

*Friday, 19 June 2026]*

No 107—2026] THIRD SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

**PARLIAMENT**

**OF THE**

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS,**

**TABLINGS AND**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 2026

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### National Assembly

#### The Speaker

##### 1. Referral to Committees of papers tabled

- (1) The following papers are referred to the **Portfolio Committee on Defence and Military Veterans** for consideration and report. Report of the Auditor-General on the Financial Statements and Performance Information is referred to the **Standing Committee on Public Accounts** for consideration:
    - (a) Revised Report and Financial Statements of Denel SOC Ltd for 2024-25, including the Report of the Auditor-General on the Financial Statements and Performance Information for 2024-25.
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## TABLINGS

### National Assembly and National Council of Provinces

#### 1. The Speaker and the Chairperson

- (a) Monthly Financial Statements of Parliament – May 2026, tabled in terms of section 54(1) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act No. 10 of 2009).

### National Assembly

#### 1. The Speaker

- (a) Fifth Report of National Assembly Rules Committee for the 7<sup>th</sup> Parliament (Rules Concerning Section 89 Enquiries).



**PARLIAMENT**  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RULES COMMITTEE  
FIFTH REPORT OF SEVENTH PARLIAMENT  
RULES CONCERNING SECTION 89 ENQUIRIES**

**19 June 2026**

**A. INTRODUCTION**

- (1) The National Assembly Rules Committee (the Rules Committee) was established by Assembly Rule 190 with a mandate to, *inter alia*, “*recommend to the Assembly for adoption rules and orders and other policy proposals concerning the business of the Assembly.*<sup>1</sup>”
- (2) On 8 May 2026, the Constitutional Court handed down judgment in an application brought by the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) and the African Transformation Movement (ATM) (Case CCT 35/24) regarding the report by the Independent Panel (the Panel), established by the Speaker to assess the evidence in a motion submitted in terms of Section 89 of the Constitution (1996)<sup>2</sup> read with the Assembly Rules<sup>3</sup>, concerning an incident at the private premises of the President of South Africa.
- (3) The Court determined that National Assembly Rule 129I was inconsistent with the Constitution and invalid. The Court also invalidated the vote in the National Assembly on the report of the Panel and referred the report to the Impeachment Committee. In respect of a remedy, the Court found that a limited severance, coupled with a read-in, was necessary to correct the rule – this to remain in effect until the National Assembly corrected the defect in the rules.

<sup>1</sup> National Assembly Rules 190-197.

<sup>2</sup> **Removal of President**

89. (1) *The National Assembly, by a resolution adopted with a supporting vote of at least two thirds of its members, may remove the President from office only on the grounds of—*

*(a) a serious violation of the Constitution or the law;*

*(b) serious misconduct; or*

*(c) inability to perform the functions of office.*

(2) *Anyone who has been removed from the office of President in terms of subsection (1)(a) or (b) may not receive any benefits of that office and may not serve in any public office.*

<sup>3</sup> Assembly Rules 129A-129Q were published in the ATC on 11 September 2018 and adopted by the Assembly on 22 November 2018.

- (4) On 11 May, the Speaker referred the judgment to the Subcommittee on the Review of Assembly Rules (the Subcommittee) to consider the implications for the rules and how any procedural shortcomings should be resolved<sup>4</sup>.

## **B. PROCEEDINGS IN RULES COMMITTEE**

- (1) The Subcommittee deliberated on legal advice and proposals, as well as submissions from political parties on possible procedural reforms. The proposals were presented by Parliament's Constitutional and Legal Services with the assistance of Senior Counsel. Two proposals were presented –
- (a) Amendments to the **general rules contained in Assembly Rule 129A-129Q**; and
  - (b) **Detailed rules** concerning proceedings in the Impeachment Committee.
- (2) The Subcommittee recommended that these proposals be accepted subject to certain amendments and further advice. Further legal advice was solicited on the inclusion of the term “*fit and proper*” as a condition for a member to be appointed to the Impeachment Committee.
- (3) On 10 June 2026, the Rules Committee agreed that the **detailed rules** be conveyed to the recently constituted Impeachment Committee for consideration in the context of the law and the rules. In relation to the **general rules**, however, the Rules Committee referred three questions back to the Subcommittee for further clarification. These included –
- (a) The definition and possible criteria for “*fit and proper*” as such would apply in the parliamentary context;
  - (b) Whether the proposed amendments to the Section 89 Rules would apply retrospectively; and
  - (c) The interpretation of the phrase ‘*an action or conduct performed by the President in person*’, as it appeared in Rule 129A(1)(c).

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<sup>4</sup> The Subcommittee on Review of Assembly Rules was established in terms of National Assembly Rule 197 to provide advice to the National Assembly Rules Committee on the rules and orders of the House.

