the President. The Speaker extended an invitation to all Honourable Members who will be around to come from time to time and listen to the debates of these young people. The Speaker also requested all Members to empty their desks as the Chamber will be used for the sittings of the Children's Parliament.
- (vi) Lastly, the Speaker announced that the DRC became the 12th SADC Member State to signed the Agreement to amend the SADC Treaty to establish the SADC Regional Parliament. This means that the amendment to establish the SADC Regional Parliament under Article 9(1) of the SADC Treaty will now come into force

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

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

- (i) Municipality of Grootfontein for the financial year ended 30 June 2020;
- (ii) Town Council of Oniipa for the financial year ended 30 June 2022;
- (iii) Film and Video Development Fund of the Namibia Film Commission for the financial year ended 31 March 2023;
- (iv) Trust Fund for Regional Development and Equity Provisions for the financial year ended 31 March 2023; and
- (v) National Road Safety Council for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

4. URGENT ORAL QUESTIONS:

- (i) Hon. McHenry Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture (No. 21) – *Replied to*.
- (ii) Hon. McHenry Venaani (PDM) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (No. 22) – *Replied to*.

5. Hon. Kafula moved without Notice:

That the proceeding on the Order Paper on Motion number 10, Order Item number 2, 3 and 12 be, in accordance with Rule 99 of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45.

Agreed to.

6. TENTH NOTICE OF A MOTION:

The Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises moved an *Urgent Bill*, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security:

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the Road Fund Administration Act, 1999, to provide for the waiver of unprescribed debt of up to N\$ 1 000 000 which relate to interest or penalties imposed on annual licence fees; and to provide for incidental matters.

Agreed to.

Road Fund Administration Bill [B. 14 – 2024] read a First Time.

The Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises moved, subject to Rule 32(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, seconded by the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform: That the Bill be read a Second Time.

Agreed to.

Road Fund Administration Bill [B. 14 – 2024] read a Second Time.

The Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises moved, seconded by Hon. Sikerete: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:

Clause 1 put and agreed to.

Clause 2 put and agreed to.

Title put and agreed to.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED:

Bill reported without amendment.

The Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises moved, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

Road Fund Administration Bill [B. 14 – 2024] read a Third Time.

7. SECOND ORDER READ:

Committee Stage – *Marriage Bill* [B. 5 – 2024].

The Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security moved, seconded by Hon. Kooper: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:

Arrangement of Sections put and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 47 put and agreed to.

Schedule put and agreed to.

Title put and agreed to.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED:

Bill reported without amendment.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security moved, seconded by the Deputy Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

Marriage Bill [B. 5 – 2024] read a Third Time.

8. THIRD ORDER READ:

Committee Stage – *Property Practitioners Bill* [B. 1 – 2024].

The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade moved, seconded by Hon. Kafula: That the Assembly now goes into Committee.

Agreed to.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE:

Arrangement of Sections put and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 93 put and agreed to.

Title put and agreed to.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED:

Bill reported without amendment.

The Minister of Industrialisation and Trade moved, seconded by the Minister of Education, Arts and Culture: That the Bill be read a Third Time.

Agreed to.

Property Practitioners Bill [B.1 – 2024] read a Third Time.

9. FIRST ORDER READ:

Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *Divorce Bill* [B.3 – 2024].

Question before the Assembly on Wednesday, 3 July 2024, as moved by the Minister of Justice (page 93).

The Minister of Justice replied but due to a lack of 49 voting Members, adoption of the Second Reading of the *Bill* deferred.

10. **QUESTIONS DEALT WITH:**

- (i) Hon. Shekupakela (RDP) asked the Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation (No. 16) – *Replied to.*
- (ii) Hon. Kauandenge (NUDO) asked the Right Hon. Prime Minister (No. 39) – *Replied to.*
- (iii) Hon. Hengari (PDM) asked the Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation (No. 45) – *Replied to.*
- (iv) Hon. Van den Heever (PDM) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (No. 50) – *Replied to.*
- (v) Hon. Vries (PDM) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (No. 53) – *Replied to.*
- (vi) Hon. Mootu (LPM) asked the Minister of Justice (No. 55) – *Replied to.*
- (vii) Hon. Mootu (LPM) asked the Minister of Justice (No. 56) – *Stands over.*
- (viii) Hon. Van den Heever (PDM) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology (No. 59) – *Mis-directed.*
- (ix) Hon. Kauandenge (NUDO) asked the Right Hon. Prime Minister (No. 60) – *Stands over.*
- (x) Hon. Van den Heever (PDM) asked the Minister of Finance and Public Enterprises (No. 61) – *Replied to.*

11. In terms of Rule 99(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:54 until Monday, 5 August 2024.

MS. L. KANDETU
Secretary of the National Assembly

Compiled by I. Nehoya