

No 3 – 2025] SECOND SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

OF

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
PROVINCES**

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WEDNESDAY, 19 MARCH 2025

1. The Council met at 14:01.
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. [14:03] Notices of motions.
5. [14:14] Adv. Inkosi M Nonkonyana moved without notice: That the Council –
  - (1) notes with great sadness the death of Judge (Retired) James Ntlupheko Yekiso on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 who at the time of his retirement served on the bench at the Western Cape Provincial Division;
  - (2) also notes that after finishing his schooling at Fort Beaufort with top marks in English and isiXhosa, Judge Yekiso worked as a court interpreter;
  - (3) further notes that this job stimulated him to pursue his academic studies from BProc, LLB to LLM (Constitutional Law);

- (4) also notes that he had to start his studies from scratch at UNISA after being expelled from Fort Hare in 1973 during his final year, approximately a month before writing his final exams for his four -year BProc degree;
- (5) notes that he finally completed his BProc in 1978 and enjoyed distinction of being the “first African” to open a law firm in Cape Town;
- (6) acknowledges that he had a great reputation as a defence lawyer in the Western Cape and was one of the leaders of the Black Lawyers Association;
- (7) also notes that judge Yekiso enjoyed the honour of being counted among those credited to be in the midst of the Founders of the Black Consciousness Movement under the leadership of Steve Biko; and
- (8) conveys our deepest condolences and hope that his family, friends, colleagues and comrades have come to terms with this passing.

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

6. [14:16] Ms SH Boshoff moved without notice: That the Council -

- (1) notes with concern the accident on 19 February 2025 along the infamous R540 between Lydenburg and Dullstroom, where international tourists from the USA sustained serious injuries and required hospitalization;
- (2) further notes with concern that the tourists have since indicated their unwillingness to return to South Africa, citing collapsing infrastructure as a major deterrent, an issue that undermines our international reputation and threatens the tourism sector;
- (3) acknowledges that this tragic incident once again highlights the long-standing dangers of this vital route, which has been in severe disrepair for years, posing serious risks to motorists and damaging the economic prospects of local businesses and tourism;
- (4) also notes the growing frustration of residents, businesses, and road users, who have repeatedly raised concerns about the road;
- (5) further acknowledges that this road is a critical artery for businesses, farmers, and communities in the area, and while it has been transferred to SANRAL, the responsibility for safe, functioning infrastructure still rests with the provincial government;
- (6) welcomes SANRAL’s commencement of rehabilitation works on this route, which will assist fellow travelers and restore confidence in this corridor; and

- (7) calls on this Council to mandate that the province monitors the progress closely and ensures that the project is completed urgently, with clear timelines and accountability, so that no further lives are lost, and our local economy is protected.

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

7. [14:19] Mr JHP Britz moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes the Victory4All Foundation was established in May 2003 by Mr. Johan Vos and his wife, Mrs. Astrid Vos, who relocated from the Netherlands to South Africa;
- (2) also notes that since 2003 the Foundation established the Noah's Ark pre-primary school, the Kings College Primary School, the Kings College High School, the Rainbow Centre (the only private school for disabled children in the Eastern Cape), the Rainbow Skills Centre, Rainbow Angels Care Centre as well as 12 Forster Homes in the townships situated in Humansdorp and Jeffreys Bay in the Eastern Cape;
- (3) further notes that these institutions were created exclusively with the disadvantaged and poor communities of Kouga as beneficiaries;
- (4) also notes that these institutions are housed in excellent buildings built by the Foundation and are all equipped with modern equipment of international standard;
- (5) further notes that since 2003, Victory4All invested R175 million in the infrastructure of these institutions;
- (6) also notes that the Foundation feeds 300 to 350 children twice per day and employs 105 staff members, comprising of teachers, teaching assistants, cleaners, carers, chefs, general workers and administrators, all residing within the Kouga Municipality;
- (7) further notes that the Foundation is in the process of building a new high school in Jeffreys Bay to the value of R 55 million, which will be completed in 2026;
- (8) also notes that they invested up to R2 million per month in the upkeep and staff salaries of these institutions;

- (9) further notes that all these excellent activities are privately funded without financial assistance from the state – all through the exceptional fund raising efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Vos; and
- (10) takes this opportunity to request that this House congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Vos and the Victory4All Foundation for their initiative, commitment, unwavering support, and continued care for the poor communities of Kouga and the Eastern Cape Province.

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

8. [14:21] Ms OD Medupe moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes with utmost concern the violation of the ceasefire deal by the Israeli government which carried out extensive strikes on the people of Palestine;
- (2) also notes that the overturning of the two-month-long ceasefire by Israel is putting the release of the hostages at risk;
- (3) further notes that this attack by Israel has killed more than 400 Palestinians and wounded hundreds more making it the deadliest day in Gaza since October 2023; and
- (4) take this opportunity to call on the Israel government to respect the ceasefire deal and the resolutions of the International Criminal Court.

