



MEDIA RELEASE

NAMIBIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS ATTEND PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT PERMANENT COMMITTEE SITTINGS IN SOUTH AFRICA

25 September 2025

The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Philipus Katamelo, is leading a delegation of Namibian lawmakers from both Houses of Parliament to Midrand, South Africa, to participate in the Sitting of the Permanent Committees and other Organs of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP). The Sitting commenced today 25 September and will run until 04 October 2025.

The five-member delegation is representing Namibia on five of the 11 Permanent Committees of the Pan-African Parliament:

Hon. Philipus Katamelo – *Committee on Cooperation, International Relations and Conflict Resolution*
Hon. Gerhard Shiimi – *Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment*
Hon. Uahekua Herunga – *Committee on Education, Culture, Tourism and Human Resources*
Hon. Anseline Beukes – *Committee on Gender, Family, Youth and People with Disabilities*
Hon. Rodney Cloete – *Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration Matters*

These Committees play a critical role in the Pan-African Parliament's work, reflecting the mandates of the African Union Commissions. Their functions include providing oversight, policy advice, and facilitating continental integration and development in key thematic areas.

The September Sitting marks the second round of Committee meetings for the year. These sessions are critical in enabling the Pan-African Parliament to fulfil its core oversight, advisory, and consultative functions. The structure also allows for simultaneous engagement on various issues, ensuring more in-depth deliberation and progress on priority matters.

During the Sitting, Committees will review the implementation of programmes and projects in line with:

- The PAP Strategic Plan
- The African Union's Agenda 2063
- Other AU programmes
- The African Union's theme of the year

In addition to the statutory Committee meetings, the programme will feature high-level events and special engagements, including the 13th Conference of Speakers of Regional and National Parliaments, under the

theme: *“Transforming Parliaments to Catalyse Citizen-Driven Continental Integration, Sustainable Development, Prosperity and Peace, and Enhance Africa’s Dynamic Role on the Global Stage.”*

Meeting of Clerks of National and Regional Parliaments, will also take place on the margins of this Sitting.

The Pan-African Parliament, established as the legislative arm of the African Union, provides a platform for African legislators to deliberate on continental issues including peace, security, democracy, human rights, and development.

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Parliament

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