

UNREVISED HANSARD

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The House met at 14:00

The Deputy Speaker took a Chair and requested members to observe a moment of silence for prayers or meditation.

GLOBAL SUMUD FLOTILLA TO BREAK ISRAEL'S ILLEGAL SIEGE ON GAZA

(Member's Statement)

Mr S I SUBRATHIE (ANC): Hon Deputy House Speaker, Palestinian solidarity activists from across South Africa have embarked on the Global Sumud Flotilla, joining a historic international coalition representing more than 40 countries united in a mission of peaceful resistance to Israel's illegal blockade of Gaza. This civilian fleet, the largest maritime effort since the siege began, carries a message that resonates deeply with the people of South Africa who know from their lived history that

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oppression can be resisted, and their liberation will come when the world stands together.

At the launch of the Global Sumud Flotilla in Johannesburg, Chief Mandla Mandela recalled that the South African struggle against apartheid was just not fought by us, but its success depended on the important role of our frontline states. The Global Sumud flotilla is not only a humanitarian mission, carrying much needed medical supplies and nutritional aid, but it is a moral obligation. This is a nonviolent act of defiance against an illegal siege that has strangled life in Gaza.

We call upon the Department of International Relations to be available to protect our brave citizens who are in this flotilla if needed. We also call upon our representatives to the United Nations to act decisively as one year will lapse on this Thursday, 18th of September 2025 since the United Nations General Council took a resolution granting Israel one year to end this genocide.

Mr M W THRING: Point of order, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can I just see where the point of order is?

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Mr M W THRING: Its hon Thring.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, hon Thring.

Mr W M THRING: I don't know whether the rules permit members to be filming and videoing others while they are in the House. Hon Paulson is videoing our member while he's speaking. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, could I also ask that we raise those points of order if it's not related to the specific speech, just after the member has made his statement? Hon member, please conclude your statement.

Mr I SUBRATHIE (ANC): We also call upon the representatives at the United Nations to act decisively, since the United Nations, as one year, will lapse on 18 September 2025, since the United Nations General Council took a resolution granting Israel one year to end this genocide. We call upon the United Nations to respond as they responded to apartheid in South Africa by stripping the right and by imposing severe sanctions. And I thank you.

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member, your time has now expired. Hon members, on the previous point that was raised by the hon Thring. Yes, indeed, it is not allowed to take videos or take photos during plenaries. So please stick to the rules.

CAPE FLAT DEVOLVE POLICING POWERS

(Member's Statement)

Ms L M SCHICKERLING (DA): Good afternoon, hon Speaker, the Cape Flats are under siege. It is heartbreaking to hear from communities and parents who want nothing more than for their children to grow up safe. Yet we must bury them and watch them be swallowed by gangs and drugs. On Tuesday, during a meeting at the Mitchells Plain Police Station, we heard their children as young as 12 are being intimidated by gangs on their way to school and offered them drugs. We must ask: Where is the visible policing?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

Ms L M SCHICKERLING (DA): Why are the SAPS not conducting more frequent searches in schools to remove drugs and weapons and why

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after years of promises, do police stations remain underresourced, understaffed and crippled by vacancies? What we need is smart intelligence-led policing. We need properly resourced training colleges that can produce professional offices, equipped for modern crime fighting, and above all, we need more boots on the ground. Instead, the SAPS personnel members can't ... [Interjections.].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members! Hon Dugmore, please allow the speaker to conclude the statement.

Ms L M SCHICKERLING(DA): To the acting Minister of Police devolve policing powers to capable provinces like the Western Cape so that real solutions can be implemented before more innocent lives are lost. Even President Cyril Ramaphosa has acknowledged that the Western Cape is a well-run province. But we also know that safety cannot be separated from opportunity.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order!

Ms L M SCHICKERLING(DA): Gangs thrive where poverty and hopelessness take root.

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order.!

Ms L M SCHICKERLING (DA): That is the DA's plan to turbocharge the economy.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Schickerling, just a moment, please. Hon members! Hon member there at the back. Hon member with a South African scarf. Hon member, you are out of order. Hon members, we allow everyone the right to be heard, and this is not acceptable. We do not allow howling and jeering. Hon Michalakis, what is your point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mr G Michalakis): Thank you, Deputy Speaker, as you've just said, the member has a right to be heard. She was drowned respectfully by the ANC. You can't accept that it's a national function. May I request? May I request the Deputy Speaker that the member be afforded an opportunity for the portion that she was drowned to please repeat her statement.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Michalakis, I will rule on that. Hon Mkhali, what is your point of order? I'm still busy with this point of order, but is it related?

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Ms O H MKHALIPI: ... [Inaudible.] You can't bore us. They must just sort out their own issues. Not put it here, we are working.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon MkhaliPI, that's not a point of order. Could I also just ask here on the ANC bench in front. That microphone is still activated, could you please just switch that off? Please? It does cause some interference. Hon Schickerling, please proceed with your statement and hon members, we have to respect the decorum of the House. Even if you don't like what a person is saying, they have a right to say it, and it goes for everyone. Hon member, please proceed.

Ms L SCHICKERLING (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, as I was saying, real solutions can only be implemented soon before more innocent lives are lost. Even President Ramaphosa has acknowledged that the Western Cape is a well-run province. But we also know that safety cannot be separated from opportunity. Gangs thrive where poverty and hopelessness take root. That is why the DA's plan to turbocharge the economy by cutting red tape and creating real jobs is essential to breaking the cycle of crime. When young people see a future for themselves, they do not fall into the trap of gangsterism. South Africans deserve

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both safety and opportunity, and the DA has a plan to deliver both. Thank you.

INQUEST INTO 1977 KILLINGS OF STEVEN BIKO REOPENS

(Member's Statement)

Mr E M NTSHINGILA(MK): Hon Deputy Speaker, I rise on behalf of the uMkhonto WeSizwe party acknowledging that the death of Steve Bantu Biko in 1977 remains one of the most painful stains of apartheid brutality. The inquest held in 1978 confirmed that he died from brain injuries sustained after severe beatings, while in police detention. The fact was never in dispute. What is absurd, however, is the magistrates' finding that no one is responsible. This was a blatant miscarriage of justice and manipulation to shield apartheid perpetrators from accountability. To now call for a second inquest to risk reflection from the central issue. The truth is already on record. What remains is not another inquest, but for this Parliament to act to honour Steve Bantu Biko's memory by demanding justice, accountability and closure for his family and for the nation. The MK party stands firmly for justice and will

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not allow history to be rewritten to protect the guilty. I thank you.

UNISA HELD FIRST NATIONAL DIALOGUE CONVENTION

(Member's Statement)

Mr S T DLOUW(ANC): The African National Congress congratulates Unisa under the leadership of Professor Puleng LenkaBula for hosting the first National Convention, as convened by President Ramaphosa. The convention was staged in August at the University to facilitate a consultative, inclusive and crosscutting discussion on key teams to dominate the national convention.

We commend the footwork that underlined the preparation of this momentous occasion and acknowledge the outstanding contribution that Unisa offered. This institution has become the beacon of hope and constantly hosts national satellite events such as the G20, the SIU, anticorruption seminars and many other significant events. In partnership with the Republic of South Africa, Unisa has shown great commitment to advance the best interest of the country, using education as an important lever in bridging the poverty and inequality gap. As a patriotic front, the University

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of South Africa is left to its name as the University of the land, and when called upon to save the national interest, it has ... accepted the invitation. Once again, we congratulate Unisa's leadership and encourage his management as led by Prof LenkaBula to continue propelling this cradle of humankind to greater heights. I thank you.

UN OVERWHELMINGLY ENDORSES TWO-STATE SOLUTION DECLARATION

(Member's Statement)

Ms N M MHLONGO (EFF): Deputy Speaker, the United Nations General Assembly resolved in its majority on 12 September 2025 to adopt the resolution endorsing the New York Declaration on the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the implementation of the two-state solution. We welcome this decision as a step towards justice and peace. Yet, 10 unprogressive and warmongering countries, including the apartheid state of Israel and the United States voted against this resolution, joined by eight others. Despite this global call, Israel continues its genocide in Palestine, destroying homes, schools, hospitals and civilian infrastructure, in blatant violation of international humanitarian law, inflicting

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untold suffering on the Palestinian people. Equally, alarming Israelis continued attempts to expand illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory in defiance of international law and Security Council solutions.

The House will recall that the 6th Parliament of South Africa passed a resolution to cut all diplomatic relations with Israel. To this day, President Cyril Ramaphosa has failed to implement that progressive resolution. As the EFF will reaffirm our principal position on the question of Palestine, the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and the establishment of an independent State of Palestine. We condemn the ongoing Israeli aggression in Gaza, which has already claimed more than 64,000 lives. We therefore call for an immediate, unconditional, and permanent ceasefire across Gaza and all occupied Palestinian territories. Free, Free Palestine!

SPATE OF CAPE FLATS KILLINGS IN CAPE TOWN

(Member's Statement)

Inkosi R N CEBEKHULU(IFP): Deputy Speaker, the IFP is deeply disturbed by the recent spate of brutal killings in Cape Town,

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which once again lay bare the scourge of related violence gripping our communities. These murders are not only senseless but reflect a chilling regard for human life. Too many families in townships across South Africa live in constant fear, with children robbed of safe spaces to learn, grow and thrive. Central to this crisis, the proliferation of illegal firearms in our communities, which continues to fuel bloodshed and entrench criminal networks, the IFP calls for two immediate interventions. First, a co-ordinated national crackdown on illegal gun trade with air targeted operations in high-risk areas, and secondly, a strengthening of community policing forums supported by increased resources to SAPS to restore trust and visibility on the ground. South Africans cannot continue to live under fear. Life must be valid again.

IsiZulu:

Konke lokhu kubangwa ukuntuleka kwezinhlozi kunjalo nezinzwebeli ezweni lethu. Ngiyabonga.

THE UNTENABLE CRIME IN THE WESTERN CAPE

(Member's Statement)

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Ms N MAKASI (ANC): Thank you, Speaker, the scale of crime in the Western Cape is alarming. Since January, more than 2000 people have been wounded or killed provincewide. In June, over 30 murders have occurred in mass shooting incidents across the Cape Flats. Again, in August, more than 30 members were reported in the province. This includes incidents in Delft, Gugulethu, Athlone, Manenberg, Hanover Park, Nyanga, and many other areas. In Mitchells Plain in particular, at least 12 people were shot dead during the first weekend of September. Coloured and black communities are being held hostage by crime. This is unacceptable.

The response from the Western Cape government has been inadequate. Instead of addressing the crisis, officials have downplayed its severity and directed concerns to the studying of the premier's safety plan. Crime Prevention Initiatives are almost nonexistent and the boots on the ground policing strategy has had minimal effects. But the structures across the Cape Flats, frustrated by inaction, are now calling for the removal of the provincial SAPS Commissioner.

We call on the Western Cape government to take urgent and decisive action. People of this province deserve protection,

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effective policing and crime prevention measures to restore safety and confidence in their communities. Without meaningful interventions, lives will continue to be lost, and communities will remain trapped in cycles of violence. These are our brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers and aunts, uncles as well, each with responsibility ... [Inaudible.] which lives have been cut short. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Michalakakis, what is your point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mr M G Mikhalakis): Deputy Speaker, I just want to inquire. Since Members' Statements also afford an opportunity for the national government to reply: Is it allowed for Members' Statements that call on provincial governments to do something which is not their function in the first place? In other words, is it in order to call on provincial governments to respond if they don't have a seat in this House or are Members' Statements only related to the national government Ministers?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, I think that is a matter that the member raised in general to the Western Cape. I don't think their expectation is that the Western Cape will reply here. We

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will leave that to Ministers' Responses. The NCC! Hon members order! Hon members! Hon member, would you allow this House to proceed, please? It seems that the NCC is not here - the DA!

