

Tuesday, 19 November 2024]

No 28 – 2024] FIRST SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

TUESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2024

1. The Council met at 14:03.
2. The Chairperson took the Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayers or meditation.
3. The Chairperson announced that the hybrid sitting constituted a Sitting of the National Council of Provinces.
4. [14:05] Notices of motion.
5. [14:09] Ms J S Mananiso moved without notice: That the Council –
 - (1) notes that 19 November marks 43 years since the brutal and vicious murder of Griffiths Mxenge who was a veteran of the African National Congress and apartheid activist who played a pivotal role in the fight for democracy and liberation in South Africa;
 - (2) further notes that Griffiths Mxenge was brutally murdered by Dirk Coetzee, Almond Nofomela, Joe Mamasela, Brian Ngqulunga and David Tshikalanga who were policemen and agents of the apartheid government's notorious Vlakplaas death squad on 19 November 1981;
 - (3) acknowledges that Griffiths Mxenge was a courageous attorney who became a significant threat to the ruling white government when he began practicing law in Durban in 1974 and later became an instructing attorney in the 1977-79 Bethal Treason Trial, where he defended 18 members of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) who were jailed for inciting a revolution and playing a role in the Soweto Uprising; and

- (4) takes this opportunity to remember the indelible contribution that Griffiths Mxenge made in the fight for freedom and democracy in South Africa.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

6. [14:11] Ms S Nxumalo moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that the Human Sciences Research Council released the first national gender-based violence Prevalence study, which shows that 36% equalling an estimated 7.8 million women in South Africa have experienced physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lives;
- (2) further notes that the study has revealed that 24% of women an estimate of 3.4 million women have experienced gender-based violence at the hands of an intimate partner and that 7 out of 10 SA men believe women should obey their husbands;
- (3) acknowledges that the study sheds light on the country's gender-based violence and the deeply ingrained gender norms and power dynamics that are also characterised by strong cultural reinforcement of traditional gender roles and a troubling acceptance of male aggression and dominance; and
- (4) welcomes the report as critical in providing crucial information, analysis and recommendations to help inform policy and legislative interventions to address the prevalence of gender-based violence in South Africa.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

7. [14:13] Dr I Scheurkogel moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that Metsimaholo Local Municipality is in contravention of Section 83 of the Municipal Systems Act, Section 24, 156 and 229 of the Constitution of South Africa by not maintaining the municipal road infrastructure;
- (2) by failing their constitutional duty, they place the residents of Metsimabolo in danger when travelling within the municipal boundaries;
- (3) the crumbling infrastructure is harming the local economy and causes job losses in a time which South Africa is already experiencing big challenges; and
- (4) calls on the Municipal Manager and the Mayoral Executive to take note of their contraventions and take the necessary steps to fix the road infrastructure to ensure they abide by the Municipal Systems Act and the Constitution of South Africa.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

8. [14:14] Ms K R Molokomme moved 14without notice: That the Council –

- (1) today, 19 November 2024, marks World Toilet Day, which is intended to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis;
- (2) further notes that 4.2 billion people around the world live without "safely managed sanitation" and two out of three people in Africa lack safely managed sanitation services

with just less than 33% of households in Africa having basic sanitation services and 21% using safely managed sanitation facilities;

- (3) further notes that in 2019, about 2.4% of households still had no toilets or used bucket toilets with over 3,800 schools only having pit latrines; and
- (4) takes this opportunity to call on the Department of Water and Sanitation and various municipalities across the country to move with greater speed and urgency in expanding access to sanitation.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