- (4) The Rule Committee reconvened on 19 June 2026 when it considered a report from the Subcommittee on these matters. Based on advice received from the Subcommittee, the Rules Committee concluded that any amendments to the section 89 Rules would not apply retrospectively. The Committee also accepted that the term “*action or conduct performed by the President in person*” meant the “*President himself must have performed the action or conduct but would also include instructions by the President to another person if that instruction itself constitutes a serious violation of the Constitution or the law, or serious misconduct*<sup>5</sup>”.
- (5) In relation to the term “*fit and proper*”, the Rules Committee endorsed the principle that members should have the necessary capacity and character to perform specific parliamentary duties. At the same time, questions remained over the statutory and procedural basis for the inclusion of the term in the rules; the criteria to be applied by those appointing members; whether such conditions should apply beyond the Impeachment Committee; and how disputes over a member’s participation in a particular forum should be addressed. Given the important principle and the questions raised, the Rules Committee agreed on the need to further explore the details involved in an expedient manner, and in the appropriate parliamentary structure.

### **C. RECOMMENDATION**

- (1) Based on deliberations and determinations noted above, the National Assembly Rules recommends that the National Assembly adopt the amendments to Rule 129A-129Q, as contained in **Section D** of this report.

### **D. PROPOSED REFORMULATION OF ASSEMBLY RULES 129A-129Q**

#### ***Part 3: Procedures to give effect to Section 89 of the Constitution***

##### ***Presidential impeachment motion***

##### ***129A. Initiation of Section 89 enquiry***

- (1) *Any member of the Assembly may, by way of a substantive notice of motion in terms of Rule 124(6), call for the removal of the President from office in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution, provided that –*

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<sup>5</sup> See Legal Opinion, paragraph 2, as distributed to the Rules Committee.

- (a) *the motion must be limited to a clearly formulated and substantiated charge on the grounds specified in Section 89, which must prima facie show that the President:*
    - (i) *committed a serious violation of the Constitution or law;*
    - (ii) *committed a serious misconduct; or*
    - (iii) *suffers from an inability to perform the functions of office;*
  - (b) *all evidence relied upon in support of the motion must be attached to the motion;*
  - (c) *the charge must relate to an action or conduct performed by the President in person; and*
  - (d) *the motion is consistent with the Constitution, the law and these rules.*
- (2) *For purposes of proceedings to remove the President in terms of Section 89(1)(c), the term “charge” must be understood as the grounds for averring the President’s removal from office.*

#### **129B Compliance with criteria**

*Once a member has given notice of a motion calling for the removal of the President from office in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution the Speaker may consult with the member to ensure the motion is compliant with the criteria set out in Rule 129A.*

#### **129C Referral of motion**

- (1) *When the motion is in order, the Speaker must immediately refer the motion, and any supporting documentation provided by the member, to an independent panel established in terms of Rule 129D.*
- (2) *The Speaker must inform the Assembly and the President of such referral without delay.*

#### **Independent panel to conduct preliminary enquiry**

##### **129D Establishment**

*The Assembly must, if and when required, establish an independent panel to conduct a preliminary enquiry in relation to a motion calling for the removal of the President from office in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution.*

##### **129E Composition and appointment**

- (1) *The panel consists of three fit and proper, competent, experienced and respected South Africans, which may include a judge, and who collectively possess the necessary legal competence and experience.*

- (2) *The Speaker must appoint the panel, after giving political parties represented in the National Assembly reasonable opportunity to put forward nominees for consideration for the panel, and after the Speaker has given due consideration to all persons so nominated.*
- (3) *If a judge is to be appointed to the panel, the Speaker must do so in consultation with the Chief Justice.*

#### **129F Chairperson**

*The Speaker must appoint one of the panellists as chairperson of the panel.*

#### **129G Functions and powers**

- (1) *The panel –*
  - (a) *must be independent and subject only to the Constitution, the law and these rules, which it must apply impartially and without fear, favour or prejudice;*
  - (b) *must conduct a preliminary enquiry in relation to a motion calling for the removal of the President from office in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution, and must make a recommendation to the Speaker, within 90 days, whether sufficient evidence exists to show that the President:*
    - (i) *committed a serious violation of the Constitution or law;*
    - (ii) *committed a serious misconduct; or*
    - (iii) *suffers from an inability to perform the functions of office; and*
  - (c) *in considering the matter –*
    - (i) *may, in its sole discretion, afford any member an opportunity to place relevant written or recorded information before it within a specific timeframe;*
    - (ii) *must provide the President immediately with copies of all information available to the panel relating to the inquiry;*
    - (iii) *must provide the President with a reasonable opportunity to respond, in writing, to all relevant allegations against him or her;*
    - (iv) *must not hold an oral hearing and must limit its enquiry to the relevant written and recorded information placed before it by members in terms of this rule; and*
    - (v) *must in its report include any findings, including the reasons for such findings, upon which its recommendation is based and any minority view of any panellist must be contained in its report.*

- (2) *The panel may determine its own working arrangements strictly within the parameters of the procedures provided for in this rule.*

### **129H Quorum**

*The panel may proceed with its business when three panellists are present and remain present.*