NERSA FORCES CITIZENS TO PAY R54 BILLION NEW TAX

(Member's Statement)

Mr K J MILEHAM (DA): Deputy Speaker South Africans are being forced to pay a R54 billion new tax. This isn't a tax for services. It is not for roads or for schools It is a R54 billion tax for incompetence - a tax to pay for the catastrophic failure of this government's energy regulator, Nersa. In a presentation to Parliament, Nersa admitted that they found this multibillion-rand error in January. They were told to fix it. They even claimed they had fixed it; but five months later, in June, they went ahead and published the wrong numbers anyway.

So, let us call this what it is. This is not a simple mistake; it is a five-month long cover up of gross negligence and now they expect ordinary South Africans to pay for it. At a time when the Competition Commission confirms electricity prices have surged by a crippling 68% in five years, Eskom and Nersa have

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found a way to punish citizens even more. The DA will not stand for this!

We demand real accountability. We call on the Minister to launch a proper investigation into the officials responsible for this to face appropriate consequences; not just the junior staffer that is being blamed, but the senior management and the full-time regulators that signed off on that mistake. We demand an urgent independent review of the entire electricity pricing policy in order to put consumers first.

This R54 billion blunder is the final damning proof that the system is broken beyond repair. We have an ineffectual regulator protecting a failing monopoly. South Africa needs affordable reliable electricity, not another R54 billion state-sponsored bailout. [Time expired.]

MINISTRY OF POLICE DELIVERS 84 VEHICLES TO HAWKS

(Member's Statement)

Mr E A CLOETE (ANC): Deputy Speaker, the ANC is of the view that 84 vehicles handed over to the Hawks by the Ministry of Police

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on Tuesday, 8 September 2025, will go a long way in assisting the director to fight crime and corruption. Some of these vehicles are intended to help officers fight violent crime, like case intensive robberies and police killings. The vehicles comprise of Volkswagen Golfs, BMWs and bakkies.

We, therefore, welcome this intervention by the Ministry of Police. The Hawks play a critical role in the investigation of national priority offences, namely serious organised crimes, serious corruption and serious commercial crimes. These are more than just cars; they are a step closer towards the restoration of trust and confidence in the directorate and the whole criminal justice system value chain.

They should be used responsibly to protect the vulnerable and fight organised crimes. These vehicles should empower investigators to ensure that they locate, record and process the evidence timely and allow for consultation with relevant stakeholders, witnesses and the prosecution. We hope the deployment thereof will be executed with utmost care.

RAMAPHOSA IS COMPLICIT IN DESTRUCTION OF MUNICIPALITIES

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(Member's Statement)

Mr J S NGUBANE (MKP): Hon Deputy Speaker, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa has admitted that poor leadership, corruption and ANC political battles have destroyed municipalities and collapsed service delivery under his watch. Some may say this is courageous, but it is not; it is desperation - the last kick of a horse.

On the eve of the looming local elections, Mr Ramaphosa pretends to renew the ANC by blaming his own councillors and announcing new actions, action plans, reports and accountability measures. However, hon Deputy Speaker, our people are not fooled.

Ramaphosa's Presidency has overseen the total breakdown of local government. Failing water systems, decaying infrastructure and daily service delivery protests have become the norm.

The ANC, under Ramaphosa, has had every opportunity to deploy ethical and skilled leaders. Instead, he has protected factions, defended corruption and watched municipalities rot. The MK Party reminds this House that the people of South Africa are done with excuses. They are done with empty plans while they are taps run dry and their towns crumble. The people of South Africa are

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waiting for the best party that will deliver service delivery to them - The MK party!

APARTHEID AND COLONIAL LEGACIES STILL VISIBLE 30 YEARS LATER

(Member's Statement)

Mr T P MOGALE (EFF): Deputy Speaker South Africans continue to celebrate the diverse traditions, languages and identities that make up our nation. They celebrate with pain because alongside the beauty of our cultures, we are reminded of the ugly persistence of apartheid and colonial legacies visible in the names of towns, streets, rivers, mountains and valleys. Offensive and dehumanising names, such as Kaffirstad, Kaffirskraal, Kaffirsberg, Nooitgedagte, Harrismith, Krugersdorp and many others remain a stain on our democratic project and an insult to the dignity of African people.

All major land features still carry colonial names instead of the names that indigenous people have always called them. The great river, Lekwa, is called Vaal; the great river Xhariep is called Orange river; the Maluti Mountains are called Drakensberg; the Namahadi River is called Wilge River; and just

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behind this Parliament the sacred mountain of the Khoi, the Hoerikwaggo is called Table Mountain.

Black children in township and rural schools are still doing Afrikaans as a second and additional language; while Afrikaner children in Limpopo and North West are not being taught our native languages. The democratic dispensation promised not only political rights but also the restoration of our cultural dignity and historical pride. Yet, three decades later, were still surrounded by reminders of conquest and dispossession.

OUTCOMES FUND SCALES UP JOBS BOOST FOR YOUTH

(Member's Statement)

Mr B M MANELI (ANC): Deputy Speaker, Jobs Boost Outcomes Fund ... Ooh, I thought you said ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, please proceed! [Interjections.]

Mr B M MANELI (ANC): It is just that I can't hear. Jobs Boost Fun, South Africa's pioneering Youth Employment Fund has been recognised on the global stage as one of the 10 selected

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projects of the Outcomes Finance Alliances - the Outcomes Accelerator. The fund provides grants that will be used for the scale up of jobs boost, and it has already seen over 6 000 excluded young people placed into quality jobs.

We are delighted that this programme is part of the Presidency's Presidential Youth Employment Intervention, PYEI, is on track to exceed targets when it concludes at the end of 2025. Launched in 2023, It trains and place unemployed youth from disadvantaged backgrounds into sustainable quality jobs, and it pays for results when those jobs are secured and sustained.

Jobs Boost is one of two South African initiatives selected from over 500 applications to the Outcomes Accelerator. Half of this year's winners have an African presence, underscoring the continents growing leadership in innovative finance for impact. Thank you.

RAILWAY SAFETY ACT IMPLEMENTS SHARED USE OF RAIL NETWORK

(Member's Statement)

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Dr C H H HUNSINGER (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker in relation to transport, volumes, goods trains can convey larger, heavier and more cargo than trucks. On 1 August 2025, the Railway Safety Act of 2024 was implemented as a first step to accommodate shared use of South African rail network. Through a proposed motion of desirability, the DA triggered this law on 1 September 2021, expanding the scope of railway safety users beyond Prasa and Transnet, to include all future network operators, all future train operators and all future station operators.

The incorporation of third-party access on the Transnet rail network was announced by Minister Creecy on Friday 22 August 2025. This visualises the ending of the long-standing Transnet monopoly and enable commercial operators to access the train system alongside state-owned resources. To achieve complete economic progress, the maximum 10-year license term will need to be revised.

Users should also have the option to improve the infrastructure they use. Given the pressing need to accelerate the economy and increase jobs, we expect these additions to follow soon. We urge the Department of Transport to accelerate the concessioning of freight rail lines to competent private operators through an

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open and competitive tender process that secures the best partners to drive ... [Inaudible.] I thank you.

**NORTHER CAPE POLICE OPERATIONS RESULTS IN ARREST OF 50 FOREIGN
SUSPECTS**

(Member's Statement)

Mr M S MOELA (ANC): Deputy Speaker, as part of the efforts to create a safer South Africa, police operations in the Northern Cape have resulted in the arrest more than 50 suspects for various offenses. According to SA Police Service, the multidisciplinary operations stemmed at the authority of the state by intensifying crime prevention, disciplinary operations teams and combat activities. The offences included contact crimes, property-related crimes and crimes detected through police stations, with detectives also tracing several wanted suspects.

In the first week of September, police stopped and searched 2 809 vehicles and conducted searches on 6 584 individuals during roadblocks. Vehicle checkpoint, stop and search operations and compliance inspection were carried out at formal

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and informal businesses. These operations and compliance inspections were carried out on the scrapyards, liquor outlets, second-hand dealerships, mines and farms. Several noncompliant liquor outlets were shut down.

The ANC calls for more countrywide focused community awareness campaigns and engagements. In addressing trending crimes and strengthening partnerships with communities, the collective efforts of law enforcement agencies, government departments, community policing forum structures, SA Police Service members and communities are vital if we are to win the war against crime. Thank you very much.

CRIMINAL SYNDICATE SHROUDED MOGOTO VILLAGE IN ZEBEDIELA

(Member's Statement)

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Deputy Speaker, the United African Transformation, strongly condemns the wave of hooliganism and lawlessness devastating Ward 9, Mogoto Village in Zebediela, Limpopo. Criminal syndicates have transformed what should be sanctuaries of dignity and community into terrains of terror, targeting families and even public spaces like clinics and

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schools. Places meant for healing and upliftment are now shrouded in fear.

This is not mere criminality; it is a fundamental breakdown in the social contract between the state and its citizens, and a betrayal of Pan-African values and the vision of a just, secure Africa.

Xitsonga:

Khanimambo!

English:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. That concludes Members' Statements.

MINISTERIAL RESPONSES

COST OF ELECTRICITY

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY: Deputy Speaker, I want to confirm that on Wednesday the 10th, the portfolio committee

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did occasion, an opportunity for National Energy Regulator of South Africa, Nersa, and myself to clarify the issues surrounding the error that resulted in the R54 billion increase in relation to electricity for the financial year 2025-26. In that briefing, Nersa was able to provide a full account of what led to the error and indicated to the portfolio committee that necessary consequence management is being effected. Therefore, I will also wait for the report and determine if there are additional steps to be taken by the Minister in as far as they involve either members of the board or the executive.

Therefore, I really want to give the assurance to the House. I am on record having admitted that the cost of electricity is prohibitively high. It undermines the competitiveness of the economy, and it erodes the disposable income of households. I will come back to the portfolio committee and to the country to announce the measures that we will take to address the runaway cost of electricity. Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker.

The ACTING MINISTER OF POLICE (Prof F Cachalia): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker and hon members. Am I audible?

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, you are, hon Minister! Hon members, order! Hon members! Minister, you are audible, but I think your video is only showing a part of your face, so perhaps just deactivate your camera. Please proceed. Minister Cachalia, please proceed.

The ACTING MINISTER OF POLICE (Prof F Cachalia): Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please proceed, hon Minister. We will proceed to the next Minister. Minister Creecy! Could I ask the House, members here to my left, please allow the Ministers to respond. Hon members, you make statements, and you expect responses from the Ministers, but then you must allow them to do that. Minister Creecy, I think that you can proceed while Minister Cachalia is trying to connect.

The ACTING MINISTER OF POLICE (Prof F Cachalia): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker ... and fully briefed about will be sorted out in the future. Any event ... [Lost connectivity.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, I think that your connection is not satisfactory. We can't hear ... [Interjections.] ... Hon member, I do know. Hon Minister Cachalia, I think that we will

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have to leave your response because we cannot hear you. Your connection is bad. If you perhaps could move, we can try right at the end. I will now proceed to Minister Creecy.

TRANSNET ACCEPTS 11 PRIVATE COMPANIES

(Minister's Response)

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT: Hon Deputy Speaker, am I audible?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, you are.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT: Firstly, let me acknowledge that we are extremely pleased that Transnet has managed to accept 11 private companies to assist us in moving freight on the network. Let me say that should these companies manage to pass the regulatory processes, they will in due course increase the amount of tonnage that we are able to transport on the network by almost 20 million tonnes of freight per annum. Let me also say that for those companies who would still be interested in joining in the transportation of freight, Transnet is currently considering companies on the 2025-26 network statement, and

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shortly we will be putting out the network statement for the 2026-27 financial year.

Therefore, this is an ongoing process that is intended to ensure that we can transport as much freight as there is appetite for, and we look forward to furthering applications. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Creecy. Let's try again, Minister Cachalia, if your connection has improved. Minister Cachalia! I will then proceed to Deputy Minister Morolong.