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

9. [14:22] Mr M Billy moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes with appreciation the swift and decisive action taken by the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Public Works and Infrastructure, Honourable Martin Meyer of the Democratic Alliance (DA), in securing the title deed for the Elangeni KwaMashu Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College after a six-year delay under the previous ANC run government;
- (2) also notes that this achievement will now allow construction to commence, paving the way for improved educational infrastructure and opportunities for the students and community of KwaMashu;
- (3) further notes the dedication and efficiency demonstrated by MEC Meyer, who resolved this long-standing issue in just two weeks, showcasing the DA's commitment to effective governance and service delivery;

- (4) takes this opportunity to congratulate the KwaZulu-Natal government of provincial unity and the DA in KZN for their collaborative efforts in prioritizing the needs of the people and ensuring that critical projects are unblocked for the benefit of all;
- (5) notes the achievement as a testament to the DA's promise of making a tangible difference in the lives of South Africans through accountable and proactive leadership; and
- (6) calls on all spheres of government to emulate this example of swift and effective service delivery to address the challenges facing our communities.

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

10. [14:24] Mr SP Mabilo moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes with great sense of appreciation the continued groundbreaking successes by the South African Police Services and other law enforcement agencies in intercepting and apprehending cash in transit criminal syndicates and other organised violent criminal syndicates over the recent past;
- (2) further notes that some of the encounters between the law enforcement agencies and these criminals have resulted in the killing of some of the suspects in the shoot-out with the police; and
- (3) acknowledges and commends the dedication and tireless work of the security agencies to direct significant resources and effort to wage a concerted fight against crime and keep our communities safer.

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

11. [14:25] Mr HJ van den Berg moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) recognises that on Thursday, 13 February 2025, in the early morning, the village of Mayba in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, was surrounded by gunmen from the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), an Ugandan Islamist group and that came hunting for Christians;
- (2) further recognises that more than 70 people, men and women, elderly and children were captured and marched off to their church in the nearby village of Kasanga, where they were tied down with their hands behind their backs and beheaded;
- (3) notes that this murderous terrorist organisation did this to desecrate a holy place and that it sparked very little reaction in the world; and

- (4) finally recognises this as a clear act of a religious war on Christians and by recognising this atrocity, observe a moment of silence as a tribute to these slaughtered brothers and sisters.

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

12. [14:26] Mr MF Mokwele moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes the arrest of 10 employees of the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) for their involvement in a SASSA card syndicate that is estimated to the value of R260 million;
- (2) also notes that the suspects have been charged with more than 1 000 charges of theft, fraud, and the contravention of the Cybercrime Act; and
- (3) takes this opportunity to commend all the security agencies and SASSA for working tirelessly to make sure that pitiless criminals whose heartless greed significantly harms communities by stealing from the needy and negatively impacts government's programmes which support the well-being and livelihoods of the needy, are brought to book.

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

13. [14:27] Ms S Ndlovu moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that a Portuguese businessman has been rescued by a multi-disciplinary team led by the Crime Intelligence Kidnapping team in Westdene, Johannesburg on Saturday 15 March 2025;
- (2) also notes that the businessman was kidnapped on Tuesday, 11 March by criminals, shortly after dropping an employee in Rewlatch, who later demanded a ransom for his release;
- (3) congratulates the police on their consistent arrests and on solving the kidnapping cases; and
- (4) expresses concern about the rising cases of kidnapping in South Africa.

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

14. [14:29] Mr MP Sibande moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that the South African Senior Soccer Team will be engaged in a crucial World Cup Qualifier, against Lesotho, on 21 March 2025;
- (2) also notes that the match will be hosted at the new Peter Mokaba Stadium, in Polokwane, Limpopo;
- (3) wishes Bafana Bafana success in this crucial soccer World Cup Qualifier against Lesotho.

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

15. [14:31] Ms SM Mokoena moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes the forced eviction of approximately 20 families from KwaMajayiva Farm in Greytown, KwaZulu-Natal, on 23 January 2025;
- (2) also notes that these families have resided on the farm for over four decades, claiming permission to settle on the land from the previous owner;
- (3) further notes that the farm was recently purchased by Pidelta Properties (PTY) LTD, which obtained an eviction order from the Greytown Magistrate Court, leading to the displacement of these families;
- (4) also notes the eviction has left families without access to basic necessities, including electricity and water, and has disrupted their livelihoods and subsistence farming activities;
- (5) acknowledges the apparent disregard for the families' longstanding residency rights, potential land claims, and lack of alternative accommodation, exacerbating their economic and social vulnerabilities;
- (6) further notes the broader implications for land tenure reform, rural development, and equitable property ownership in South Africa;and
- (7) calls on this House to urgently investigate the legality of the eviction order and the processes followed to ensure the rights of the affected families were not violated;
- (8) further calls on this House to engage with Pidelta Properties, the Department of Human Settlements, and the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform to explore solutions, including compensation or relocation assistance in addition to providing immediate humanitarian support, including temporary shelters, food, and water, to the displaced families;

- (9) also calls on this House to advocate for the strengthening of land tenure rights for long-term residents of rural farms to prevent future disputes of this nature; and
- (10) urges the relevant parliamentary committees to prioritize legislation addressing systemic land reform issues, ensuring justice and equity for rural communities.

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

16. [14:32] Mr P Govender moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that on 21 March 1975, the first meeting of Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) was held at Kwazimele in KwaZulu-Natal;
- (2) also notes that this year marks 50 years of Resilience, Service and Integrity; and
- (3) calls on this House to remember and commend the founders of the IFP and His Excellency Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi for his astute leadership and congratulates the IFP on its 50 years of service to the nation.

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

17. [14:33] Council debated the following subject: Debate on Human Rights Day:  
**Enhancing social justice and human rights culture.**

Debate concluded.

18. The Council adjourned at 17:03.

Xolile George  
Secretary to Parliament