### **129I Consideration and referral of panel report**

- (1) *Once the panel has reported the Speaker must inform the Assembly of the report.*
- (2) *The President must be provided with a copy of the report forthwith.*
- (3) *In the event the panel concludes that sufficient evidence exists as contemplated in Rule 129G, the matter must be referred to the Impeachment Committee established by Rule 129J for a Section 89 enquiry.*
- (4) *In the event the panel concludes that sufficient evidence does not exist as contemplated in Rule 129G, the Speaker must schedule the report for consideration by the Assembly; and in the event the Assembly nonetheless resolves that a Section 89(1) enquiry be proceeded with, the matter must be referred to the Impeachment Committee established by Rule 129J for a Section 89 enquiry.*

### **Impeachment Committee to conduct Section 89 enquiries**

#### **129J Establishment**

*There is an Impeachment Committee to conduct Section 89 enquiries.*

#### **129K Composition and appointment**

- (1) *The Impeachment Committee consists of the number of Assembly members that the Speaker may determine, subject to the provisions of Rule 154, provided that all parties in the Assembly must be represented.*
- (2) *Notwithstanding Rule 155(2), the members of the Impeachment Committee must be appointed as and when necessary.*

#### **129L Chairperson**

*The Impeachment Committee must elect one of its members as Chairperson.*

#### **129M Functions and powers**

- (1) *The Impeachment Committee must proceed to establish the veracity and, where required, seriousness of the charges and report to the Assembly thereon.*
- (2) *The Impeachment Committee must ensure that the enquiry is conducted in a reasonable and procedurally fair manner, within a reasonable timeframe.*

- (3) *The Impeachment Committee must afford the President the right to be heard in his or her own defence and to be assisted by a legal practitioner or other expert of his or her choice.*
- (4) *For the purpose of performing its functions, the Impeachment Committee has all the powers applicable to Parliamentary committees as provided for in the Constitution, applicable law and Rules of the Assembly.*

### **129N Decisions**

*A question before the Impeachment Committee is decided when a quorum in terms of Rule 162(2) is present and there is agreement among the majority of the members present, provided that, when the Committee reports, all views, including minority views, expressed in the Committee must be included in its report.*

### **129O Consideration of report**

- (1) *Once the Impeachment Committee has concluded the enquiry, it must report to the Assembly forthwith.*
- (2) *The report of the Impeachment Committee must contain findings regarding the charge(s) in the motion calling for the removal of the President from office in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution, and a recommendation as to whether or not the President should be removed from office, including the reasons for such.*
- (3) *The report must be scheduled for consideration and debate by the Assembly, with due urgency, given the programme of the Assembly.*
- (4) *If the report recommends that the President be removed from office, the question must be put to the Assembly directly for a vote in terms of the rules and if the question is supported by at least two thirds of the members of the Assembly, the President is thereby removed from office with immediate effect.*

### **General**

#### **129P Status of decisions taken in terms of this Part 3**

- (1) *The Assembly may reconsider and, if it so decides, alter a decision taken by the Speaker in terms of Rule 129K(1): provided that any such alteration must be made within five (5) days of the taking of the decision.*
- (2) *The Assembly is bound by a conclusion in the report of a panel that sufficient evidence exists as contemplated in Rule 129G.*
- (3) *The Assembly is bound by a finding in a report of the Impeachment Committee regarding the charge(s) in the motion calling for the removal of the President from office in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution.*
- (4) *The Assembly is not bound by a recommendation in a report of the Impeachment Committee as to whether or not the President should be removed from office: provided that the Assembly may vote that the President be removed from office*

*in terms of section 89(1) of the Constitution only if the relevant report of the Impeachment Committee finds that one or more of the charges in motion calling for his or her removal is established.*

**129Q Benefits of the President**

*If the President is removed from office, the benefits of the President must strictly be dealt with in terms of the relevant provisions of the Constitution.’*

REPORT TO BE CONSIDERED.

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AT Didiza, MP  
**Chairperson: National Assembly Rules Committee**

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# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## National Assembly

### **1. Report of the Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities to identify suitable candidates for the filling of vacancies in the Commission for Gender Equality dated 19 June 2026**

The Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) acting under a Constitutional Court injunction and in fulfilling its Constitutional mandate identified and recommended suitable candidates for the filling of vacancies of commissioners in the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE), as per the Commission for Gender Equality Act No. 39 of 1996, reports as follows:

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1 On 31 July 2025, the Constitutional Court judgment in *Corruption Watch (RF) NPC v Speaker of the National Assembly and Others* [2025] ZACC 15 held that:

- (a) Parliament failed to comply with its constitutional obligation to facilitate reasonable public involvement in recommending persons to be appointed as members of the CGE;
- (b) the appointment of the 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> respondents as Commissioners to the CGE with effect from 1 March 2023 is invalid; and the declaration of invalidity in paragraph (b) above is suspended for a period of 12 months from the date of the order to enable the Speaker to conduct an appointment process and the President to make appointments in a manner that is consistent with the Constitution.

1.2 Section 187 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act No.108 of 1996 entrenches the establishment of the CGE.