REMARK MADE AT ANC EVENT

(Minister's Response)

The DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRESIDENCY (Mr I K Morolong): Deputy Speaker, it's a pity that I must respond to a remark made at an ANC event yesterday by an hon member who wants to attribute the failure of local government to the President. In 2019, the President, as part of his co-ordinating role, introduced the District Development Model as a response to a cumulative debilitating state of local government in South Africa, and this

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was to ensure that government plans in unison, that government budgets plans in unison, and that all spheres of government speak in unison to accelerate service delivery.

Therefore, the failures of local government cannot be attributed to the President. In fact, as part of his responsibility, the President is duty-bound by the Constitution to develop national legislation, and you would know that the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Cogta, is currently seized with a White Paper on local government to review the White Paper on local government of 1998. Therefore, this is to respond to systemic failures of local government. The suggestion that the failure of local government is attributed to the current sitting President is not borne out of fact. Thank you very much.

REOPENING OF THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF BANTU STEPHEN BIKO

(Minister's Response)

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Yes, Deputy Speaker, am I audible?

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, you are.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Thank you very much. Now, I thank the hon member who made the statement regarding the reopening of the inquest into the death of Bantu Stephen Biko. Indeed, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Minister Kubayi, did in terms of section 17(a)(1), read with section 6(a) and 6(d) of the Inquests Act, directed that the inquest be reopened. The National Prosecuting Authority, NPA, on Friday, 12 September, enrolled the reopening of the inquest in the Gqeberha High Court. It's very significant that the announcement and the re-enrolling took place on the day that we commemorate the brutal passing of Bantu Stephen Biko.

In this regard, that inquest forms part of many others, including those into the deaths of Babla Saloojee, Neil Aggett, the Cradock Four, Griffiths Mxenge and Chief Albert Luthuli. I think also significant is the conviction in the Gauteng High Court of security policemen responsible for the killing of a Congress of South African Students, Cosas, 4. Very significant also that some of those convictions were based on apartheid as a crime against humanity. I think this must also be seen in the

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context of the establishment by President Ramaphosa of the Khampepe Commission to enquire into allegations of interference with the prosecution of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, TRC, cases.

I think this decision and all these actions reaffirm government's commitment to upholding the rule of law, promoting accountability and pursuing justice for families affected by deaths that still demand clarity and resolution. I thank you.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (Mr N Singh): Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Minister Cachalia is using my gadget. Therefore, he will be responding. Thank you.

EPIDEMIC OF GANG VIOLENCE

(Minister's Response)

The ACTING MINISTER OF POLICE (Prof F Cachalia): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker and hon members. I'm apologising for the connectivity problems, hon Deputy Speaker and hon members. I've heard some of the questions on safety and security and particularly the question that requires a response concerns the

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situation in the Western Cape. Indeed, there's an epidemic of gang violence which is manifesting itself in killings of a significantly increasing number of people. My own view is that this is now mutating into an organised crime problem, syndicated crime, which coincides, as one member observed, with the breakdown of the social fabric.

I spent the last week in the Western Cape where I met with the provincial commissioner. I was accompanied by the National Commissioner. I had a meeting with all the station commissioners throughout the province. I also met with the provincial government, the premier, the member of the executive council, MEC, and the mayor, and visited Khayelitsha, Mfuleni and Mitchells Plain. As I indicated publicly, I think that while the police have responded with increased operations and deployments that the situation is not yet under control. I'm taking steps to working with the SA Police Service to strengthen the plan, what I've called a stabilisation plan.

I've also indicated to them that we need a long-term, intelligence-driven plan to combat what I've indicated to be a problem of organised crime. I plan to take the House into my confidence when that plan has been developed and to report back

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to communities in the Western Cape. Of course, the problem of gang violence and organised crime is now mutating into one that affects many communities across the country, not just the Western Cape. Therefore, this matter needs attention across the country. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Minister Cachalia. I'm very glad that we could in the end connect with you. Hon members, that concludes Ministerial Responses. However, I do have to say, and I will take this up with the Speaker, that it is not acceptable that Ministers and Deputy Ministers are not in the House. We've seen now the connectivity problems we do have, and members don't get often the opportunity to make these statements. Therefore, we will also again alert the Leader of Government Business about this matter. The secretary will read the First Order of the day.

**CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATION OF CANDIDATES TO FILL TWO
VACANCIES ON MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSITY AGENCY (MDDA) BOARD
AND REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL
TECHNOLOGIES**

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Mr S I SUBRATHIE: Hon Deputy Speaker, I am standing in for hon Sangoni. It's hon Subrathie.

Arabic:

As-salaamu-alai-kum. [Peace be with you.]

English:

Hon Deputy Speaker and hon members, I present to you for your consideration and adoption the report of the Portfolio Committee on Communication and Digital Technologies regarding the process of filling two vacancies on the Board of the Media Development and Diversity Agency, MDDA, dated 25 July 2025. This report is a product of the committee's constitutional mandate to conduct oversight and facilitate the strengthening of key public entities. It reflects the committee's commitment to ensuring that institutions central to our democracy are led by capable and duly appointed individuals through a process that is both transparent and inclusive. The MDDA plays an important role in our nation's media landscape, especially in the inclusion of marginalized communities.

The filling of these vacancies is, therefore, a crucial step in fortifying this institution to fulfil its developmental role in

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the community effectively. Hon Deputy Speaker, a key highlight of this process was the extensive public participation undertaken. The advertisement calling for nominations was published in all 11 official languages across a wide range of print media, including national, regional and community newspapers. The committee's observation from this process offer insight into merit-based approach to appointments that are diverse and inclusive. The subcommittee diligently assessed the skills and demographics required to complement the existing board composition.

The diligent process by the subcommittee resulted in the shortlisting of nine candidates. This was further followed by a further period of public scrutiny, during which the shortlisted names were published for comment, upholding the principles of transparency and accountability. The committee further noted the exemplary qualifications of the recommended candidates, Ms Moipone Malefane, who brings a wealth of practical media experience and a proven commitment to media sustainability and mentorship directly aligned with MDDA's commission, Dr Natalie Skeepers, offers vital expertise in corporate governance, financial acumen and risk management, which are essential for ensuring the agency's stability and strategic oversight.

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The combination of their skills ensures a balanced complementary skill set on the board, enhancing its capacity and providing effective leadership. The committee hopes that this House will consider and adopt this report as it represents a conscientious step in affirming our collective commitment to a strong, a diverse and an independent media sector that serves the people of South Africa. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will now recognise the political parties wishing to make a declaration. The usual time for Declarations of vote will apply. The DA.

Declarations of vote:

Ms T BODLANI: Deputy Speaker ...

Setswana:

... bagolo, dumelang.

English:

The Media and Development Diversity Agency, MDDA, was established to deepen diversity and to ensure that all South Africans, especially those in rural and historically marginalised communities, have access to media that keeps and

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speaks to their lived reality. Its role is to support community and small commercial media to promote media freedom and to strengthen democratic processes by facilitating the flow of information to our society. For the MDDA to fulfil its mandate effectively, it requires a functional and competent board that is committed to independence, transparency and sound governance. In previous administrations, we have seen the institution weakened by internal squabbles, poor governance and the inability to carry out effective oversight over its beneficiaries.

The MDDA cannot continue this way given its crucial role in giving meaning to democracy to our people at the grassroots level. The Presidency, under which the MDDA falls must insist on this. The Portfolio Committee on Communications and Digital Technologies undertook a thorough and transparent nomination process. As stated in the report, 159 eligible applicants were received, a short list was drawn up and interviews were held following a rigorous process and an exhibition of talent and willingness to serve by all candidates. A consensus was reached across the parties. From this process, two candidates stood out as exemplary. Firstly, Ms Moipone Malefane, a seasoned

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journalist with more than 18 years' experience in top media publications.

She is the founder and Editor-in-Chief of a digital platform dedicated to empower small businesses through quality reporting. Her track record in political journalism, stakeholder relationship, and her commitment to mentoring young journalists will be an invaluable addition to the MDDA. Secondly, Dr Natalie Skeepers, an accomplished executive with a strong expertise in government risk compliance with experience saving and audit committees implementing risk management frameworks and a sound understanding of corporate governance. She brings precisely the kind of governance and accountability focus that the MDDA requires.

Dr Skeepers's financial oversight will strengthen the integrity and transparency of the agency's funding processes. With the MDDA Act being more than 22 decades old, Ms Malefane and Dr Skeepers are importantly tasked with modernising the agency to a new media landscape. When the MDDA was established, radio, print and television were dominant medias. Today, there has been an incredible rise of social media platforms as media publishers, as well as rapid development of artificial intelligence. With

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their experience, we trust that the two ladies are up for the task.

We must ensure that the MDDA is led by individuals with integrity and competence, capable to stay away from failures of governance that has plagued so many other entities previously. Hon members, the DA supports the appointment of Ms Malefane and Dr Skeepers as MDDA board members. Their combined expertise in journalism, community development, governance and accountability offers a balance of practical industry experience and institutional oversight that will strengthen the MDDA at this critical time. I do thank you.

Mr A NCHABELENG: Hon Deputy Speaker and hon members, the MK Party, today, takes control of power and declares that on this occasion, we support the appointment of Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Skeepers to the board of the Media Development and Diversity Agency, MDDA. The MDDA was created with a noble mandate to develop and diversify South Africa's media landscape, to promote universal access and to ensure that all citizens, especially those in rural and historically disadvantaged communities have the opportunity to be heard. It is this reason why we are giving our support, because we have recognised that

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if we don't give the support, our communities will continue suffering, women will be excluded in the media, there will be no development and encouragement of our community radio stations, print and TV.

It is on this backdrop that the MK Party is taking control and says we will be showing the direction. Yet, the reality has not always been lived up to in terms of the vision of the MDDA. Over the years, the agency has been constrained by limited resources, governance weaknesses and allocation processes that too often have grassroots publishers and community broadcasters on the margins. Instead of advancing digital transformation, many communities outlets remain undersupported, unable to adapt to new technologies or expand their reach. The result is that too many South Africans, particularly in rural and township areas, still lack meaningful access to diverse media, and this reflects their realities.

In a precise against this backdrop that this new appointments must be welcomed, as MK, we take a chance to make it known that we will support what we find to be acceptable to our policies. The MDDA's advancement accepts and agrees with it. Dr Skeepers as well as Ms Malefane, will hopefully, bring in a contribution

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that will highlight the plight that women suffer in the media space. Together, their appointments hold the promise of retaining the agency to its founding purpose to develop and diversify media in South Africa and to restore fairness and transparency in funding to strengthen accountability and to champion the voices of communities long excluded from mainstream media.

This is not merely about filling vacancies, it is about reviving the MDDA's credibility and reviving its ability to be a true instrument of transformation and democracy. Hon Deputy Speaker, the MK Party, therefore, supports this appointment in the hope that they will not only steady the institution, but also it will help to fulfil its original mandate of building a diverse, inclusive, resilient media sector that serves all South Africans, knowing fully well that our media space is untransformed. We need people that when we give support to, they will go in and ensure that they prioritise our communities and our poor people on the ground and gives them needed access in respect to making sure that transformation is driven.

It is in this particular backdrop that we are supporting this particular appointment, and I know you are all shocked here, we

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accept that. However, the truth part of is that, we have taken charge and we're in control. Also, we are appointing our people to power to make sure that uMkhonto weSizwe, the party that you have come to know, is showing the direction. I thank you all.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members on the virtual platform, please do not unmute your microphones. Hon member, please proceed.

Mr S THAMBO: Deputy Speaker, the EFF is pleased to have been part of the appointment for two posts in the Media Development and Diversity Agency, MDDA, which is at the centre of local media, narrating the lives of those in grassroots communities.

The appointment of Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Skeepers will bring much-needed stability and organisational coherence to an institution that is a crucial part of the goals for access to information and the goal towards an active democracy.

Deputy Speaker, in 2026, we're expected to go to what is already regarded as a historic local government election. Part of the mandate of the MDDA will be to ensure that the electorate is informed about real conditions in their municipalities,

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including those that have been led through periods of lack of service delivery or where money has been stolen from the poor.

