

No 20 – 2025] SECOND SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES

THURSDAY, 5 JUNE 2025

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. [14:04] Notices of motions.
5. [14:12] Ms S L Sithole moved without notice: That the Council-
 - (1) notes with utmost concern and apprehension the surge in kidnapping cases in South Africa, resulting in nearly 5,000 abductions since the start of 2025;
 - (2) further notes that, five years ago, around 1,919 people were kidnapped in South Africa during the same period, whereas this year, cases of kidnapping have risen to an alarming 4,748;
 - (3) also notes that according to the latest crime statistics covering October to December 2024, Gauteng recorded the highest number of kidnappings with 2,499 cases, followed by KwaZulu-Natal with 901, the Western Cape with 275, and the Eastern Cape, where several high-profile abductions have occurred in recent weeks, including the kidnapping of nine-year-old Fatima Emaan in East London, reported 205 cases; and
 - (4) takes this opportunity to acknowledge the tireless efforts of the police in their concerted battle against kidnapping and abduction and calls on them to dedicate more resources to combat those who perpetrate these heinous crimes.

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

6. [14:13] Mr M G Modise moved without notice: That the Council-
- (1) notes that on 23 October 2004, both Sechaba and Naomi Mofokeng gave birth to a baby boy and named him Relebohile, meaning "We are grateful";
 - (2) further notes that Rele Mofokeng also known as "Captain of Ama2000" is today a household name not only in South Africa or Africa due to his exploits in the Champions League, but also in the world as reported by Jean Claude Bemba of City Press newspaper in an article titled "How Relebohile Mofokeng nearly derailed Ukraine emergency summit", dated 28 March 2025;
 - (3) acknowledges the love showed to him by the people of the Free State Province on his debut for Bafana Bafana, or people of Gauteng, Western Cape and Limpopo;
 - (4) notes that Rele will be launching his Relebohile Mofokeng Foundation on 14 June 2025;
 - (5) also notes that the launch will be followed by the Family Fun Day and Gala Dinner; and
 - (6) urges people of Gauteng, Fezile Dabi, Thabo Mofutsanyana and Dr Kenneth Kaunda Regions to come out in their numbers to support and show love to Sechaba, Naomi and Relebohile Mofokeng.

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

7. [14:17] Ms S M Mokoena moved without notice: That the Council-
- (1) notes with alarm the ongoing collapse of basic education in South Africa, marked by crumbling infrastructure, overcrowded classrooms, and dangerous learning conditions;
 - (2) recognizes that the persistent shortage of textbooks and teaching materials, along with rampant corruption and mismanagement in the Departments of Basic Education, constitutes a gross violation of learners' constitutional rights;
 - (3) notes that the Departments have failed to comply with the South African Schools Act, the 2013 Norms and Standards for School Infrastructure, and Section 29 of the Constitution;
 - (4) condemns the continued negligence and lack of accountability that rob Black, rural, and working-class children of their future; and
 - (5) calls for the immediate forensic audit of education spending from 2018 to 2024; consequence management, including the dismissal of senior officials and ministers who have failed in their duties; and the suspension of all luxury

government spending until every school in the country meets the legal minimum standard.

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

8. [14:19] Me H S Boshoff sonder voorafkennisgewing aan hierdie Raad —

- (1) neem hierdie Raad met ernstige kommer kennis van die toestand van die R36 tussen Lydenburg en Bambi, wat intussen in 'n gevaarlike en feitlik onbruikbare toestand verval het;
- (2) erken hierdie Raad dat die woede van boere, vragvervoerders en plaaslike inwoners geheel en al geregverdig is, aangesien hul voertuie ernstige skade opdoen, hul inkomste verlore gaan, en hul persoonlike veiligheid daaglik in die gedrang is;
- (3) stel hierdie Raad dit aan die kaak dat hierdie versuim 'n direkte gevolg is van die onvermoë van die Mpumalanga Departement van Openbare Werke en Vervoer om die betrokke pad betyds en doeltreffend op te gradeer;
- (4) rig hierdie Raad 'n dringende beroep aan hierdie Huis om die LUR vir Openbare Werke en Vervoer in Mpumalanga te versoek om persoonlik aan die Parlement verslag te doen, en om 'n volledige aksieplan met gepaardgaande begroting en duidelike sperdatums voor te lê; en
- (5) beklemtoon hierdie Raad dat die verval van die R36 nie slegs 'n infrastruktuur- of padkrisis is nie, maar eerder 'n krisis van verantwoordbaarheid en politieke wil.

Voorstel goedgekeur ingevolge artikel 65 van die Grondwet.