- (c) The Commission for Gender Equality is a Chapter 9 Institution established with a view to strengthen constitutional democracy with a focus on the attainment of gender equality in all spheres of life. Section 187(1) of the Constitution provides that the “Commission for Gender Equality must promote respect for

gender equality and the protection, development and attainment of gender equality.”<sup>1</sup>

1.3 Furthermore, Section 187 (2) grants the Commission “the power, as regulated by national legislation, necessary to perform its functions, including the power to monitor, investigate, research, educate, lobby, advise and report on issues concerning gender equality.”

1.4 In addition to the constitutional mandate assigned to the Commission, it is assigned further powers, duties and functions through its founding legislation. This is encapsulated in section 11 of the Commission for Gender Equality Act, No. 39 of 1996,

1.5 Section 3 (1) of the Act provides that “the Commission shall consist of a chairperson and no fewer than seven and no more than 11 members who shall -

- (a) have record of commitment to the promotion of gender equality; and
- (b) be persons with applicable knowledge or experience with regard to matter connected with the objects of the Commission.”

1.6 Section 3(2) further provides that “the President shall, when it becomes necessary, appoint as a member of the Commission a person —

- (a) nominated by a committee in the National Assembly proportionally composed of members of all parties represented in the Assembly;
- (b) approved by the National Assembly by a resolution adopted with a supporting vote of a majority of the members of the National Assembly; and
- (c) on the recommendation of the Assembly”

1.7 According to the Act, Commissioners can serve up to two terms and are appointed by the President, on the recommendation of Parliament. To this end, S3 (7) provides that “any person whose term of office as a member of the Commission has expired, may be reappointed for one additional term.”

1.8 In compliance with provisions of section 193 of the Constitution, and the Constitutional Court judgement mentioned above, the Portfolio Committee resolved to identify suitable candidates for the filling of vacancies in the CGE on 21 October 2025.

1.9 The Committee executed its duties in terms of the Rules of the National Assembly.

<sup>1</sup> Commission for Gender Equality Act (No. 39 of 1996) As Amended by Public Service Laws Amendment Act, No. 47 of 1997 [with effect from 1 July 1999] and the Commission on Gender Equality Amendment Act, No. 17 of 2013.

## **2. Committee Process and Procedure**

2.1 The Committee was composed of eleven members as follows:

### **INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY**

- Ms LL van der Merwe (Chairperson)

### **AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**

- Ms TM Chauke-Adonis
- Ms F Shabangu
- Ms MB Pholwane
- Mr T Tshotetsi

### **DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE**

- Ms A Khanyile
- Ms F. Mbiko

### **PATRIOTIC ALLIANCE (PA)**

- Ms J Petersen

### **ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

- Ms P Mailola

### **UMKHONTO WESIZWE PARTY (MKP)**

- Ms G Mchunu
- Ms H Radebe

## **3. Committee meetings**

The Committee held meetings as follows:

3.1 The Committee Chairperson Ms van der Merwe informed the Committee in a meeting on 04 September 2025 that the Committee was requested by the Office of the Speaker

of the National Assembly to initiate the process of filling vacancies in the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) following the Constitutional Court judgement [*Corruption Watch NPC v Speaker and Others* (CCT 333/23)] of 1 August 2025. To this end, the Committee was requested to fill 5 vacancies with a Constitutional Court deadline of 31 July 2026.

- 3.2 The Committee met on 21 October 2025 and was briefed by Constitutional and Legal Services Office (CLSO) regarding the judgment in *Corruption Watch v Speaker* and Dr Tembe from Office on Institutions Supporting Democracy (OISD).
- 3.3 The Committee formulated and adopted a committee programme, the advertisement and the Google-form i.e. the online application form on 21 October 2025.
- 3.4 The Committee met and considered a shortlisting criteria for these 5 vacancies at CGE. This shortlisting criteria was adopted by the Committee on 10 April 2026.
- 3.5 The Committee met for shortlisting of candidates on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026. The Committee received information about the number of applicants and/or nominations 111 in total. The Committee unanimously agreed on the fourteen candidates shortlisted to be interviewed. The Committee was satisfied with the shortlisting process and considered it fair and just. The Committee also agreed to request the State Security Agency (SSA) to conduct the security screening of the fourteen shortlisted candidates and Parliament's Human Resources to undertake a process for verifying candidate's qualifications.
- 3.6 A short list of candidates and redacted CVs was published on Parliament's website between 13 April and 26 May 2026 midnight, which equates to 30 working days. This was in keeping with Parliamentary processes and procedures in addition to legal advice received from the Office for the Institute Supporting Democracy (OISD) regarding compliance with the Protection of Personal Information (POPI) Act (No. 4 of 2013). Furthermore, the Committee notes the Court judgment had emphasized the need for extended and sufficient public participation period.
- 3.7 The Committee met on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026 to conduct interviews for the shortlisted candidates.
- 3.8 On the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026, the Committee deliberated on the outcome of the interviews and made a decision about the 9 preferred names to recommend to the President for appointment in order of their rankings. The extended list is made as a contingent plan should any of the shortlisted candidates decline the offer or an unfortunate incident occur. Since the upcoming vacancies involved the Chairperson

and Deputy Chairperson, the Committee notes the importance of these positions being filled to ensure stability and leadership for the CGE. The CGE Act provides that the Commissioners may elect the Deputy Chair amongst themselves. The Committee also adopted the committee report on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026 in order to report to the National Assembly.