While the President of the Republic of South Africa has called on those he leads to go and benchmark from their colleagues and partner, the DA, it will be the duty of the MDDA to ensure there is local media that will inform the people of Khayelitsha, Nyanga and Delft that they are living in shacks, amid sewage and do not get refuse removal services. This is because they are regarded as immigrants from the Eastern Cape by the government of the Western Cape.

It is the MDDA which must ensure that we have local radio stations to tell the stories of mothers and children who are shot daily in Mitchells Plain, in the crossfires of gang violence because the government of the Western Cape is content that gang violence is secluded to Mitchells Plain and is not in Sea Point or Camps Bay.

Deputy Speaker, it is a strong local media that must tell the story of how the ruling government in the City of Cape Town, through a DA member of the mayoral committee, MMC, was deeply entrenched in the criminal underworld, and worked with the

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Numbers Gang and individuals such as Ralph Stanfield to award irregular tender construction contracts to the tune of R1 billion.

It is the MDDA which must facilitate the possibility of the people of Tshwane being reminded that between 2016 and 2014, the DA was in charge of the City of Tshwane and produced five mayors but a collapsing seat. It is through a competent MDDA that we will be reminded on radio that it was under the DA-led City of Tshwane that the people of Hammanskraal died due to cholera.

As the President of the Republic pledges his admiration to the DA, it will be the duty of local television programmes and podcasts developed through the work of the MDDA to explain how having an outdated equitable share model developed by National Treasury, and historic wealth and class disparities between suburban and rural township municipalities, are the real contributing factors to the resilience or lack thereof of municipalities. This means the ability to generate revenue is a product of decades of old, deliberate segregation and separate development, not an inherent gift of government's governance by his coalition partners.

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The work of the MDDA to revive local media is crucial to the integrity of our democracy, so that there can be a counter to the mistruths which result in the endorsement of political parties that serve constituencies based on race. The MDDA is more important now than ever, so that the true stories of those who live the horror of gang violence, exclusion from the housing market, payment with alcohol in farms, dilapidated roads and unemployment - all which characterise the lives of the majority under the DA government - can be told. And so that the President of the Republic's out of ... [Time expired.] The EFF supports this report.

Mr T M LANGA: Deputy Speaker, the IFP acknowledges the transparent process followed regarding the filling of the two vacancies on the MDDA Board, from the public advertisement to shortlisting, to public comment and interviews of the candidates.

The MDDA plays a vital role in promoting media diversity, and supporting community and small commercial media. This ensures that South Africa's media landscape reflects the voices of all its people, particularly the marginalised.

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We trust that the appointment of the two candidates, Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Skeepers, will strengthen the agency's governance and enhance its ability to deliver on its mandate. The IFP urges the new board members to act with integrity, accountability and urgency in addressing the challenges facing the MDDA, including funding constraints and sustainability issues. Considering all matters mentioned, the IFP accepts the report.

IsiZulu:

Ngiyathokoza.

Mr E HENDRICKS: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon members and patriotic South Africans, I rise to address the House on the portfolio committee's report dated 25 July 2025 concerning appointments of two candidates to the MDDA Board.

The PA welcomes the committee's recommendation to appoint two women to fill the vacancy ...

IsiZulu:

Malibongwe!

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English:

... emphasising its commitment to gender equality, institutional diversity and inclusive governance.

The MDDA was created to promote media diversity, support community and small commercial media, and ensure that rural, indigenous and marginalised South Africans have access to media that reflects their experiences.

I wish to place on record the following consideration:

Community-centric representation. The term emphasises the importance of expanding diversity beyond gender to include geographic, linguistic and cultural representation, especially from grassroots media and underserved regions. It recognised that the recent appointments are a positive move towards greater inclusion of underrepresented communities as those affected by displacement and cultural fusion.

Regarding strategic oversight in the digital age, the MDDA Board must appoint leaders who understand both technical and social factors of digital transformation. Strategic oversight should combine policy, technical literacy and community-centred approach, protecting media diversity in the digital age.

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Most importantly, the MDDA must remain transparent and responsive institution. The board must be independent and accountable.

Afrikaans:

Ons as mense van die grond, van die vlakte en die berg praat vandag met 'n stem wat lank stilgemaak is. Die PA staan vas vir 'n media wat ons stories in ons eie taal met ons eie klanke vertel. Ons will sien dat mense van die Kaapse vlakte, van die platteland, van die bruin en die Khoi gemeenskap ook 'n plek aan die tafel kry ... [Tyd verstreke.] ... Dankie.

Ms M P KOBE: Hon Deputy Speaker, I rise today to note the Report of the Portfolio Committee on Communications and Digital Technologies on the filling of vacancies in the MDDA Board.

We welcome the transparent process followed by the committee, which ensured public participation, wide advertisement across eleven languages and the shortlisting of candidates with proven skills and expertise. The appointments of Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Skeepers reflect a commitment to strengthening the MDDA with individuals who bring both journalistic excellence and governance expertise.

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Ms Malefane's record as an award-winning journalist and her dedication to empowering small businesses through Vutivi Business News directly speaks to the MDDA's mandate of supporting media diversity and development. Her presence on the board can help restore credibility and focus to an institution that is often plagued by inefficiencies. Likewise, Dr Natalie Skeepers' extensive experience in governance, compliance and risk management will provide the much-needed financial discipline and oversight that this agency desperately requires.

We must be clear, however, that strong appointments alone will not resolve the structural and financial challenges that the MDDA faces. The agency must be properly funded, insulated from political interference and held accountable for its performance. Therefore, while ActionSA supports all these appointments, we will continue to demand that the MDDA evolves into an institution that's not only diverse in composition, but that's effective in delivery, serving all South Africans fairly without fear or favour. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

Mr W M THRING: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The ACDP notes and understands that the MDDA is a statutory development agency

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established in 2003 as a partnership between the South African government, and the commercial print and broadcasting sectors.

It has a mandate to create an enabling environment for media development and diversity that is conducive to public discourse, and which reflects the needs and aspirations of all South Africans, in order to redress exclusion and marginalisation of disadvantaged communities and persons from access to the media and the media industry, as well as to promote media development and diversity by providing support primarily to community and small commercial media projects.

Now, the ACDP welcomes the transparent process that has been undertaken in the appointments of Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Skeepers, and trusts that the skills, experience and expertise that they bring to the MDDA will add value to the board and strengthen the agency's work in promoting a diverse, vibrant and sustainable community media sector across South Africa and, in particular, our rural areas. The ACDP as kingdom builders supports these appointments. I thank you.

Mr S M GANA: Deputy Speaker, as RISE Mzansi, we support the work of the committee and the two individuals recommended. We believe

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they will contribute positively to the growth of community media, especially, across the country. So, we support the work of the committee.

Xitsonga:

Ha khensa swinene, Mutshamaxitulu.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Deputy Speaker, hon members, allow me to begin by commending the Portfolio Committee on Communications and Digital Technologies for its diligent and transparent work in overseeing the process of filling these two vacancies. It would seem that the leadership provided by the chairperson, hon Diko, and, in particular, members Mathafa and Subrathie, has been so effective that the MKP, for the first time in the history of this Seventh Administration, have supported these appointments.

And I think we want to, as the ANC, accept that as a compliment to the persuasive abilities of the ANC. But, Deputy Speaker, I think we should just remember that, a short while ago, there was a bit of confusion or error when it came to the division around the Appropriation Bill. You would remember that it wasn't clear whether, at that stage, the MKP supported the Appropriation Bill or not. So, I just want to confirm 100%.

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IsiXhosa:

Ndifuna ukuqiniseka ukuba niyayivuma le nto.

English:

I just want you to confirm, because we must be very sure.

IsiZulu:

Mnu D M SKOSANA: Ngiyathokoza, Mgcinisihlalo, nginephuzu lokukhalima okuphambukayo: Lo omi ngaphambili akakhulumi iqiniso ngoba sake sakweseka ngaphambili. Akukhona okokuqala ngoba esho. Ngamanye amagama, ...

English:

... he is misleading the House. Thank you. [Interjections.]

IsiXhosa:

Mnu. C M DUGMORE: Siyabulela ukuba nibuyile kwaye kufuneka niqiniseke ngoku.

English:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore!

Mr C M DUGMORE: I would like to proceed with the matter.

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, please proceed, but do refrain from going into a dialogue with a member.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Okay. Deputy Speaker, we all know that the Media Development and Diversity Agency, MDDA, is an institution that plays a vital role in promoting media diversity and development. And these components, as we all know, are cornerstones of our democracy, as they ensure an informed and active citizenry.

It is within this context and backdrop of strengthening our democratic institutions and ensuring that they are effective that the ANC stands before this House today to affirm its full support for the committee's report and its recommendations. We affirm, as others have done, that all political parties in this House who have participated in the process outlined were transparent, it was vigorous, and it was fair.

The committee, upon the request by the Minister in the Presidency, acted swiftly to establish this multi-party subcommittee, advertised the vacancies across all 11 official languages and in the media broadly. And we acknowledge, as the ANC, Deputy Speaker, that the detailed shortlisting process that was undertaken by the subcommittee carefully considered the

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necessary skills and demographics to complement the existing board composition. And therefore, the ANC supports this report without reservation. We commend the committee for its exemplary work, all the members who participated in the work, and urge this House to endorse the recommendation.

We further call upon the President to formally appoint Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Skeepers to the MDDA board without delay, allowing them to commence their work in supporting a vibrant and developed media sector for all South Africans. It would also be appropriate, Deputy Speaker, for this House to express its thanks to the previous board members, Martina de la Togna, who actually resigned from the board, and also Ms Carol Mohlala, who served the board diligently until her term of office came to an end. So, we support this. We commend this House for being 100% unanimous, and this gives a glimpse that if we all work together, we can make sure that we take these institutions, which preserve and protect our democracy, forward.

And that's why we celebrate the history, and we look forward to more cooperation as we build this country together. Thank you.

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Question put: That Ms Moipone Malefane and Dr Natalie Sleepers be recommended for appointment to the Council of Media Development and Diversity Agency Board.

Question agreed to.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON TRADE,
INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION ON AMENDED 2024-25 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
PLAN OF DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION**

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON TRADE,
INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION ON DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
COMPETITION'S SECOND AND THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL AND
NONFINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR 2024-25 FINANCIAL YEAR**

Mr M C MASINA: Deputy Speaker, the Portfolio Committee on Trade, Industry and Competition hereby presents the annual performance plan as amended for 2024-25 for the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, as well as the third quarter financial and nonfinancial performance for the 2024-25 financial year. We have vigorously been dealing with these reports in our portfolio committee, and all the political parties in the committee have sought to make an input. We have tried to refocus the energies

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of the department, and we're beginning to see improvements with regard to some of the issues that we are focusing on. And I can assure the people of South Africa that we have refocused the department specifically to focus our energies on issues of industrial policy so that we can reindustrialise the country but also deepen issues of transformation in all sectors of the economy. Those are the issues that have preoccupied our work in the portfolio committee, and we're quite confident, looking at the work that the department is beginning to do, having looked into these amendments after the processes, that considerable progress is going to be made.

We are going to be looking into the impact in each sector and each area and ensuring that the work of the department is spread across all geographical areas of South Africa, including rural areas. We are looking into how this will impact on the informal economy, on SMMEs, as well as medium and large enterprises in the country, to ensure that there's greater participation, but also on issues of transformation, making sure that a majority of our people will participate. We know that in recent times we have been hit by the tariffs, and we believe that the work that is going to be done by the department, through our support as Members of Parliament, will yield some positive results,

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ensuring that we safeguard South Africa's exporters so that they are not badly affected by this. We have called upon the department to come up with support mechanisms to ensure that we can also begin to look into the new markets, and I'm sure many of you have heard that we are going to be implementing what is called the butterfly strategy, which basically is a focus in the African continent, and I'm confident that we will be able to look for new markets to ensure that we are not worse off.

But we are obviously concerned about the levels of unemployment in the country, and this is one area that we'll be taking a look at to ensure that this is particularly addressed in the main. So, ... [Interjections.] ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Mkhaliphi, order! Hon Masina, please proceed.

