

No 6 – 2025] SECOND SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
PROVINCES**

WEDNESDAY, 26 MARCH 2025

1. The Council met at 14:00.
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. [14:01] Notices of motions.
5. [14:08] Mr KM Mmoiemang moved without notice: That the Council –
 - (1) notes that March marks National Water Month, which is intended to educate the public about their responsibility in water conservation initiatives, raising awareness around the need to protect and conserve the country's water resources;
 - (2) further notes that Water Month is an expansion of the World Water Day, spearheaded by United Nations on 22 March, which focuses its attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources as a basis for longer-term action involving governments across the globe with an aim to

ensure that everyone in the world has access to safe water by 2030, while not impacting negatively on the environment;

- (3) takes this opportunity to call on the country's municipalities to improve the maintenance and performance of water distribution infrastructure by building additional reservoirs and pumping stations to improve the resilience of their systems; and
- (4) urges citizens, businesses and Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to save water by fixing any leaks in their homes and report leaking or broken pipes and infrastructure to the local municipalities.

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

6. [14:10] Mr TM Kaunda moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes with sadness the passing of Mr Ashwin Trikamjee, President of the South African Hindu Maha Sabha and Chairperson of the National Religious Leaders Forum;
- (2) also notes that Mr Trikamjee was an attorney who served as president of the then Natal Law Society, president of the Association of Law Societies of SA, chairperson of the African Regional Forum of the International Bar Association and member of the Human Rights Committee of the IBA;
- (3) further notes that Mr Trikamjee was a Black Consciousness activist, who also led the Durban Central component of the Natal Indian Congress, and was a vice-president of the South African Football Association; and
- (4) sends heartfelt condolences to the family, friends and associates of this outstanding icon of service to our nation who has passed on at the age of 80.

May his soul rest in peace.

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

7. [14:14] Ms OD Medupe moved without notice: That the Council –
- (1) notes with a sense of disgust an attack on community-based patrollers at the Marry Me informal settlement in Soshanguve, north of Pretoria, over the weekend;
 - (2) also notes that the attack resulted in the deaths of four people on the scene and the hospitalisation of eight others;
 - (3) notes with sadness that two people died in hospital, bringing the total number of community patrollers killed in Soshanguve to six;
 - (4) further notes that preliminary investigations reveal that the victims, who were community-based patrollers, were confronted by five individuals on the street around 03:00 am, a quarrel broke out which escalated into violence, leading to the death and injury of the patrollers; and
 - (5) calls upon the residents of Marry Me and the surrounding areas to work closely with the police and provide any information that may lead to the identification and arrest of other perpetrators who were involved in this heinous crime.

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

8. [14:15] Mr BJ Farmer moved without notice: That the Council –
- (1) notes the achievement of Mathew Pietersen, the son of Mr Mathew Pietersen, one of the drivers of the shuttle services for Parliament;
 - (2) further notes that Mathew is the South African number one in Kickboxing in his age group, and he participated in the African Continental Championship in Benoni;
 - (3) also notes that Mathew won his age group and became the number one kickboxer in his age group in Africa and moved up to become the number six in the world;

(4) acknowledges that Mathew will have to compete in China on the global stage; and

(5) wishes him all the best in keeping South Africa's name high in his sport.

Motion agreed to in terms of section 65 of the Constitution.

9. [14:18] Ms HF Boshoff moved without notice: That the Council –

(1) notes the dire state of the testing and licensing stations in the Thaba Chweu Local Municipality, specifically in Sabie, Graskop, and Lydenburg;

(2) further notes that an investigation has revealed that these stations are barely functional, largely due to expired calibration certificates, malfunctioning equipment, and severe staff shortages;

(3) also notes that essential services such as learner's licenses, driver's licenses, professional driving permits, and vehicle roadworthy certificates have ground to a halt, not only hindering service delivery but also impacting road safety;

(4) further notes that the situation is worsened by the pending court cases involving nine officials arrested on corruption-related charges, leaving the stations crippled and the public without services they urgently need;

(5) acknowledges that it is unacceptable that citizens are forced to wait over two years for license renewals, endure poor service, or face fines for expired licenses due to government failure; and

(6) urgently calls on the Mpumalanga Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison to intervene decisively to ensure full functionality of these stations and fast-track the implementation of the new system to restore critical services to the people of Thaba Chweu.