#### **4. Legal framework and process**

4.1 The Committee's process was guided by the Constitution, Act 108 of 1996; Commission for Gender Equality Act 39 of 1996, as amended and the Rules of the National Assembly.

4.2 The legal advisor from OISD, outlined the legal framework and process to the Committee on 10 April 2026. The Committee adopted the shortlisted criteria presented.

#### **5. Advertisement**

5.1 In fulfilment of its mandate, the Committee issued an advertisement requesting nominations and/or applications for the positions of commissioners for CGE from members of the public.

5.2 The advertisement appeared in all official languages in various newspapers throughout the country as well as on Parliament's website.

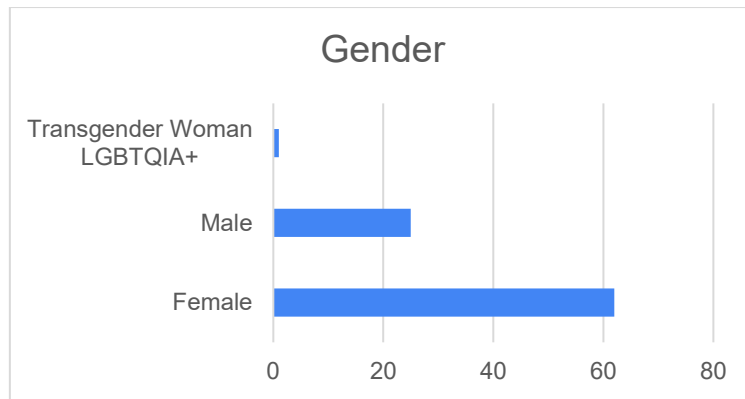
5.3 The advertisements placed on 07 December 2025 stipulated a closing date of 1 February 2026 midnight. A set of qualifying criterion based on the legislative framework as stipulated in section 193 of Constitution and section 3 of the CGE Act 39 of 1996, as amended was set out as follows:

- The candidates must be South African citizens.
- Candidate to be fit and proper persons for appointment to the Commission.
- Candidates to broadly representative of South African community.
- Candidates to have a record of commitment to the promotion of gender equality.
- Candidates to have applicable knowledge of and experience in matters connected with the objects of the Commission.

- 5.4 The legal adviser from the OISD presented a document clearly outlining the criteria for the selection of suitable candidates. The document was unanimously adopted by the Committee and used as a guide in the selection process.
- 5.5 The advertisement also clearly stated that the appointment by the President of commissioners on recommendation of Parliament would be for a term of office not exceeding five years either on a full-time or part-time basis.
- 5.6 The advertisement also made provisions to consider those candidates who had served a term as commissioner at CGE in terms of section 3(7) of CGE Act 39 of 1996 as amended.
- 5.7 The advertisement also informed applications and/or nominations about publishing of names on the Parliamentary website to allow members of the public to comment on the suitability of candidates.
- 5.8 The Committee received 111 applications in response to the advertisement – online applications, email applications and an application delivered in hard copy in a box on the Parliamentary precinct.

## **6. Overview of Applications**

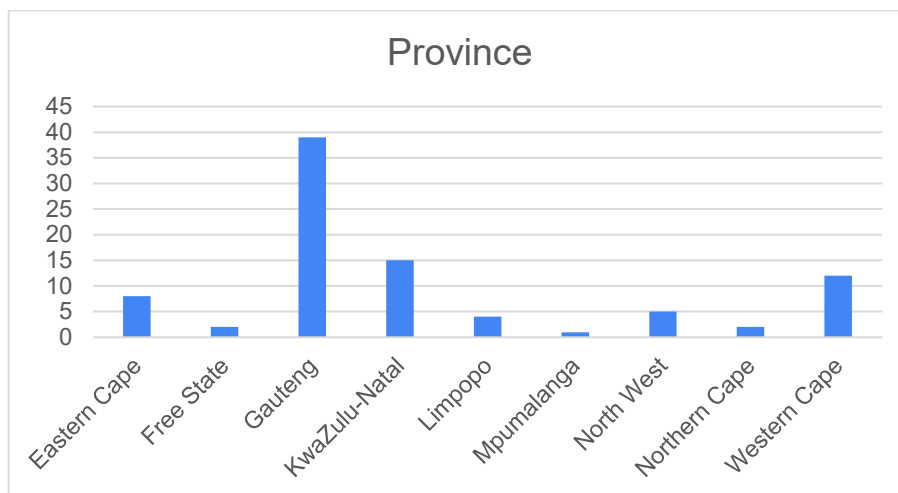
- 6.1 Of the 111 applications, the Committee noted duplications as certain applicants with the same identity number applied on more than one occasion online and or via email. In addition, the Committee also noted applications that were incomplete and a very late application. Thus, when removing the duplications, incomplete and a late application it brings to a total of 88 applications.
- 6.2 The demographic profile of the 88 applicants was as follows:
- 6.2.1 Gender: The Committee noted as reflected in the graph below, of the 88 applicants, 88 applicants, 25 were males (28%), 62 females (71%), and 1 (1%) applicant identified as Transgender woman.