9. [14:16] Ms M Makesini moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes with gratitude and relief, that 30-year-old Ntando Mhlongo, successfully underwent surgery at La Verna Private Hospital in Ladysmith, KwaZulu-Natal, after having lived six years with a swollen scrotum;
- (2) further notes that statistically, three out of 10 men suffer from scrotal swelling or hydrocele, a rare medical condition affecting men, with the most vulnerable being men in their 30s until 50s;
- (3) acknowledges the resilience, bravery, and strength he has shown throughout this challenging time, serving as an inspiration to his family, friends, and community;
- (4) recognises the dedication and professionalism of the healthcare workers and medical team involved in Ntando's surgery, who performed this four-hour surgery, as well as all those who continue to care for him in his recovery;
- (5) further recognise the need to ensure quality healthcare is accessible and available to all South Africans, so that every citizen has the right to the highest standard of medical treatment and care, as Ntando received;
- (6) notes that the Economic Freedom Fighters congratulates and wishes Ntando Mhlongo strength, health, and happiness as he completes his healing journey and resumes his everyday life; and
- (7) further expresses our commitment to advocating for the welfare and health of all South Africans.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

10. [14:18] Mr B J Farmer moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) recognize and welcomes the Patriotic Alliance's role, through the voice of our President Gayton Mackenzie, who has on numerous occasions raised this issue in calling for government to address the foreigners putting up shops in all communities across the country; and
- (2) therefore, welcome the President's call for these shops to be closed, even though it is a couple of lives too late. That this house sympathizes with those families who lost loved ones.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

11. [14:19] Ms S L Sithole moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that, 20 November marks Africa Industrialization Day, which is a day intended to mobilize the commitment of the international community to the industrialization of Africa;
- (2) further notes that the theme for this year is “Accelerating Africa’s Industrialization Through the Empowerment of African Women in Processing for an Integrated Market”, which is intended to raise awareness about the urgent need to empower women and break gender stereotypes that prevent women’s access to industries;
- (3) acknowledges that Africa has the potential to become the next global frontier for industrial development and that industrial development is a foundation for inclusive growth, the creation of decent jobs and many other development goals; and
- (4) takes this opportunity to join the rest of the African continent in observing Africa Industrialisation Day and support the commitment to accelerate industrialization and unlock its economic potential.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

12. [14:21] Mr K Ceza moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes, that whistle-blowers are important guardians of our democracy as they raise the alarm against unethical acts and practices in government and organisations;
- (2) further note, that whistle-blowers speak out with a reasonable expectation not only that action will be taken on their disclosures, but they will be protected and not suffer victimisation after;
- (3) acknowledge with grave concern, the recent shooting of ANC activist and whistle-blower, Mr Sizwe Nyambi, in Nkomazi, Mpumalanga, shortly after he threatened to expose corruption within the Nkomazi Municipality;
- (4) further acknowledge, that Mr. Nyambi, had evidence showing municipal workers sabotaging water supply infrastructure for personal financial gain, creating an artificial water crisis that endangers public welfare;
- (5) recognise, the need to tighten up existing systems and provide greater support to those who publicly come forward with information;
- (6) notes that, the EFF condemns in the strongest terms any attacks on whistle-blowers, and we call for immediate, strengthened protections for all whistle-blowers to ensure their safety and to foster an environment where corruption can be openly challenged; and
- (7) further extend our solidarity to Mr. Nyambi and his family and wish him a swift and full recovery.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

13. [14:23] Ms M Dhlamini moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that on 12 November 2024, Statistics South Africa (StatsSA) released the results of the Quarterly Labour Force Survey for the third quarter of 2024;
- (2) notes that the official unemployment rate decreased to 32.1% in the third quarter of 2024, down from 33.5% in the previous quarter;
- (3) further note that, although unemployment is still very high, the number of employed people increased by 294,000 to 16.9 million. The largest increases in employment were observed in Eastern Cape (83 000), Western Cape (75 000), Northwest (69 000) and Mpumalanga (49 000);
- (4) also notes that this points to significant results of initiatives by our Government led by President Cyril Ramaphosa, including the Economic Recovery and Reconstruction Plan (ERRP) and Operation Vulindlela; and
- (5) calls on the Government and the Private Sector to continue to create employment opportunities for our people, especially the youth.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