Mr M C MASINA: ... we are going to be seized as a department and portfolio committee with these issues to ensure that in the main we hold the department accountable in all the areas that have been identified as areas of focus, and we are keeping our eyes ... [Inaudible.] ... and there is no doubt that the quality of debates and engagement are enriching to an extent that all the

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18 agencies that report to the department and the department itself are beginning to see the direction that we would like to take. And we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Minister, the Deputy Minister and members of the portfolio committee for their contribution, and we'll continue holding each other accountable. Thank you very much.

Declarations of Vote:

Mr R W T CHANCE: Chairperson, reports before us reveal the careless disregard for taxpayer money in many departments over the past decade. Many years ago, some of these departments decided to spend money that had not been properly authorised, with no regard to the consequences. The Department of Public Services and Administration, for example, had a ministerial office that overspent its education by R8,8 million in 2014 without seeking any authorisation.

The consequences will now, for the most part, fall on those departments' future budgets, as recommended by the committee when these reports were processed through the Sixth Parliament.

It is concerning that some of these reports refer to unauthorised spending that happened close to two decades ago.

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Accountability deferred, is accountability denied. Consequences must be implemented, but they should ideally fall upon those who caused the issues.

Public entities have not limited themselves, however, to spending what they should not spend. There are also far too many circumstances where they avoid settling bills, which they are liable for. An example of this has been the fact that a number of departments have not really been paying the Auditor-General for services and we particularly welcome the national Treasury's move to recover R1,83 billion in debt owed to the Auditor-General by many government departments.

The Auditor-General has thrown its last line of defense against corruption and mismanagement. We cannot afford to allow municipalities and SOEs to rack up debt with the Auditor-General like they have with so many other public entities.

The Auditor-General also made an important point during a presentation to the standing committee this past week. Before we considered these reports, she said that there is a hidden financial cost to noncompliance and financial mismanagement. The cost is reflected in the higher premiums demanded by banks and

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investors to loan money to certain municipalities and public entities. At the end of the day, this cost is borne by ordinary Africans. Either they must pay higher taxes to finance the extra risks generated by the municipalities' inability to follow the rules, or the extra cost of borrowing means that infrastructure they desperately need just never gets built.

As the Auditor-General herself noted, the City of Cape Town has far lower borrowing costs than most other municipalities, because of its track record of good governments. The municipalities submit the statements on time, and it spends what it is authorised to, not just what it wants. This translates into lower borrowing cost, and this is part of why the City of Cape Town is now spending more on infrastructure than Johannesburg and Durban combined.

The DA governs 12% of South Africa's municipalities, but our municipalities represent more than half of all the clean audits in the country. Just yesterday, President Ramaphosa told ANC Councilors to come and look at how the DA does things. We would be very happy to show you.

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Across government, at local, provincial and national level, we are making sure that we run a tight ship, that we pay our bills on time, and that the rules are all followed at all times. That is what we do in government, and that is the DA difference.

Mr S I GAMA: Chair, these reports were processed by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Scopa, in the previous administration. Ours is now merely a rectification of technicality. What we have fundamentally observed, though, is that this egregious financial ill-discipline has spanned nearly two decades.

This inexcusable negligence in the processing of these reports has happened without implementing any clear consequence management for responsible officials. These reports document a staggering R15,35 billion in unauthorised expenditure, exposing a culture of impunity, where officials that are responsible for massive financial mismanagement face no meaningful consequences. The Department of Basic Education explicitly did not take any disciplinary action against any official, despite R6,5 million in wasteful expenditure, establishing a dangerous precedent that undermines fiscal accountability.

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While departments squandered billions through incompetence, we must always remember that 55% of South Africans live below the poverty line, and that unemployment stands at a catastrophic 33,2%, with youth unemployment sitting at 62,2%.

The Department of Social Development spent R15,13 billion on Covid-related overspending. While emergency-driven, we understand, this occurred alongside systematic poverty, affecting millions. Statistics SA, which is tasked with measuring inequality, itself wasted R142,2 million through poor financial management, while South Africa maintains the world's highest inequality with a Gini coefficient of 0,63.

Most damning are the timeline delays. The Department of Co-operative Governance, R1,1 million unauthorised expenditure, occurred in 2006-07, yet we are addressing this 18 years later. The Department of Minerals and Energy's R14,86 million electrification fund mismanagement happened in the 2010-11 financial year, and this represents a 14-year accountability gap. Such delays institutionalised impunity, demonstrating that consequences, if they come at all, are meaningless.

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These reports reveal systematic failures to meet departmental annual performance plans, while wasting public resources. The AG reports show that 87% of municipalities failed to provide procurement compliance, while infrastructure delivery remains poor, despite a R68,4 billion being allocated. Service delivery continues failing, while departments demonstrate fiscal irresponsibility with complete impunity.

These reports symbolise a government that has institutionalised impunity, while ordinary South Africans suffer poverty, unemployment and inequality. Families struggle with the R796 monthly food poverty line, while officials waste billions without consequences through poor planning and inadequate oversight. As MK Party, we say that these reports represent a moral failure to serve South Africans with the required integrity and accountability.

The wasted money could have funded schools, clinics, could have created jobs, could have enhanced women's empowerment. Instead, it was squandered through incompetence rewarded by a culture of impunity. Furthermore, even though the Scopa of the Seventh Administration has no authority over these reports, as MK Party will request that the SIU investigate these reports with the

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purpose of ensuring enforcement of consequence management for ... [Time expired.]. Thank you.

Mr S THAMBO: House Chairperson, the report on the annual performance plan in the second and third quarter financial and non-financial performance is an indication of a Department of Trade and Industry that has misaligned priorities and is led by a Minister who is stuck in a cycle of blunders. Based on your own metrics, you have failed to fulfil targets that you set for yourself in this department because of a preoccupation with patronage and a lack of strategic vision.

In terms of sector targets, only 347,6 million in manufacturing exports had been reported against a target of 1,5 billion. Only 188 new jobs have been created through sectoral interventions against a target of 1,500 new jobs. The draft hemp and cannabis commercialization policy has been developed, yet inexplicably this policy had not yet been submitted for ministerial approval, while the department knows full well the impact this policy can have on job creation. There had been absolutely no targets as it relates to exports in the third quarter, which is yet another confirmation that South Africa as a nation is a nation of

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consumers, not producers - reflective of a continued trend of deindustrialization.

In terms of transformation and competition, only 516 job opportunities had been created through transformation and competition interventions against a target of 50 000 job opportunities. Another indicator of failure by this department on its core mandate. The department, alongside the Presidency, has been delaying retrenchments at ArcelorMittal with promises of alleviating the challenges that have led to a consistent decline of the steel industry. Yet we have failed to rescue almost 3,500 jobs, which will now be lost as a result of retrenchments in Newcastle, Vereeniging.

One may therefore wonder, what is it that is distracting this department from achieving its targets? The answer is simple. This department has been drowning in scandal after scandal. If it is not the irregular awarding of the R180 billion lottery license to the politically exposed Gold Rush Consortium, or the appointment of ANC loyalists to the Industrial Development Agency, it is the introduction of regulations which intended to sell debt to credit bureaus and debt collectors, which has been defeated through the work of the EFF.

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Ironically, as the ANC held a meeting that sought to revive their capacity in local government yesterday, they met at FNB stadium, at what is called Gold Rush Dome. A dome which is owned by the very same company which was awarded the lottery license by the Minister of Trade and Industry. Yet again, proof that the distraction that is besetting this department is their surrender to the gambling industry and patronage.

The EFF will continue to expose this department as one that has long abandoned its mandate and is hell-bent on accumulating as much money as possible through corruption, towards funding internal political party campaigns, and the upcoming local government elections. The EFF rejects this report.

Mr T M LANGA: Deputy Speaker, the IFP notes that while progress has been made, as mentioned in the report, South Africa's economic challenges demand urgency, accountability, and bold action. The finalization of the National Industrial Policy Framework is long overdue and critical for directing industrialization, investment, and competitiveness.

The review of the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Regulatory Framework is essential to assess whether it is

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achieving its intended outcome of broad participation, business growth, and job creation, or whether it has become a barrier to new entrants.

We further welcome the call for a clear roadmap to unlock the commercialization of cannabis and hemp, a sector with transformative potential for rural economies, jobs, and revenue. This is in line with the lessons drawn from the late IFP member, Dr Mario Ambrosini. The IFP has consistently championed the commercialization of hemp and medicinal cannabis. We are therefore pleased that our calls have materialized. However, these efforts cannot succeed without clear timelines and firm implementation. The IFP will continue working with sector specialists and organizations to advance this vision. In the light of the issues raised above, the IFP accepts the report. I thank you.

Ms J A BASSON: Chair, I greet you all in the name of our Lord. We, the PA, declare our support for the report under consideration. However, we note with concern the statistics reflected therein, indicating that only 30% of businesses are black-owned and a mere 15% black women-owned. While it is acknowledged that the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment,

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BBBEE, legislation defines black people to include African, Coloured and Indian South Africans. Question remains, what proportion of these include Coloured and Indian communities?

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition has mandated the commission to oversee compliance and to ensure that companies are not merely compliant in oversight, but in reality. As one of the most diverse nations in the world, it is imperative that transformation is inclusive of all races across the spectrum of economic participation, whether as employees, managers, or owners. We are a rainbow nation in words, but on paper and in reality, Coloured and Indian South Africans are still left in the past.

We as the PA says no more. Legislation must not just define black people. It must become a reality for Coloureds and Indian South Africans in all spheres, in every business. I thank you.

Mr A D BEESLEY: Chair, ActionSA recently renamed the Department of Employment and Labour as the department of no jobs and no responsibility. Today we extend that same logic to the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, which we now call the department of no trade and no industry. Numbers do not lie.

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As the lead department responsible for driving South Africa's economic development, this department has failed dismally in its mandate.

Economic growth remains stagnant with the strong possibility of recession in the months ahead. At the same time, we are witnessing a jobs bloodbath. In the first quarter alone, nearly 300 000 jobs were lost, and the pace of job losses, especially in manufacturing, continues without relief. Instead of solutions, the department offers excuses. But much of this blame lies squarely at its own feet. One clear example is Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, BBBEE, or rather ANCEE.

Unlike the DA, ActionSA does not oppose transformation. We fully support it. But BEE is not transformational. It is a handbrake on the economy. That is why ActionSA proposes replacing it with an opportunity fund that will drive genuine bottom-up transformation by empowering Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises, SMMEs, and unlocking new opportunities for ordinary South Africans.

Another recent example is the department's failure to act while Chinese e-commerce giants have flooded our economy, crowding out

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local businesses that cannot compete on an uneven playing field. And the list of failures does not end there. Unless this department steps up, South Africa will soon truly become a country with no trade and no industry. I thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): May I also request the member who's standing there at the back to take a seat, please?

Mr W M THRING: Hon House Chairperson, while the annual performance plan, APP, of Department of Trade, Industry and Competition reflect commendable intent to align departmental priorities, with evolving policy landscape of the seventh administration, the ACDP remains concerned by persistent structural inefficiencies and underperformance across key sectors.

This department's mandate to drive inclusive industrialization, support enterprise development, and enhance trade competitiveness is critical to South Africa's economic recovery. However, the quarterly reports reveal troubling trends: underspending in catalytic programmes; delays in infrastructure-linked incentives; and poor uptake of localisation initiatives. These shortcomings are exacerbated by fiscal constraints imposed

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by National Treasury, and serve as a barrier too, and is counterproductive to industrial growth.

The ACDP calls for urgent reform in performance monitoring and interdepartmental co-ordination. Research from the Common Data Environment, CDE, warns that fragmented industrial policy and weak implementation undermine investor confidence and job creation. Moreover, the committee's own deliberations highlight the need for rationalizing Department of Trade, Industry and Competition entities to ensure that they are fit for purpose and resource efficient.

The ACDP urges the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition to prioritize beneficiation and support for high potential sectors such as agro-processing, green manufacturing, and creative industries, including the proposed industrial film strategy as sectors offering scalable opportunities for youth employment and export diversification.