6.2.2 Province: As reflected in the table and graph below, of the 88 applicants the majority (44%) reside in the Gauteng Province. Hence, the largest cohort of males and females were from Gauteng Province.

**Table: Applicants by Province and Gender**

Province	Female	Male	Non-binary	Total
Eastern Cape	3	5		8
Free State	2			2
Gauteng	28	10	1	39
KwaZulu-Natal	11	4		15
Limpopo	3	1		4
Mpumalanga	1			1
North West	3	2		5
Northern Cape		2		2
Western Cape	11	1		12
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>88</b>

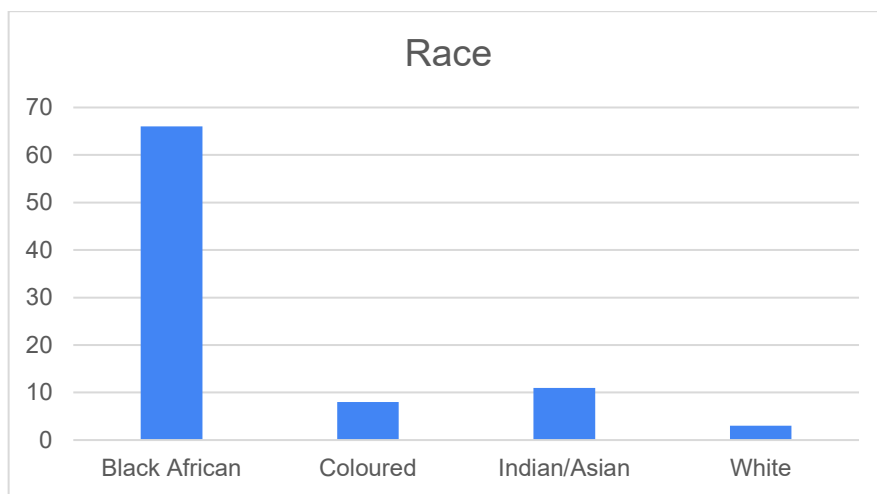


6.2.3 Race: Of the 88 applicants, the majority were Black African females (51%) and males (23%). Coloured applicants constituted 9% of applicants, while Indian/Asian and

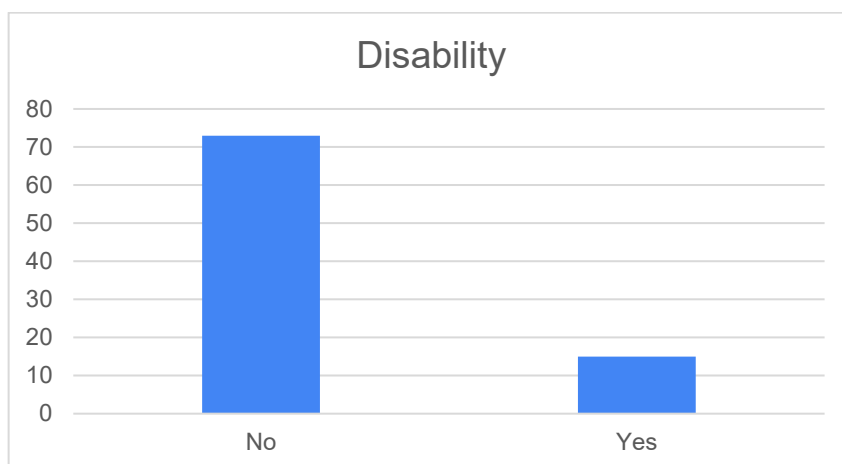
White applicants accounted for 13% and 3% and one Black African Transgender Woman.

**Table: Applicants by Race and Gender**

Race	Female	Male	Non-binary	Total
Black African	45	20	1	66
Coloured	6	2		8
Indian/Asian	8	3		11
White	3			3
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>88</b>