[That the Council-

- (1) notes with serious concern the condition of the R36 between Lydenburg and Bambi, which has since fallen into a dangerous and virtually unusable condition;*
- (2) acknowledges that the anger of farmers, truckers and local residents is entirely justified, as their vehicles are seriously damaged, their income is lost, and their safety is compromised daily;*
- (3) declares that this failure is a direct result of the inability of the Mpumalanga Department of Public Works and Transport to upgrade the relevant road in a timely and effective manner;*
- (4) urgently appeals to the House to request that the MEC for Public Works and Transport in Mpumalanga personally report to Parliament and submit a comprehensive action plan, including a detailed budget and specific deadlines; and*

- (5) *understands that the deterioration of the R36 is not just an infrastructure or road crisis, but a crisis of accountability and political will.*

Motion agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution

9. [14:21] Ms J S Mananiso moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes with great sense of appreciation and pride the swift apprehension of the alleged suspects in the gruesome murder of Olerato Mongale, a 30-year master's degree student at the University of Johannesburg;
- (2) further salutes Lt. General Mkhwanazi, the Provincial Commissioner of Police in Kwa Zulu Natal for decisive and courageous leadership in commanding his forces in the ground battles with the criminals which led to the killing of one of the key suspects in the shoot-out with the Police; and
- (3) congratulate our men and women in "blue" for their dedication, steadfastness and speed with which they have acted in tracking and apprehending these suspects.

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

10. [14:22] Mr H J Van den Berg moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes that the annual Comrades Marathon will take place on 8 June 2025S for the 98th time;
- (2) further notes that a comprehensive clean-up campaign has been launched as thousands of runners and supporters will be visiting;
- (3) also notes that the race will be run from Pietermaritzburg down to Durban as running downhill is said to take more strain on runners; and
- (4) acknowledges that around 22 000 athletes will participate in the event.

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

11. [14:24] Mr M M Peter moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes with concern that South Africa has now been named one of the most violent places in the world;
- (2) further notes that the ranking has been compiled annually for over a decade and lists the 50 most violent cities in the world by the number of murders per 100,000 people and at least three major South African metros have qualified since 2013;
- (3) also notes that in the 2024/25 ranking, five South African cities made the cut, again led by Gqeberha, with Buffalo City joining for the first time.
- (4) notes that the alarming statistics shows that the Eastern Cape (Gqeberha and Buffalo City) has the highest murder rate;

- (5) further notes that South Africa will remain a murder zone, for as long as Government does not address the root cause, which is the easy access to illegal guns;
- (6) also notes that access to illegal guns fuels many violent crimes in this country, from drug syndicates, extortion, kidnappings, cash-in-transit heists and armed robberies;
- (7) calls the Department of Police to act swiftly in critical emergencies, where lives are in danger, capacitate Police Officers with many vehicles and enough firearms. And in crime hotspot cities like Gqeberha and Buffalo city, the department must deploy well trained special units for daily patrol, and it must strengthen the investigation and prosecution of murders;
- (8) further calls on the government to put the reduction of murder and violence at the top of its national agenda; and
- (9) urges government to be unequivocally clear in the policies to silence guns, allocate more budget and create a joint task force of South African Police Services and South African Defence Force to make South Africa a safe country.

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

12. [14:25] Mr O J Mokae moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes that progress is being made to ensure the independence of the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services;
- (2) further notes that it was revealed during a recent meeting of the Select Committee on Security and Justice that JICS has been established, in terms of section 7(5)(c) of the Public Service Act, 1994 as a government component with a total allocation of just over R120 million for this financial year, in the main for both personnel and non-personnel obligations;
- (3) also notes that this is in line with the Democratic Alliance's long-standing call that the organisation is fully independent of the Department of Correctional Services, the very department it is supposed to oversee in order to safeguard the human rights of inmates;
- (4) welcomes the undertaking made by the Correctional Services Minister in this august House in May 2025, that consultations between National Treasury and DPSA on the draft JICS bill are finalised and the bill would be tabled in Parliament later this year;
- (5) recognises that the bill which would amend the Correctional Services Act of 1998;
- (6) calls for more binding powers to be availed to the JICS, so that their oversight work can lead to meaningful change; and

- (7) acknowledges that the bill would ultimately repeal most of Chapters 9 and 10 of the act and ensure that its recommendations are binding, it is adequately resourced and capacitated and truly independent.

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

13. [14:27] Ms S Ndhlovu moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes that on 2 June 2025, being the youth month, the Deputy Minister in the Presidency released the Progress Report of the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI) for the 4th Quarter of the 2024/2025 financial year;
- (2) further notes that this year marks the fifth year since the launch of the PYEI in 2020;
- (3) also notes that the report shows that the programme continues to make meaningful strides in unlocking sustainable earning opportunities for young people across South Africa;
- (4) acknowledges that to this end, in Quarter 4 alone, 76,569 earning opportunities were accessed by young people; and
- (5) takes this opportunity to call on the government, the private sector, development partners, and young people themselves to enhance coordination and collaboration so that these opportunities may have a far greater impact on youth unemployment in South Africa.