As kingdom builders, the ACDP reaffirms our commitment to economic justice, transparent performance evaluation, and beneficiation as a low hanging fruit of unemployment redress. I thank you.

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Mr S M GANA: Ntshingila, you can come and present the speech. You know what I will say.

Xitsonga:

Ndzi khensa mutshamaxitulu wa komiti. A ndzi hleketa leswaku mi ta sungula hi ku hoyozela xipano lexikulu xa ntlangu wa bolo ya milenge.

English:

We must congratulate Orlando Pirates. It is more than a football club. Chair, on the issues that you raised, we must accept where we are right now. We can wish that things were different and that may be the result of that other country did not turn out the way that it did, but it did. We are here now. We must then find ourselves out of the situation that we are in. It doesn't help for us to cry about how things could have been if certain things could have happened in a particular way.

Nevertheless, one of the things that I expected you to say, Chair, and you know what I will say. We have a destructive fastest growing industry in this country, gambling. It's growing at a rate faster than anything else. As you talk about the unemployment and so forth, where people end up rushing to, is in

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gambling. I find that whilst we accept the good work that you are doing there on the transformation and other aspect, on gambling you are lacking, guys, please.

Let the portfolio protect the people of this country. These guys are milking it. They are leaving behind a trail of destruction. We stand together as parliamentarians. Hon Thambo raised this particular issue. We must stand together and face this monster together because we cannot sit idle whilst our people are being taken advantage of.

Xitsonga:

Ndza khensa swinene, Mutshamaxitulu.

Setswana:

Ngk. M A MAIMANE: Bagaetsho, dumelang.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon members.

Setswana:

Ngk.M A MAIMANE: Ke a leboga. Re a dumedisa akere.

English:

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Hon members, Verwoerd made this particular point, which was that, townships must become dormitories of unemployment. The tragedy is that when we sit here today, townships are places where young people are lingering, townships are places where factories are not being built, townships become places where have fulfilled that vision. Hon members, it's about time that you and I rethink the legislations that speaks to Special Economic Zones. Because, even the Musina-Makhado Special Economic Zone, SEZ, is not delivering on its promise, it has become a fanciful project that we speak about.

As BOSA, we will advocate that the SEZ laws become amended to make sure that townships are included. This will give incentives for people to invest in townships, to build infrastructure, to ensure that we deliver the capital that is required to create townships as places that are vibrant and models be developed so that economies may flow not only in the township but from the township. I would argue that if you create flexible legislation, it would create incentives for people to invest in townships, it would partner with municipalities to create a blended finance so that economic revitalisation takes place.

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I would argue that the department cannot continue to make glossy brochures and empty promises on SEZ. I argue that actually we must deliver tangible legislative reforms so that what Verwoerd dreamt of, will be a nightmare and what the reality of South Africa's dreams that will have an economy not only in the township but from the township delivering fresh jobs. Hon Masina, I hope we can work together to produce laws that benefit people in townships.

Setswana:

Ke a leboga bagolo.

English:

Thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Microphone, hon member.

Order, hon members. Order, hon members.

Dr L W MAHLATSI: I think this was staged.

Sesotho:

Kgotso, Maafrica.

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English:

This report - while full of figures - reveal the sobering reality. It is shifting the goalpost while unemployment, inequality and poverty remain unchanged. The amendment annual performance plan, APP, should not be a refuge for numbered ambition. When targets are reduced and delivery is postponed, the Department owe this House and the people of South Africa a clear explanation. Progress cannot be measured by adjusting the ruler to fit our shortcomings.

Financially, underexpenditure is not prudence it is failure. Money that is returned to the Treasury while factories close and township entrepreneurs struggle, is not saving, it is a sabotage to the development. Each unspent rand is a job denied, a business unfunded and a dream deferred . Nonfinancially, we are told that two thirds of target have been achieved. However, let us be honest that one third of missed target means a loss for opportunity for investment, for transformation and for industrialisation.

The department runs ahead with policy paper work but limps when it comes to implementation on the ground. It is even more concerning that industrial policies still fail to meet the

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margins. The rural areas, women, youth and township economy remain excluded while corporates capture the lion's share of support. The UAT reject this report.

Xitsonga:

Khanimambo!

Mr L MKUTU: Hon House Chairperson, ANC supports the tabling and adoption of this committee report. A crucial point to highlight is that the amendment for the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, DTIC, 2024-25 APP, was largely informed by an important shift in thinking at the committee level that recognised the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition was sufficiently utilising its cochairpersonship of the economic cluster, its entities and its policies, such as the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, BBBEE, policy, competition policy and sectoral master plans which are essential for the process of structural transformation in South Africa so that we can be able to tackle the country's socioeconomic challenges specially the sluggish economic growth, high unemployment and lack of structural transformation.

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The committee was of the view that the targeted output-based key performance indicators in the initial 2024-25 APP, submitted by the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition in July 2024 were not directly linked to the actual service delivery and had no direct impact on inclusive economic growth and structural transformation. Hence, the committee advised the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition to apply a more targeted and impact-driven approach to key performance indicators, KPIs, and its amended 2024-25 APP. As such, an approach was necessary for dealing with the root causes of the country's socioeconomic challenges.

In part, Mr Chance, as you stand here and you want to present your own economy policies without accepting that at the centre of the economic challenges in South Africa, is the issue of transformation, ownership, control and management of the economy. The people and the constituency that you represent continued in this country to benefit from the post democratic policies and apartheid structural design of separate development to continue to hold the wealth of this country in their hands.

Today you speak like a messiah and you are not because you are rejecting the very same policies of transformation that this

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government has sustained. The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition's performance modestly improved in the third quarter compared to the second quarter despite some of its key strategic entities such as the Industrial Development Corporation, IDC, the National Employment Fund and the National Lotteries Commission achieving less than 56% of their planned KPIs.

Some of the notable achievements that contributed to this improved performance included among other things, the submission of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area protocol on competition, as well as women, youth in trade for Cabinet approval. The attraction of R7,8 billion worth of greenfield and brownfield investments against a target of R5 billion ...

[Laughter.] ... and levelled red tape reductions processed through energy one stop shop for independent ... [Laughter.] ... power producers.

I think we've been consistent as the community, as the chair would have said that we have to develop an industrial policy underpinned by a macroeconomic policy that will be disciplined to the industrial policy, so that as we plan at the macroeconomic level it is consistent with our industrial policies. I thought that hon Thambo would have raised this thing

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because he would applaud us when we raise some of these things in the committee, not to come here and speak about renting stadiums and the venues for events.

We are discussing the economic policy, we are discussing industrialisation of the country and you are reducing us to venues. Who has booked a venue where now, we don't know, we just book venue. I think the tale that you are telling - the hon member of the MKP - without an end, let's end it for you. The end is that we are continuing as the ANC-led government to ensure that we intervene, create policies that must intervene to change ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): ... Order, hon members. Order.

Mr L MKUTU: That is why we are bringing in interventions like the Transformation Fund to ensure that we direct investments to those that have been previously disadvantaged and create local demand. Part of the policies that we are speaking about in the committee, by the way, is how to protect local industries to ensure that they produce and stimulate local the industry working consistently with our mineral endowments and how to

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beneficiate our mineral endowments in the country to add value and show that we create the necessary jobs. That is why ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Hon member, just take your seat, please. Order, hon members. Why are you rising, hon member?

Mr M B BLOSE: House Chair, we just want to check if the hon member is willing to sing for the House? We heard that they are very good singers.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): No, hon member, please. We are busy with serious business here. Order!

Mr L MKUTU (cont): It is venues and singing, clearly the EFF is out of depth. What we are saying here is that the end to the tale of the MK party is that the ANC will work tirelessly to ensure that we change the structure of our economy and we build the capacity of our people. We build the capacity of our people ... [Interjections.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon members.

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Mr L MKUTU: ... and ensure that we build the necessary skills to develop this economy and drive growth so that everyone in this country will be able to claim the economy of this country and will live a prosperous life. Thank you. [Time expired.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Order, hon members. I now recognise the hon Chief Whip.

The ACTING CHIEF WHIP OF THE LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mr M G Mahlaule): House Chairperson, on behalf of the Chief Whip, I move that the reports be adopted.

Question put.

Division demanded.

House Divided.

Bells rung for 5 minutes.

DURING DIVISION

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): There is a noise on my left, please concentrate, Chief Whip, so that we do not have a rerun of the previous experiences we have had.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY: You are out of order, Chair. Only you are out of order. You just express ...

[Inaudible.] 00:14:06 unnecessarily.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): No, hon members. Hon members, to all of you, you must concentrate. Hon Chief Whip, I am specifically referring to the members sitting right at the back who are not following. They are busy in their own discussions. Order, I do not need your assistance.

Voting: Second and Third Orders

Motions agreed to.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON SPORT, ARTS
AND CULTURE – 2023-24 SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL
AND NONFINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND
CULTURE**

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**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON SPORT, ARTS
AND CULTURE – 2024-25 FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL AND NONFINANCIAL
PERFORMANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE**

Mr J J MCGLUWA: House Chairperson, allow me to present the report of the Portfolio Committee on Sport, Arts and Culture on its consideration of the 2023-24 second, third, and fourth quarter financial and nonfinancial performance of the department. The report arises from the committee's oversight and deliberations on the performance of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and its associated entities.

The committee reaffirms that sport, arts, and culture remain central to nation-building. They are not luxuries but powerful vehicles for social cohesion, youth development, and economic empowerment. The report highlights both the achievements and the challenges faced by the department in pursuing these goals.

Firstly, the committee engaged extensively with the department's programmes, particularly in relation to sport development, heritage preservation, and promotion of creative industries. We noted progress in some areas, such as the expansion of grassroots sport initiatives and the roll-out of cultural

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programmes across provinces. However, persistent structural weaknesses remain. One of the most pressing issues is infrastructure. Many community facilities are incomplete, poorly maintained, or underutilised. The committee was deeply concerned by the delays in the delivery of sport infrastructure funded through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant. This not only hampers job opportunities but also youth participation in sport, especially in rural and disadvantaged communities. The department and its provincial partners must improve planning, co-ordination, and accountability in this regard.

Secondly, the committee expressed strong concern regarding governance within sporting federations. Repeated instances of maladministration, poor financial management, and leadership instability undermine the credibility of sport in South Africa. The committee therefore recommends more stringent oversight mechanisms, conditional funding, and support for federations that comply with principles of good governance and transformation.

Thirdly, the committee reviewed matters relating to the National Arts Council, the National Film and Video Foundation, and the National Heritage Council. Whilst these entities continue to

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promote South Africa's rich cultural tapestry, the committee noted inefficiencies in disbursement of funds to artists, concerns about transparency and decision-making, and the urgent need to professionalise management structures. These matters must be addressed to restore public confidence and to ensure that support reaches deserving beneficiaries.

Hon members, transformation remains uneven. In many sporting codes, equitable access and representation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities still lag. The committee stressed that transformation is not negotiable. It is central to the legitimacy and future success of South Africa and its sport. In the arts sector, rural and marginalised communities often struggle to access opportunities. Funding mechanisms must therefore be inclusive, decentralised, and responsive to local realities.

The committee carefully scrutinised the department's expenditure patterns. Underspending in certain programmes, combined with irregular expenditure and fruitless costs, continues to compromise delivery in this sector. We urge that the department strengthen its internal budget controls and improve collaboration with Treasury and its implementing agents. The

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department must prioritise the completion and maintenance of sport and cultural infrastructure, with clear timelines and accountability frameworks. Entities such as the National Arts Council and the National Film and Video Foundation must streamline their funding processes and enhance transparency.

The Portfolio Committee on Sport, Arts and Culture recognises the immense potential of this sector to unite. I therefore table this report for consideration and adoption. I thank you.

There was no debate.

Declarations of vote:

Ms L R POTGIETER: Chair, when we review the performance of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, two things become painfully clear.