14. [14:24] Mr O J Mokae moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes Kimberley born artist Monwabisi “Bisi” Bangiwe ka Jobela has been selected by the National Children’s Theatre in collaboration with Disney Theatrical to choreograph the Lion King Junior which is currently running in Gauteng since November 9 and will end on December 15 this year;
- (2) further notes Monwabisi is an internationally acclaimed dancer/singer/actor/choreographer who grew up in Galeshewe. He started dancing with the local group United Youth. Monwanbisi studied and graduated at the Tshwane University of Technology and toured various parts of Africa, China, Russia and Brazil among others;
- (3) acknowledges the importance of this selection as it will broaden his career and solidify the importance of supporting local talent in the arts and creative industry; and
- (4) congratulates Monwabisi and his associate Mkhululi Mabija who will direct the same production and wish them all of the best in their important roles.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

15. [14:26] Ms T Breedts moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that today, 19 November 2024 is International Men’s Day with the theme “Positive Male Role Models”;
- (2) further notes that on Monday (18 November 2024) the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) released its first national gender-based violence study which found that the

mental health crisis facing men in South Africa is driving up gender-based violence (GBV) rates;

- (3) recognises that a significant number of men have experienced childhood trauma and bullying with alcohol abuse, experiences with transactional sex and food insecurity in the home identified as driving factors;
- (4) also recognises that the study found that men are less likely to seek mental health care and have higher rates of suicide; and
- (5) encourages all men to not let these findings negatively impact their roles of being positive role models in South Africa.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

16. [14:27] Mr V Gericke moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes, that Mr. Isaac Raubenheimer and Mrs. Gaye Raubenheimer from Pacaltsdorp, have jointly served seventy-five years as educators in the Western Cape Department of Education;
- (2) further note, that educators play a critical role in educating and shaping our children's lives: the future leaders of countries all over the world;
- (3) acknowledge that the Raubenheimer couple have served the community of Pacaltsdorp and the Southern Cape with distinction and unwavering commitment;
- (4) recognise, their service which has been invaluable to the Department;
- (5) notes that, the Economic Freedom Fighters celebrates and thanks the Raubenheimer's, for over seven decades of service and we express our deepest appreciation for their remarkable contributions in education. Your expertise, leadership and passion have made a lasting impact; and
- (6) further notes that, the EFF further wishes them a peaceful retirement and family life and we wish teacher Gaye Raubenheimer every success in her endeavor to achieve her doctorate in education. Respect and appreciation.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

17. [14:28] Ms O D Medupe moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) note with outrage that extortion incidents are continuing unabated in the area of Kraaifontein, Cape Town;
- (2) also note that these 'protection fee' demands are having a detrimental impact on the health and sanitation conditions in the affected community, as they are jeopardizing the efforts to deliver basic sanitation services through collection and cleaning of toilets in informal settlements;

- (3) encourage residents to the 24-hour hotline set up by the City, which allows residents to anonymously report incidents of intimidation and extortion; and
- (4) call on the City of Cape Town to work with local stakeholders, Law Enforcement and the Police to root out these criminals; and the Service Providers not to accede to the extortion demands.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

18. [14:34] Ms S Mokoena moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes with concern the rising incidents of food poisoning among children across the country, which often result from the consumption of contaminated food and beverages, particularly in schools and community feeding schemes; like the recent case in Makesi Soweto that left 6 kids dead the youngest being 6 years old;
- (2) recognizes the devastating impact such incidents have on the health, well-being, and development of our children, as well as the financial and emotional burden placed on families;
- (3) calls on the Department of Health to urgently investigate these incidents and enforce stricter food safety standards in all establishments providing food to children;
- (4) urges local governments and community organizations to work together to raise awareness on proper food handling practices and the importance of hygiene; and
- (5) commits to ensuring that our children's right to safe and nutritious food, as enshrined in Section 28 of the Constitution, is protected.

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

19. [14:39] The Council debated the following subject: Debate on accelerating land redistribution and agricultural development for inclusive growth.

Debate concluded.

20. The Council adjourned at 18:16.

X GEORGE
Secretary to Parliament