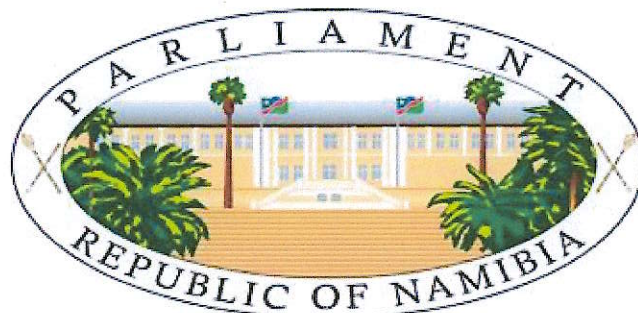




National Council

**REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
(SADC-PF) 55TH PLENARY ASSEMBLY SESSION, 1ST TO 7TH JULY 2024,
LUANDA, ANGOLA TO THE SESSION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL,
3RD TO 11TH NOVEMBER 2025.**

November 2025

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1. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the 55th Plenary Assembly Session were to:

- I. Emphasize the crucial role played by parliamentary institutions, such as the SADC Parliamentary Forum (PF-SADC) and National Parliaments, in boosting the adoption and implementation of renewable energy policies in the SADC Region, with an emphasis on the Strategy and the Action Plan for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency from 2016 to 2030;
- II. Discuss the potential of renewable energies to catalyse socio-economic development, mitigate the impacts of climate change and promote energy independence in the SADC Region;
- III. Encourage the SADC PF and National Parliaments, by promoting the adoption and investment in renewable energies, to play a fundamental role in diversifying energy sources, thereby reducing dependence on fossil fuels and thus promote environmental sustainability;
- IV. Identify strategies to improve cross-border cooperation, public-private partnerships and stakeholder engagement to accelerate the transition to renewable energy and achieve global objectives of improving energy access, security and efficiency in the SADC Region.

2. COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION

The 55th Plenary Assembly Session was attended by the following Members and staff of the National Council, Parliament of Namibia.

MEMBERS

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Hon. John Likando | MP, National Council |
| 2. Hon. Olivia Hanghuwo | MP, National Council |

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Barney Karuuombe | Director: Specialised Services |
| 2. Mr. Mwala Neo | Chief Parliamentary Clerk |

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3. METHODOLOGY

The information presented in this report was gathered from engagements, discussions and presentations made at the 55th Plenary Assembly Session.

4. INTRODUCTION

4.1 The 55th Plenary Assembly Session of the Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF) took place in Luanda, Angola. The theme of the Plenary Assembly was: **‘The role of Parliaments in Promoting Renewable Energy Policies in the SADC Region and Creating a Single Regional Energy Market.’**

4.2 The session was officially opened by Hon. Roger Mancienne, Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles and President of SADC-PF. In his address, he called on parliamentarians to be proactive in driving legislative reforms that support the energy transition and regional integration. The event brought together parliamentarians from across the SADC region to deliberate on the theme. This theme reflected the growing urgency for member states to transition toward sustainable energy sources and to foster regional cooperation in energy production, distribution, and regulation.

4.3 The Plenary Assembly also marked the launch of the SADC-PF Institutional Plan, which outlines strategic priorities for the Forum over the coming years including strengthening parliamentary oversight, promoting democratic governance and enhancing regional cooperation.

4.4 The Plenary Assembly featured side events and workshops on climate resilience, sustainable development, and the role of youth in energy innovation. Delegates shared best practices from their respective countries and committed to fostering collaboration through joint parliamentary initiatives. The session concluded with a renewed commitment to advancing renewable energy and regional integration, positioning parliaments as key actors in shaping a sustainable and inclusive energy future for Southern Africa.

4.5 Furthermore, the 55th Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum in Luanda served as a strategic platform for reinforcing the role of parliaments in shaping the region’s energy future. Delegates acknowledged that while many SADC member states have made strides in adopting renewable energy policies, the pace and scale of implementation remain uneven. This disparity prompted calls for stronger regional

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coordination and peer learning mechanisms to ensure that no country is left behind in the energy transition.

4.6 Namibia's delegation to the 55th Plenary Assembly was led by the former Speaker of the National Assembly Professor Peter Katjavivi, and endorsed the Strategic Plan 2024-2028 as a vital framework for enhancing parliamentary effectiveness and democratic governance across the region.