Firstly, they ended the 2023-24 financial year with weak and inconsistent reporting and entered 2024-25 with the same failures, the same excuses, and the same neglect. The committee's consideration of the 2023-24 second to fourth quarter reports exposed underspending, poor planning, and nondelivery. Key targets were missed, invoices went unpaid,

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transfers to entities were delayed, and flagship projects stalled. The department blamed everything from missing business plans to outstanding invoices.

However, the reality is simple. Our athletes were short-changed, our artists went without support, and our heritage sites were left incomplete. The same pattern continues into 2024-25. Sport and recreation were particularly hard hit, with funds not transferred because entities failed to meet compliance. Even basic initiatives like athlete development programmes were left unfulfilled because provinces did not report properly. Oversight becomes impossible when information is delayed or missing.

This dysfunction is particularly troubling to me. My father was a professor of fine arts and sculpture at the University of the Witwatersrand. He taught my mother, who is also a fine artist and a photographer, and much of my youth was spent restoring paintings, playing football, and later dabbling in coaching. A lot of my father's artwork remains unaccounted for over the years due to the neglect of galleries and institutions across the country. I have also never been prouder of my daughter than when she was selected for provincial football, but the reality is that opportunities like this are only open if you can pay for

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them. This leaves many talented, disadvantaged young people without access, skewing the true picture of talent in our country. I really think we should think about this.

Minister McKenzie promised to bring energy, passion, and change. Instead, the department is paralysed by the same dysfunction that we saw before his arrival. The speeches are fiery, the social media posts are entertaining, but, when it comes to delivery, the cupboard is empty. It is almost like the guy that shows up to dinner promising to pick up the tab but then suddenly forgets his wallet – although, today, I see we have been ghosted completely.

The Minister must channel the same energy that he uses in his public relations posts in motivating his own department to get the work done. The department is now withdrawing funding from some of the country's most successful cultural festivals – the Suidoosterfees, the Cape Town International Jazz Festival, the Cape Town Carnival, and the Open Book Festival. These are proven drivers of jobs, tourism, and community pride, yet, whilst promising more festivals so that our artists can earn something, the Minister has left these flagship events in crisis. These are international events that not only boost the economy but also

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play a significant role in nation-building, showcasing our culture and values to the world. It is deeply frustrating to see money quietly reallocated to political pet projects, whilst events that sustain thousands of jobs are cut, and, when they beg the Minister for help, their pleas fall on deaf ears.

Whilst the bureaucracy stalls, the reality on the ground is that community and sports facilities have deteriorated at a rapid pace. Nobody in this department seems to care enough to account for it, and this decline fuels bigger crises: rising unemployment, youth idleness, and even crime. Sport, arts, and culture should be part of the solution – building pride, opportunity, and unity. Instead, they are being allowed to crumble into irrelevance. How can this department deliver on its commitments if funding allocations are a complete mess, and meaningless promises are being thrown around?

Leading into 2025-26, it is quite clear that money is being quietly reallocated behind the scenes for high-profile projects, rather than the development of our athletes, artists, and communities. The Minister's next move seems clear. It is padding critical boards with PA members and dissolving them where loyalty is lacking. This is not about better governance or

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oversight. It is about consolidating political influence, controlling budgets, decisions, and the very narrative of sport, arts, and culture in South Africa.

As the DA, we will not stand by whilst this department chases headlines, neglects delivery, and turns national institutions into political instruments. Our athletes, artists, and cultural professionals deserve a department that sees them as the backbone of a nation, not as props in the Minister's vanity project. I thank you.

Mr G MOTAUNG: Chairperson and hon members ...

IsiZulu:

... thina njengamalungu e-MKP sithi siyakuchitha lokhu kusebenza komnyango ...

English:

... because in 2023-24, in the second, third, and fourth quarters, it failed to deliver. In the first quarter of 2024-25, their reports again exposed them as insufficient and inactive. They continue to fail our people in South Africa.

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They have misused funds. In 2023-24, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture underspent hundreds of millions on core projects such as community sports infrastructure, heritage projects, grassroots arts, and township libraries. These funds, which were supposed to uplift our people, were rolled over or diverted elsewhere. Instead, these funds were rolled over and ballooned because of administrative costs.

The department prioritised information and communications technology contracts, consultation fees, and supply-driven expenditures. In the first quarter of 2024-25, the department overspent by R133 million on micro-licences, Vodacom contracts, and vanity celebrations such as the 30 years celebration, whilst the people are queuing outside, libraries are crumbling, and children play on dusty fields with no facilities. The department wasted a lot of money on empty fanfare, and it is an insult to our people in South Africa.

Despite the National Sport and Recreation Act obliging the Minister to support federations at the development and club level, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture's funding cuts and underspending directly undermine the law. The department continues to ignore the National Development Plan: Vision 2030

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goals of promoting social cohesion through sport, arts, and culture. There is no clear implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence and Femicide through sport, arts, and culture, despite repeated commitments. There is no dedicated or protected allocation for learners with disabilities or disadvantaged schools, contradicting constitutional commitments to equality and access.

Weak consequence management continues year after year. Firstly, the department has failed rural schools. There are no fields; our kids are playing in dusty streets. Townships remain without proper facilities and libraries. There are no cultural centres and no heritage programmes. Our youth athletes, especially in the townships, are not registered in federations. They are not assigned any federations, and we have found out there is a lot of poor management of funds and inadequate support in communities. Our artists and cultural workers are left unsupported by the national ... [Time expired.]

Mr E MTHETHWA: House Chairperson, greetings to the Commander-in-Chief, CIC, the awaiting President of the United States of Africa, President Julius Malema, commissars and fighters, fellow South Africans. The EFF supports the committee's report. While

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we acknowledge the report, it is imperative that we critically reevaluate the distribution of funded projects across the country. Placing greater emphasis on previously disadvantaged and rural areas.

Our visits, to numerous locations in the Eastern Cape and Bokone Bophirima, reveals stark contrast to the success stories purported by the department. The evidence clearly indicates a different reality than the positive narratives presented.

The sporting facility is funded by the department, municipalities or through collaborations between the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, DSAC, and the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure are often incomplete or left to deteriorate.

The Sarah Baartman Centre of Remembrance has become a monument of shame. From the moment one enters the misspelling of Sarah Baartman stands out alongside any structural defects and unverifiable grave. Despite escalating costs, there's little to show for the expenditure.

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The portfolio committee must pursue accountability relentlessly, ensuring that those entrusted with delivering services fulfil their responsibility diligently and within the agreed timelines.

The portfolio committee must continue to demand qualitative reporting from all government departments at national, provincial and municipal levels. The glaring absence of effective planning has repeatedly hindered progress. This is evident as several projects we visited were unprepared for viewing. With excuses regarding key availability offered by the project managers despite prior arrangements for visits.

This lack of planning is root cause of government departments, consistent underperformance and overspending. We must implement changes to rectify the issues for betterment of our communities. The EFF supports the report. I thank you, House Chair.

Mr S L NGCOBO: House Chairperson, the cultural and creative sectors continue to face late transfers and under expenditure, which undermines artists, community projects and heritage institutions, that depends on predictable funding.

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We call on the department to strengthen internal controls and accelerate the disbursements of grants so that support reaches practitioners, when it is most needed.

In the sporting arena, South African is hosting major events and our athletes' international achievements should inspire a far more deliberate investment in grassroots sport.

We urge the department to intensify its partnerships with schools and local municipalities to ensure that the talent development is not confined to well-resourced urban centres but reaches rural communities as well. We call for a more strategic and transparent monitoring of flagship programs including the Mzansi Golden Economy and the transformation charters within sport. These programs can be powerful levers for job creation and inclusion. But only if targets are met and publicly reported. The IFP supports this report. Thank you.

Ms J S PETERSEN: House Chair, there's no declaration, we support the report and the Minister. Thank you.

Mrs H DENNER: House Chair, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture's performance during the 2023-24 financial year showed

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significant failures. Lower than projected spending was noted across Programs Two, Three and Four due to delays, noncompliance and budget cuts and this resulted in most performance targets with 15% and 10% unachieved, in quarter three and four respectively.

Crucially, budget cuts severely impacted grassroots sports development, leading to underachievement in providing equipment to schools and participation in school and district sport tournaments. Infrastructure projects like the Sarah Baartman Centre for Remembrance faced prolonged delays and contractual disputes. Committee observations highlighted poor planning and mismanagement.

Encouragingly, the first quarter of 2024-25 showed some improvements with 86% of targets achieved and Program Three and Four reaching all their goals. The committee also deemed the report satisfactory.

However, concerns about support for language, culture and heritage driven initiatives persisted. The Pan South African Language Board remained unconstituted and heritage projects

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faced continued delays. The Program Three budgets also saw a real term decrease towards 2024-2025.

Sport plays a crucial role in nation building and social cohesion. It is paramount to stimulate sports development from grassroots levels through programs like mass participation and the sport development grant rather than through forced cosmetic transformation, which risks excluding certain groups to the detriment of exactly those noble goals. I thank you

Mr A D BEESLEY: House Chairperson, this report show that the department is facing budget cuts in the hundreds of millions, meaning that every cent must now stretch further. However, the Minister seems to be jet setting around the globe, often with no discernible outcomes besides public relations, PR, for himself and his Twitter account.

In his reply to me, he remarked that Ministers must fly business class, otherwise they may get sick. This is completely out of touch with reality faced by the people of South Africa.

So, far he has spent 6,6 million on international travel with over two million spent on the Paralympics for himself, his

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deputy, and believe it or not, their receptionists. This is while sports fields at home are left to decay. Children don't have soccer boots, and hockey teams can't go on tour.

Our sportsmen and women are performing well despite the Minister's leadership ... not because of his leadership. We do not believe that a Minister has referred to citizens, using dehumanizing terms, is fit to lead the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and we have laid a complaint with the Human Rights Commission in this regard. This is not the example we want to set for our children, nor is it indicative of someone serious about leading such an important department.

Action SA supports this report, but we have serious concerns about the department at large. I Thank you.

Mr W M THRING: House Chairperson, the ACDP notes that while this department has demonstrated incremental improvements in performance, achieving 91% of its Annual Performance Plan, APP, targets in 2023-24.

We remain concerned by persistent inefficiencies underutilized programs and limited community impact. The department's

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strategic mandates to foster national cohesion through sport, heritage and creative expression is vital. Yet, its execution remains uneven. Persistent on its irregularities unresolved, forensic reports and the 24-month vacancy in the director general post undermines the DSAC's governance and accountability structures.

The Mzansi Golden Economy and winning nation initiatives have shown promise, but logistical delays, low stakeholder participation and infrastructure bottlenecks continue to hamper delivery. The variance of 67,6 million in program expenditure and the cancellation of School Arts Championships reflect a troubling disconnect between planning and execution.

The ACDP calls for a recalibration of the department's priorities, placing grassroots development, youth engagement and cultural preservation at the centre. The ACDP expresses concern that arts and culture risks, marginalization.

The department's roll out of the 17 cultural and creative industry clusters, signals intent to strengthen the art sector, yet these efforts have received less public and political attention.

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Strategic balance is essential because our school cohesion depends on holistic investment, and we must caution against a disproportionate focus on elite sporting events.

We urge the department to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Performance must be measured not only by targets met, but by lives changed. The ACDP supports this report. I thank you.

Ms C T NONTENJA: House Chair, the UDM welcomes the report of the Portfolio Committee on Sport, Arts and Culture. However, we must raise serious concerns that strike at the heart of our nation's social fabric. Despite being allocated over R6,1 billion for 2024-25, the department underspent by R440 million by the second quarter, especially in arts promotion and recreation development. This is unacceptable in a country where our youth and artists are desperate for opportunities.

The UDM cannot ignore the cries of our actors. For years, they have raised alarms about receiving once-off payments without royalties for re-broadcast or digital streaming and facing financial hardships despite their immense contribution to our culture and identity. Though the department has promised

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industry reforms, little progress has been made to enforce fair contracts, regulate broadcasters, and ensure performance share in the long-term value of their work.