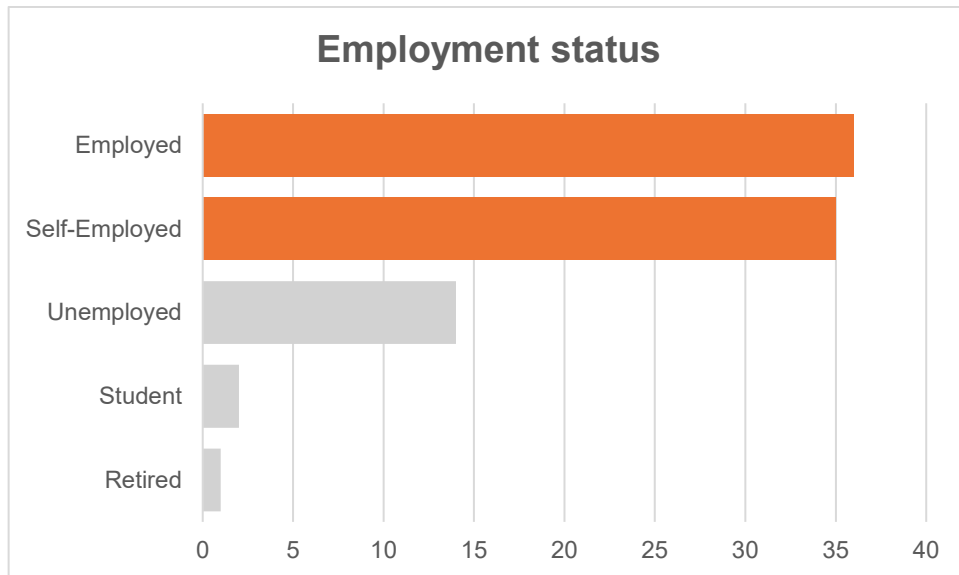


6.1.4 Disability: Of the 88 applicants, 15 applicants (17%) noted having a disability - 7 males, 7 females and 1 Transgender Woman. Moreover, the majority were from Gauteng (5), 4 from the EC, 3 from KZN, 1 WC, NC and 1 from the NW.

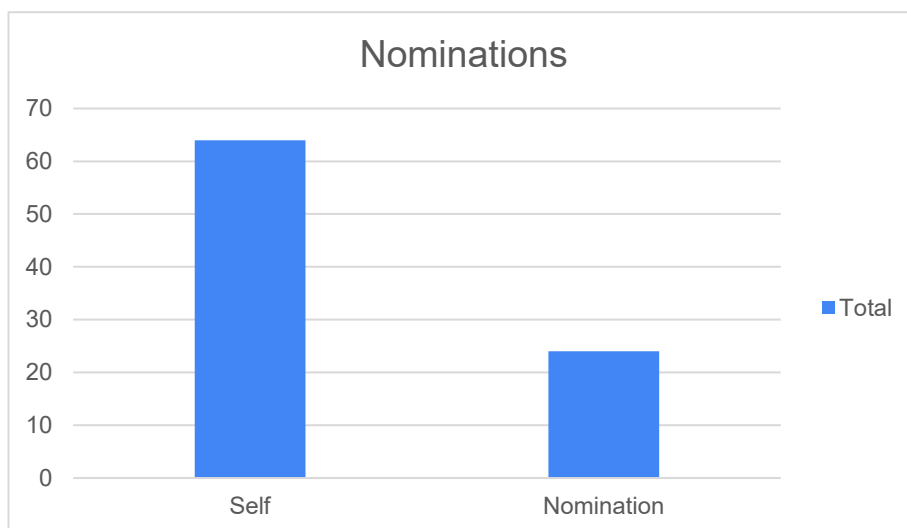


In terms of the type of disability that was disclosed this included, physical, deaf and or hearing impaired, blind or visual impairment, mental health (depression) and Albinism.

**6.2.5 Employment status:** Of the 88 applicants, 36 were employed, 35 were self-employed, 1 retired and 2 are students. A total of 14 applicants indicated that they were unemployed.



**6.2.6 Nominations:** As reflected in the graph below, of the 88 applicants, 24 or 27% were nominated and 64 or 73% were self-nominees - in other words applicants who still applied but without a nomination.



## 7 Public Participation

- 7.1 In line with Constitutional imperatives as outlined in section 59 (1) of the Constitution Act 108 of 1996, the Committee agreed to an open and transparent process that caters for public involvement and participation.
- 7.2 The Committee also being aware of public interests on gender equality issues provided a platform for civil society to comment on all candidates.
- 7.3 To facilitate public participation, the Committee published the names of all candidates on Parliament's website on 13 April 2026 to allow the public to comment and candidates redacted CVs. The closing date for public comments was 26 May 2026.
- 7.4 The Committee received an overwhelming response to the call for public comments. A total of 249 comments were received. These comments were received for all the shortlisted candidates in addition to comments that were either not related to any candidate or to an applicant that was not shortlisted. The number of comments per candidate varied from 1 comment for a candidate being the least to 124 comments the most a candidate received.

## **8 Shortlisted Candidates**

On 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026, the Committee shortlisted 14 candidates to be interviewed. The shortlisted candidates were:

- Adv. Nthabiseng Sepanya Mogale
- Ms Alexandrina Sikelelwa Msitshana
- Ms Nonyameko Magida
- Prof Corne Davis-Buitendag
- Ms Berenice Lue Marais
- Mr Ofentse Macheke
- Mr Xolisa Yekani
- Ms Chriscentia Caroline Blouws
- Adv Thando Gumede
- Ms Mamohapi Diseko
- Ms Patricia Mohlolo Makofane
- Ms Thandeka Ntshangase