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

10. [14:20] Ms DW Fienies moved without notice: That the Council –
- (1) notes that the World celebrated World Tuberculosis Day on Monday, 24 March, under the theme “ Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver””;
 - (2) further notes that the national celebrations were led by the Deputy President and held at the Ugu Sports and Leisure Centre in KwaZulu-Natal;
 - (3) also notes that South Africa remains amongst the countries hardest hit by TB, which has remained a leading cause of death, claiming about 56 000 lives per annum;
 - (4) further notes that the Department of Health has launched the National End TB campaign, designed to substantially reduce TB incidence and mortality by 2035; and
 - (5) encourages all those who have been identified for testing to cooperate to achieve the goals of the campaign.

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

11. [14:21] Ms LH Arries moved without notice: That the Council –
- (1) notes that hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) cases have been reported in educational institutions in eThekweni, KwaZulu-Natal and Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, in the Eastern Cape since the beginning of February;
 - (2) further notes that HFMD is a viral infection that commonly affects infants and children under the age of 10 years and spreads through direct contact with infected individuals, contaminated objects and respiratory droplets;

- (3) recognizes that outbreaks have been reported in Daycare centres, and primary schools since the beginning of February 2025;
- (4) further recognizes that there have been no guidelines in managing the disease;
- (5) acknowledges that there is no specific vaccine or treatment for HFMD; and
- (6) calls on the Minister of Basic Education and Minister of Health to provide clear guidelines and support in place to curb the spread of this viral infection in our schools.

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

12. [14:23] Mr MF Mokwele moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) notes that Ms Tebogo Prudence Sekgodiso competed and clinched a gold medal in 800 metres, at the World Athletics Indoor Championships, which were held from 21-23 March in Nanjing, China;
- (2) also notes that Sekgodiso, who is from Kgapane in Limpopo, made history by being the first South African female athlete to win the 800m World Indoor Championships; and
- (3) extends its heartfelt congratulations to Tebogo Prudence Sekgodiso for securing South Africa's first women's world indoor gold medal.

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

13. [14:24] Mr BJ Farmer moved without notice: That the Council –

- (1) acknowledges the achievement of Cady Fortuin, an eleven-year-old girl from Citrusdal who against all odds broke through her circumstances to participate in the SA Championships in the 70-meter hurdles;
- (2) notes that she participated even though her single parent mother had to

beg and struggle to obtain the funds to buy her uniform;

(3) acknowledges that she also is a sports star in Tennis, Rugby, and Netball; and

(4) calls on this House should remember her name, as she is a star of the future.

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

14. [14:25] Mr OJ Mokae moved without notice: That the Council –

(1) commends the South African Police Service in the Northern Cape for arresting 11 suspects for various offences including contravention of the Illicit Mining Act during the past weekend, as part of a multi-disciplinary team executing Operation Vala Umgodi to combat illegal mining;

(2) notes the suspects were apprehended while engaging in illicit activities at the Samaria and Nuttabooi mining areas in the Frances Baard and Namakwa Districts respectively while in possession of a variety of mining implements including generators, extension cords, spades, bags containing suspected diamond-bearing grave;

(3) further notes illegal mining is crippling the already ailing South African economy, costing it at least R60 billion in 2024; and

(4) calls on SAPS in the Northern Cape to continue and improve their battle against this scourge given the fiscal disaster we find ourselves in.

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

15. [14:27] Mr MG Modise moved without notice: That the Council –

(1) notes that despite significant strides to expand access to water since 1994, the country's water infrastructure, including pipes, treatment plants, and drainage systems, is aging and in some parts of the country

in disrepair, leading to significant water losses and challenges in providing sufficient water supply, especially to growing urban areas;

(2) further notes that several reports indicate that around 40% of municipal water is lost due to leaks, and illegal connections, resulting in the loss of and exacerbating the water crisis; and

(3) debates the state of water infrastructure in South Africa;

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

16. [14:28] The Council debated the following subject: Ensuring the continued existence of Ithala Bank SOE as an instrument for equal access to finance, development and opportunity.

Debate concluded.

17. The Council adjourned at 16h49.

Xolile GEORGE
Secretary to Parliament