

Tuesday, 24 June 2025

No. 27 - 2025

FIRST SESSION, EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2025

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 117(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders:
 - (i) **Firstly**, the Speaker informed the House that a meeting has been convened for female Members of Parliament to elect the leadership of the Women Parliamentary Caucus. The meeting is scheduled to take place on **Monday**, **30 June 2025 at 14h00** in the **Theo-Ben Gurirab Conference Room (C1)**.
 - All female Members of the National Assembly are urged to attend this momentous meeting.
 - (ii) **Secondly**, the Speaker drew the attention of the House to the presence in the public gallery of a visiting delegation from **Okatana Senior Secondary School**, situated in the **Oshakati Circuit of the Oshana Region**. The group comprises **91 learners and 9 teachers**, who are visiting the National Assembly to observe Parliamentary proceedings as part of their educational tour.
 - On behalf of all Honourable Members, the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the learners and their teachers, expressing hope that their visit would be both informative and inspiring.
 - (iii) Lastly, the Speaker, with deep sorrow, announced the passing of Dr. Moses Amweelo, former Minister of Works and Transport and long-serving SWAPO Parliamentarian, who passed away on 23 June 2025.

On behalf of the National Assembly, the Speaker expressed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, relatives, and friends of the late Dr. Amweelo.

The House observe a moment of silence in honour of the late Dr. Amweelo.

3. **NOTICES OF QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Hon. Mouton (IPC) to ask the Minister of Information and Communication Technology (No. 62).
- (ii) Hon. Kalangula (IPC) to ask the Minister of Works and Transport (No. 63).
- (iii) Hon. Hengombe (IPC) to ask the Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy (No. 64).
- (iv) Hon. Likando (IPC) to ask the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (No. 65).
- (v) Hon. Jonas (SWAPO) to ask the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations (No. 66).
- (vi) Hon. Jonas (SWAPO) to ask the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (No. 67).

4. **URGENT ORAL QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Hon. Prof. Amupanda (AR) asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industries, Mines and Energy (No. 50) *Replied to*.
- (ii) Hon. Kandorozu (NUDO) asked the Minister of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security (No. 51) *Not urgent question*.
- (iii) Hon. Somaeb (UDF) asked the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister (No. 52) Replied to.

5. Ministerial Statement in terms of Rule 136 of the Standing Rules and Orders:

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform delivered a Ministerial Statement addressing allegations of illegal pilchard fishing in Namibian waters. In the statement, stakeholders were called upon to support the Ministry's ongoing efforts to protect the pilchard population. The public is assured that the Ministry remains committed to sustainable fisheries management and will continue to monitor the situation closely.

6. FIRST NOTICE OF A MOTION:

Hon. Hengari moved, seconded by Hon. Kumbwa:

Recent reports indicate that nearly half of Namibians, especially civil servants, are drowning in debt. This is a serious issue that needs urgent attention. Meanwhile, lending institutions, like the infamous Letshego, made a profit of N\$199 million in just six months (as reported in 2024), which highlights the big gap between the financial success of lending institutions and the struggles of ordinary people.

Many Namibians are turning to backyard loan sharks who charge very high interest rates, making their situation worse. There is therefore a need to have a real discussion about whether existing laws are truly protecting our people from exploitation.

That this Assembly –

Debates, discusses, and strengthens this motion and that following the adoption of recommendations in this House, this motion be referred to the relevant standing committee.

On the motion of Hon. Mwashindange, seconded by Hon. Kanyemba, debate adjourned until Tuesday, 01 July 2025.

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

Hon. Kaaronda moved, seconded by Hon. Kangulu:

That this Assembly -

Debates the employment conditions of all uniformed personnel services, especially the members of the Namibian Police Force and the Namibian Correctional Services. This is also true of the Namibian Defence Force.

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

On the motion of Hon. Prof. Amupanda, seconded by Hon. Shitana adjourned until Wednesday, 25 June 2025.

8. In terms of Rule 155(1) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:40 until Wednesday, 25 June 2025.

MS. E.N KAAPANDA

Secretary: National Assembly

Compiled by Ms. H. Christiaans