- Ms Sixolile Delight Ngcobo
- Ms Leonashia Leigh-Ann van der Merwe

## 9 Interviews

- 9.1 The Committee agreed on structured questions for the interviews and that interview questions should be relevant to the objects of the CGE. Furthermore, the Committee ensured uniformity of questions during all interviews except for a current serving Commissioner. The Committee acknowledged the importance of institutional memory and continuity within the Commission and therefore questions were posed in relation to that.
- 9.2 The Committee agreed that interview questions should be about ascertaining the candidate's knowledge about gender equality practises, legislative framework and principles; and to determine the candidate's commitment to promotion of gender equality.
- 9.3 The Committee agreed on posing questions aimed at identifying the behavioural attributes and skills of candidates. The Committee agreed on leadership, interpersonal, conflict management, team building, motivation and innovation as preferred behavioural attributes and skills.
- 9.4 The candidates were each allocated a minimum of five minutes per question.
- 9.5 The Committee afforded those candidates with negative public commentary to respond to issues raised and to clarify any matter the candidate deemed important to bring to the attention of the panel.
- 9.6 On the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026, the Committee interviewed the following 5 candidates:
- Leonashia Leigh-Ann van der Merwe
  - Adv. Nthabiseng Sepanya Mogale
  - Adv. Thando Gumede
  - Mr Alfred Ofentse Macheke
  - Ms Bernice-Lue Marais
- 9.7 On the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026, the Committee interviewed the following 5 candidates:
- Ms Chriscentia Caroline Blouws
  - Ms Sixolile Delight Ngcobo
  - Prof. Corne Davis- Buitendag

- Ms Nonyameko Magida
- Mr Xolisa Yekani

9.8 On the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2026, the Committee interviewed the following 4 candidates:

- Ms Thandeka Ntshangase
- Ms Mamohapi Claurina Diseko
- Ms Patricia Mohlolo Makofane
- Ms Alexandria Sikelelwa Msitshana

## 10 Deliberations

10.1 The Committee met on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026 to deliberate on the interviewed candidates and select preferred candidates to fill the five vacancies within the CGE.

10.2 The Committee having conducted all the interviews and taken into consideration the application form with all the relevant documentation of which Parliament's Human Resources verified candidate's qualifications and the State Security Agency undertook security screening agreed to the candidates to be recommended to the President for consideration.

10.3 The Committee also agreed to recommend as follows in order of preference and ranking –

	<b>Candidate Name</b>
1.	Ms Leonashia Leigh-Ann van der Merwe
2.	Ms Sixolile Delight Ngcobo
3.	Ms Chriscentia Caroline Blouws
4.	Prof Corne Davis-Buitendag
5.	Ms Mamohapi Claurina Diseko
6.	Adv Thando Gumede
7.	Mr Alfred Ofentse Macheke
8.	Adv. Nthabiseng Sepanya Mogale
9.	Mr Xolisa Yekani

## 11 Recommendations

11.1 Having considered the request of the National Assembly for the Committee to nominate and recommend candidates for appointment as Commissioners for the CGE, the Committee recommends the following candidates in order of rank and preference:

1. Ms Leonashia Leigh-Ann van der Merwe
2. Ms Sixolile Delight Ngcobo
3. Ms Chriscentia Caroline Blouws
4. Prof Corne Davis-Buitendag
5. Ms Mamohapi Clairina Diseko
6. Adv Thando Gumede
7. Mr Alfred Ofentse Macheke
8. Adv. Nthabiseng Sepanya Mogale
9. Mr Xolisa Yekani

### **11.2 Part-Time Commissioners**

If a vacancy arises due to a resignation or death, the President will be able to choose from the aforementioned list of 4 additional candidates recommended beyond the 5 vacancies in the Commission.

### **11.3 Full Time Commissioners**

If a vacancy arises due to a resignation or death, the President will be able to choose from the aforementioned list of an additional candidates recommended beyond the 5 vacancies.

### **11.4 The Committee further recommends that:**

- 11.4.1 If a vacancy arises within the CGE, a part-time Commissioner should be afforded the opportunity to apply for the full-time position. As such the Committee, would urge that such a Commissioner be given preference in terms of conversion.
- 11.4.2 To strengthen the independence of the CGE and its reach, the National Assembly should revise the funding of this chapter nine institution.
- 11.4.3 The Committee further recommends that the issue of discipline within the institution and amongst commissioners should be strengthened and dealt

decisively by the National Assembly and the Commissioner's Handbook to avoid a situation of deteriorating Code of Conduct and weak enforcement systems.

11.4.4 The Committee further recommends that Ms Leonashia Leigh-Ann van der Merwe be considered for the position of the Chairperson of the Commission for Gender Equality. The ANC rejected the recommendation and suggested that the decision is left to the President to appoint the chairperson for the CGE.

## **12. Appreciation**

12.1 The Committee would like to thank all Members for making themselves available and working long hours to ensure success in carrying out the mandate of the Committee.

12.2 The Committee would also like to thank all candidates for making themselves available to be considered for appointment to the Commission for Gender Equality.

12.3 Furthermore, the Committee wishes to convey appreciation to the support staff for their contribution to the success of the Committee.

**Report to be considered.**