

Tuesday, 24 June 2025

No. 25 - 2025

FIRST SESSION, EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

# **REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

# ORDER PAPER OF THE

# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2025 (14:30 – 17:45)

#### **NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

#### I. Hon. Hengari:

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.

#### II. Hon. Kaaronda:

That this Assembly -

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

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

#### **ORDERS OF THE DAY:**

- I. Resumption of Debate to critically investigate the current state of health training institutions in Namibia, with a specific focus on the rapid mushrooming of such institutions across the country [Hon. Haikola].
- II. Resumption of Debate on the nationalisation of key strategic economic sectors/resources [Hon. Dr. Aupindi].
- III. Resumption of Debate on Namibia's critical economic and cultural crisis: over 80% of the music played on our radio stations is foreign [Minister of Information and Communication Technology].

### TUESDAY, 1 JULY 2025

#### **NOTICES OF MOTIONS:**

#### I. Hon. Kalola:

The age consent under Namibian law is 16 years, which means a 16 year old can become a mother by law. At 16, a Namibian citizen can acquire a national ID card. A 16 year old can also legally acquire a learner's license and operate a motor vehicle on a public road, albeit under the guidance of a licenced adult. Other examples indicate that a person who has reached the age of 16 can make a will and open a bank account. In terms of Article 20(3) of the Namibian Constitution a 16 year old is allowed to make a decision to leave school or not. But only a person who has reached the age of 18 can vote.

This means that while a 16 year old can legally consent to sexually activity, and do many other things, they are still not considered adults in other legal contexts, such as voting. A study of young voters' behaviour showed them to be as capable as older voters to articulate their beliefs and to make voting decisions appropriate for their preference.

It is therefore submitted that this Assembly discusses and resolves to reduce the voting age from 18 to 16, and that the Motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing committee for further scrutiny and report back.

#### II. Hon. Hangula:

Since our first democratic election in 1999 under the guidance of the United Nations (UN), our country has held regular Presidential and National Assembly, as well as Regional Council and Local Authority elections to allow citizens to take part in the democratic process and vote for leaders they choose themselves. These elections are held separately every five years.

Having noted the logistical, financial and administrative burdens of holding multiple, separate elections and recognized the growing call from various stakeholders, including civil society, political parties, and citizens, for the consolidation of the electoral calendar, while acknowledging the potential benefits of harmonizing all major elections into one single event, i.e., reduced costs, increased voter turnout, improved administrative efficiency and strengthened democratic participation. These separate elections cost us over N\$5000 million each, meaning together they cost us over one billion Namibian dollars.

I move that this House discusses and resolves for the establishment of a single national election every five years, ensuring public consultation, including engagements with all stakeholders.

That this Motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing committee for discussion and thorough investigation and report back to this Assembly,

### III. Hon. Kambala:

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is an independent agency established by an Act of Parliament, the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2003 (Act No. 8 of 2003) to combat and prevent corruption in Namibia. It is mandated to be the leading agency that investigates corruption offences and ensures that offenders are brought to justice. The manner in which the head of the ACC is appointed brings the impartiality and independence of this key government- institution into question. Whereas, both the Namibian Constitution and the ACC Act provide for the appointment of the leadership of the ACC, regrettably there is no clear outlined procedure of how the President nominates candidates to the National Assembly.

That this Assembly discusses, resolves and provides direction on the ACC and the appointment of its Director-General, and the Deputy Director-General, among others.

That this Motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing committee for thorough investigation and make recommendations to this House,

## WEDNESDAY, 2 JULY 2025

#### **NOTICES OF MOTIONS:**

#### I. Hon. Prof. Dr. Amupanda:

Although tomorrow is not promised to any one, it always belongs to those preparing for it today. As they say, failure to plan is indeed planning to fail. The developmental state requires imaginative minds and meticulous preparation of the future of our children. In analysing countries that have developed in recent history, including in the developing world, are those who sat down and actually engaged in design and planning of the future. The idea of urban design and urbanization planning has not been our biggest strength. For 35 years, we have not created our own city, with our own imagination and ingenuity. Stated differently, as a free people, we are not counted amongst creators of any city in Namibia. This is embarrassing and cannot continue.

In this connection, I shall move –

- (i) That this Assembly discusses, resolves and gives direction on the creation of a first city for our country at Cape Fria, in the Kunene region.
- (ii) That this Assembly considers and characterizes this as a Specially Planned City and Special Program of the National Assembly of the Republic of Namibia.

That this motion be referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for further deliberations and report back to this Assembly, inclusive of study visitations to the successfully planned cities.

### II. Hon. Kambala:

Civic Education empowers citizens to understand their roles in the political and governance processes, enabling them to participate effectively and influence positive change and contribute to society. Now, recognizing the vital role of an informed, responsible and active citizenry in sustaining Namibia's democracy and Constitutional values. Noting with concern the growing gap in civic knowledge among young people including limited awareness of national governance structures. Acknowledging that civic education plays a crucial role in empowering learners to understand their rights and duties as citizens and to participate meaningfully in democracy and community life.

I, therefore move, that this Assembly –

Considers the inclusion of civic education in the national school curriculum as a standalone subject or integrated module at primary and secondary school levels.

That this motion be referred to a relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee for thorough investigation and to make recommendations to this Assembly.