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

14. [14:29] Mr J H P Britz moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) congratulates the High-Performance Girls Cricket Centre in Gqeberha in the Eastern Cape on the successful and inspiring launch of this transformative initiative;
- (2) acknowledges that the establishment of the Centre marks a milestone for girl's cricket in South Africa;
- (3) further acknowledges that the Centre sets a new standard for fairness, excellence and transparency in sports development based on a merit-based platform where every girl has the chance to succeed based on ability and effort;
- (4) also acknowledges that this is not only a celebration of sporting ambition, but also a powerful statement that talent, hard work, and determination will be recognized and nurtured regardless of gender; and
- (5) acknowledges that this initiative signals the end of an era where young girls were too often given second-best and signals the beginning of a new era where they are given every opportunity to thrive.

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

15. [14:30] Mr S A Zulu moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) urges the Minister of Home Affairs to reconsider the compulsory Smart ID requirement, considering South Africa's high unemployment rates and potential impact on vulnerable populations;
- (2) calls on the Minister to exempt the vulnerable populations; explore exemptions or alternative identification solutions for vulnerable groups and improve accessibility to Smart ID application centres, particularly in rural areas;
- (3) urges the Minister to ensure public awareness campaigns to educate citizens about Smart IDs; and
- (4) further urges the Minister to review the cost structure to ensure affordability for all citizens.

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

16. [14:32] Mr F J Badenhorst moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) congratulates Ward 10 Councillor of the Overstrand Municipality, Cllr Theresa Els, for her persistent and principled leadership in championing the call for improved road safety along the R44 through Betty's Bay;
- (2) notes that following sustained engagements by Cllr Els with Ward Committee Members, residents, civil society, and the Western Cape Government, the speed limit on a dangerous stretch of road—particularly through the commercial centre known as “The Hub” and the entrance to Harold Porter Botanical Gardens—has now officially been reduced to 60km/h as announced by the Ministers on 02 June;
- (3) thanks, Western Cape Ministers Tertuis Simmers (Infrastructure) and Isaac Sileku (Mobility) for their swift and diligent intervention, based on a thorough departmental investigation and cross-government collaboration;
- (4) acknowledges that this decision prioritises public safety while also enhancing accessibility for residents, pedestrians, and tourists in this fast-growing coastal town; and
- (5) affirms this outcome as an example of good governance and cooperative government at work, where local and provincial leaders respond effectively to community concerns.

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

17. [14:33] Mr M F Mokwele moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes with a deep sense of sadness the passing of Dr Tshenuwani Simon Farisani at the age of 76;
- (2) further notes that Dr Farisani was, among others, a theologian, a former Member of Parliament and former Speaker of the Limpopo Provincial Legislature;
- (3) acknowledges that Rev Farisani was a Lutheran minister who fought apartheid from the pulpit and was arrested for his activism in the Black Consciousness movement and the Black People's Convention, where he was a close associate of Steve Bantu Biko; and
- (4) takes this opportunity to convey its heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and comrades here and abroad.

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

18. [14:35] Adv. Inkosi M Nonkonyana moved without notice: That the Council-

- (1) notes with a deep sense of loss and grief the passing away of Major General Andre Lincoln, the first bodyguard of former President Nelson Mandela;
- (2) further notes that Major General Andre Lincoln has served this country and his people with a great sense of dedication, distinction, and courage in various capacities: first as a former Member of Umkonto We Sizwe, the "people's army", and in various capacities as a member of the South African Police Service; and
- (3) takes this opportunity to express its sense of loss and grief on the passing of this giant and sends its heartfelt condolences to the family of Major General Lincoln.

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

19. FIRST ORDER [14:37]

Consideration of Report of Joint Committee on Ethics and Members' Interests: **on the alleged contravention of the Code of Ethical Conduct and Disclosure of Members' Interests: Honourable Ian Cameron, MP- Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Police** (Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, 13 March 2025, p 2).

Debate concluded.

Question put: That the Report be agreed to.

IN FAVOUR: Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape.

Report accordingly agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

20. SECOND ORDER [14:37]

Consideration of Report of Joint Committee on Ethics and Members' Interests: **Non-disclosure of members' interests for 2024: Contravention of the Code of Ethical Conduct and Disclosure of Members' Interests** (Announcements, Tablings and Committee Reports, 13 March 2025, p 8).

Debate concluded.

Question put: That the Report be agreed to.

IN FAVOUR: Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape.

Report accordingly agreed to in accordance with section 65 of the Constitution.

21. [14:56] The Council debated the following subject: Power to the people: **Confronting corruption and delivering sustainable solutions to end South Africa' energy crisis.**
22. The Council adjourned at 17:21.

Xolile George
Secretary to Parliament