**5. SYMPOSIUM ON THE THEME OF THE 55TH PLENARY ASSEMBLY SESSION:
"The role of parliaments in promoting renewable energy policies in the SADC region
and creating a single regional energy market."**

5.1 Delegates engaged in robust discussions on how parliaments can play a transformative role in shaping renewable energy policies. They emphasized the need for harmonized legislation across the region to facilitate investment in clean energy technologies such as solar, wind, hydro and biomass. The Plenary Assembly highlighted the importance of removing regulatory and financial barriers that hinder the adoption of renewable energy and called for the creation of enabling environments that attract private sector participation and innovation.

5.2 A major focus of the deliberations was the concept of a Single Regional Energy Market. Delegates explored the potential benefits of interconnected power grids, standardized energy regulations and cross-border energy trade. Such integration, would enhance energy security, reduce costs and improve access to electricity across the region, especially in rural communities. The Plenary Assembly further emphasized the importance of inclusive energy policies that consider the needs of women, youth, and marginalized groups.

5.3 One of the key outcomes of the Plenary Assembly was the recognition of the need for capacity building among parliamentarians. Legislators emphasized the importance of equipping themselves with technical knowledge and policy tools to effectively scrutinize energy-related legislation and budgets. Training programs, knowledge exchanges and partnerships with academic institutions and civil society were

proposed as avenues to strengthen parliamentary oversight and advocacy in the energy sector.

5.4 The Plenary Assembly also addressed the financing challenges associated with renewable energy development. Delegates discussed innovative financing models including green bonds, climate funds and blended finance approaches that can mobilize both public and private capital. They stressed the importance of creating transparent and accountable frameworks to manage energy investments and ensure that they deliver tangible benefits to communities.

5.5 Gender and youth inclusion were featured in the discussions. Parliamentarians called for energy policies that are responsive to the needs of women and young people who are often disproportionately affected by energy poverty. They advocated for programs that empower these groups to participate in energy decision-making and benefit from employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in the renewable energy sector.

6. NAMIBIA'S VIEW ON THE THEME OF THE 55TH PLENARY ASSEMBLY

6.1 Namibia's support its interest in leveraging regional resources and reducing energy costs by emphasizing the need for interconnected energy infrastructure, cross-border electricity trade and harmonized regulations.

6.2 The Namibian delegation emphasized the importance of parliamentary institutions in driving the adoption and implementation of renewable energy policies. This includes supporting the SADC Strategy and Action Plan for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency 2016-2030.

6.3 Namibia advocated for deeper regional integration in energy markets, highlighting the role of parliaments in harmonising laws and regulations to facilitate cross border energy trade and infrastructure development.

6.4 Namibia expressed support for the objectives of the Strategic Plan, 20240-2028 to evolve the SADC PF into a fully regional parliament which would strengthen legislative collaborative and oversight on energy matters.

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Members of the Namibian Parliament who attended the 55th Plenary Assembly therefore wishes to present the following conclusions and recommendations:

- 7.1 Namibia should position itself as a regional driver of policy innovation and inclusive development by championing parliamentary transformation and leadership in promoting renewable energy.
- 7.2 The Parliament of Namibia is urged to align national laws with regional frameworks to facilitate investment in renewable energy and ensure legal certainty for developers and investors in the sector.
- 7.3 The Parliament of Namibia should ensure that it's relevant Standing Committees from both Houses prioritise oversight in the area of renewables and regional cooperation mechanisms. This therefore requires that the Members and staff are adequately trained on this important but complex issues.
- 7.4 The National Council should continue to advocate to take up its two sits in the composition of the Namibia delegation to the SADC Parliamentary Forum. Whilst participation as observers is important, there is a need for more substantive participation.
- 7.5 The Chairperson and leadership of the National Council should ensure that the new Council is accorded the full and substantive participation and two Members are sworn in as Members of the SADC PF.
- 7.6 Funding to the SADC PF cluster should therefore ensure that the two substantive Members will be in a position to attend the Committee sessions and Plenary Assemblies of the SADC PF.

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8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

Reviewed and adopted by Members of Parliament who attended the 55th Plenary Assembly Session in Luanda, Angola.

SIGNATURE

DATE


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04/11/25
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Honourable Olivia Hanghuwo MP

Member: SADC-PF

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