The UDM stands firmly with actors and creative workers demanding sustainable livelihoods, pension protections, and health are benefits, not empty promises. The UDM is also concerned that vital projects such as placing artists in schools, supporting moral regeneration, and developing infrastructure like the Sarah Batman Centre of Remembrance remain delayed due to poor project management and administrative gridlock.

These failures deprive communities of platforms that foster social cohesion and preserve heritage. Therefore, the UDM calls on the department to ensure transparent and timely fund transfers so that no artist, athlete, or community organisation is left out. The UDM supports the report.

Mr S M GANA: No declaration from RISE, we support.

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: We support.

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Chairperson ...

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Sesotho:

... kgotso, Maafrica.

English:

The report indicates that the department achieved some targets, cultural heritage audits, library services, community art programmes, and mass sport participation initiatives have advanced. This shows that with planning and efforts; the department can serve the people and uphold our shared identity.

Yet, hon members, there are troubling patterns, budget under-expenditure continues while certain programmes are delayed or are incomplete. Entities under the department, including theatres and heritage centres, face government challenges, mismanagement, and poor audit outcomes.

Vacancies in leadership, weak asset management, and delays in infrastructure delivery compromise the department's ability to serve communities, particularly rural and historically marginalised. Culture, sport, and heritage are not luxuries. They are instruments of dignity, identity, and social cohesion.

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Every unspent rand, every incomplete facility, every delayed programme is a lost opportunity to uplift our people. The UAT rejects this report.

Xitsonga:

Khanimambo!

Ms M L MMOLOTSANE: House Chair, The Department of Sport, Arts, and Culture manages a substantial portfolio with a budget allocation of R64,4 billion for 2023-24, which was subsequently adjusted to R6,1 billion due to significant economic and financial events, requiring a budget reduction of R268,4 million.

Despite these challenging circumstances, the department demonstrated commendable fiscal discipline, achieving a final expenditure of R6,065 billion, representing 99,6% totalisation of the available budget, with minimal underspending of only R23,9 million.

For the 2025-26 financial year, the department received a budget allocation of R6,11 billion. However, the first quarter performance reveals concerning spending patterns, with actual

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expenditure of R1,33 billion failing, R156,3 million short of projected spending target, representing a 10,5 variance that demands immediate attention.

The department's work is structured across four critical programmes, each serving distinct but interconnected functions in advancing our nation's sports, arts, and cultural agenda. Programme 1, Administration, faced significant challenge in 2024-25, with overspending of R49,7 million in the first quarter, primarily attributed to delayed invoicing from the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure for state-owned leases and municipal accounts. This administrative inefficiency undermines proper budget planning and execution.

Programme 2, Recreation Development and Sports Promotion, experienced the most substantial budget reduction in 2023-24, losing R182,1 million, which directly impacted community programs. The first quarter of 2024-25 showed continued challenges with R109,3 million underspending due to entities non-compliance with infrastructure policies and delayed submission of expenditure reports.

Programme 3, Arts and Culture Promotion Development, demonstrated resilience despite facing budget pressure.

However, the 2024-25 first quarter underspending of R89,3 million, primarily due to delayed invoicing from Nelson Mandela University for the South African Cultural Observatory, reflects persistent administrative coordination challenges.

Programme 4, Heritage Promotion and Preservation, receiving the largest allocation of R2,70 billion in 2024-25, maintained steady performance with minimal variance from projected spending, indicating effective programme management. Performance target achievement show concerning fluctuations. While the department achieved perfect performance in the second quarter of 2023-24 with 100% target achievement, performance declined to 85% in the third quarter and recovered to 90% in the fourth quarter.

The 2024-25 first quarter performance of 86% target achievement suggests ongoing implementation challenges that require immediate intervention. The committee raised significant concerns about infrastructure project management, particularly the delayed Sara Bartman Centre of Remembrance project, where

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the contractor vacated the site in July 2021 due to contractual disputes.

The Isibhubhu Cultural Arena project faces completion challenges, highlighting systematic issues in infrastructure project delivery that undermine community development objectives. The committee's objection regarding skewed geographical distribution of projects with apparent concentration in Gauteng province raises serious questions about equitable resource allocation. This geographic imbalance contradicts constitutional the principle of equitable development and requires immediate rectification to ensure all provinces benefit proportionally from national sports arts and culture investment.

The committee's concerns about transformation in sports, particularly potential exclusion of certain racial groups from scientific support programs and sports academics. Demand urgent attention to ensure these programmes align with South Africa's transformation imperatives. The recommendation provides a clear roadmap for improvement, including the establishment of a dedicated project management unit, filling critical positions

and developing comprehensive plans for delayed infrastructure projects.

The department must prioritise equitable geographic distribution of programmes, provide detailed reporting on municipal technical assistance. Despite identified challenges, the Department of Sport and Arts and Culture plays an indispensable role in fostering social cohesion, economic development, and cultural preservation. The sector's contribution to job creation through the Mzansi Golden Economy Strategy and Presidential Employment Stimulus Programme demonstrates its potential for economic transformation.

Financial performance, while showing areas for improvement, reflects responsible fiscal management under challenging economic conditions. The department's commitment to achieving 90% of performance targets in the 2024-25 fourth quarter indicates institutional capacity for delivery. The ANC supports the consideration of both portfolio committee reports while urging the department to implement the committee's recommendations particularly regarding infrastructure projects, geographic equity transformation

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The ACTING CHIEF WHIP OF THE LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mr M G Mahlaule): I move that the report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON SPORT, ARTS
AND CULTURE ON 2024/25 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL AND NON-
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE**

Mr J J MCGLUWA: House Chairperson, I rise before this House to table for consideration, the committee report on the department's financial and non-financial performance for the Second Quarter of the 2024-25 financial year as reflected under Vote 37. Guided by section 32 of the Public Finance Management Act of 1999 and Section 5 of the Money Bills Amendment Procedure and Related Matters Act of 2009, it is our constitutional mandate to hold the executive to account. These instruments require Parliament, through its committees, to monitor departmental performance against allocated budgets and to assess whether expenditure results in the intended outcomes.

Hon members, the total budget allocated to the department is R6,1 billion. Programme 1: Administration was allocated

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R449 million. Program 2: Recreation Development and Sport Promotion received R1,2 billion. This programme actually concealed serious challenges beneath the surface. Programme 3: Arts and Culture Promotion and Development received R1,64 billion. Programme 4: The largest chunk of funding went to heritage promotion and perseverance, which received R2,7 billion.

Underspending mainly occurred in Programme 2 and 3 largely because of delays in transferring funds to the entities and some significant challenges that are yet to be resolved. The committee notes that the vacancies on boards such as Boxing South Africa, the National Film and Video Foundation and PanSALB undermine government and leadership stability at the time. This includes sudden resignations due to misuse of funds. The committee was concerned by delays in transferring funds to beneficiaries of the Presidential Employment Stimulus Programme as well as the administrative bottlenecks around events such as Freedom Day and Heritage Day. The target for supporting Moral Regeneration Project was missed due to documentation issues.

House Chair, the committee made several observations. We noted with concern the suspension of senior officials, including

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Deputy Director-General for Co-operative Services, pending investigations. These matters have a direct bearing on service delivery and require urgent resolution. We also observed that the department's efforts to promote social cohesion through events and programmes may also not achieve the intended or desired outcome, and that access to opportunities and job remains unevenly distributed across provinces.

The committee also raises concerns about the cost escalation resulting from unplanned Cabinet approved projects, such as the celebration of 30 Years of Democracy. While we, as the committee appreciate the significance of such events, they must not come at the expense of planned and budgeted events from the department. The committee has made various recommendations, of which some of them is that the department provides a full report on the ongoing investigations into officials with timelines and finalisation, given their impact on delivery and that steps be taken to fill these vacancies and programmes. The department to promote equitable distribution of opportunities across provinces, aiming to strengthen nation building and social cohesion with creating opportunities and jobs for all.

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Hon members, the cultural, creative and sporting sectors play a vital role in fostering unity, promoting national identity and creating economic opportunities. Therefore, effective resources and management are essential in unlocking their full potential. House Chairperson, I present this report to the House for consideration and adoption. I thank you.

Declarations of vote:

Ms L R POTGIETER: Hon House Chairperson, the department's first quarter performance report for 2202-25 on the surface looks neat. Eighty-six percent of targets have been achieved expenditures within range and a presentation that satisfied the committee after its initial rejection. But beneath the polished numbers lies the story of broken promises, political patronage and financial manipulation that cannot be ignored. As I've mentioned, Minister Mackenzie entered office with great fanfare, promising to uplift athletes and artists, transform the sector, and energise the department long plagued by dysfunction.

The truth is that his department is failing to deliver on its constitutional mandate and is being used as a political instrument to consolidate power. The festivals across the country that were promised support, once existing funding

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streams were withdrawn, they were told to apply to the Mzansi Golden Economy Fund, only to have their applications rejected. These are not fringe events, they are anchor institutions in our cultural economy.

The Cape Town International Jazz Festival generates around R900 million for the Western Cape economy, supporting over 5 000 temporary and permanent jobs across the sectors. The Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees attracts over 100 000 attendees annually, generating R72 million in direct economic impact for Oudtshoorn and a total of R178 million across the Western Cape. The Stellenbosch Woordfees draws over 100 000 visitors and reaches over 2 500 schools and 270 000 learners annually. The Suidoosterfees sustains more than 4 000 jobs and offers a junior festival inviting over 8 000 school children to experience the arts. The Aardklop Arts Festival in Potchefstroom generates R50-65 million annually for the North West province.

The Innibos Lowveld National Arts Festival injects R80-90 million into Mpumalanga's economy, with roughly 78 800 visitors. The Vrystaat Kunstefees generates an estimated R208 million in the Free State, with attendees spending an average of R4 800 each. The National Arts festival features 2 000

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performers, attracts over 200 000 attendees and generates R350 million annually to support Makhanda's local impoverished economy.

These are international flagship events. They are recognised and valued by multiple governments, consulates and various organisations. Facts that Minister McKenzie seems to be blatantly ignoring. Withdrawing support from these festivals threatens thousands of livelihoods. It eliminates youth opportunities, and it undermines development. Has the Minister conducted feasibility studies or engaged with the festivals before making these decisions? The answer is no. Meanwhile, the Mzansi Golden Economy, MGE Adjudication Panel is stacked with patriotic PA members, including his spokesperson, ex-councillors and members of the party, and the contact for festival fundraising is another active PA member. A textbook case of political patronage.

Although this report covers up to September 2024, the department's current defunding of sports federations to reallocate R82 million for Video Assistant Referee System, VAR cannot be ignored. International leagues such as the English Premier League, EPL, LaLiga and the Bundesliga, introduced VAR

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as part of clear strategic plans, broader technological upgrades and without cutting grassroots programmes. As an avid Liverpool supporter, I followed this very closely.

Here, however, funds are redirected without clear authority and the chief financial officer initially denying that reallocations were even made until he was questioned extensively. This occurred outside original budgeting processes, putting grassroots sports and developments at risk. The result is predictable, artists and athletes are starved of sports, heritage projects stall and communities are left without promised facilities. Meanwhile, funds are quietly diverted into headline chasing projects, designed to boost the Minister's image or to serve as political network.

Hon House Chair, as the DA we demand the reinstatement of funding for established festivals with proven social and economic impact. We want full disclosure of all MGE allocations, including applicant details and compliance history. We want to depoliticise adjudication process and a full account from the Minister on every budget reallocation, including the VAR diversion with legal clarification. Sports, arts and culture is about nation building, opportunity and about hope. Under this

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Minister, it has become a tool of political power. As the DA, we will not stand by while that happens. I thank you.

Mr G MOTAUNG: The MK party rejects this report and there is no declaration.

Mr E MTHETHWA: Hon House Chairperson, greetings to the commander in chief, CIC, Julius Malema, commissars, fighters and fellow South Africans, the EFF actively participated in all activities and processes that contributed to the compilation of the portfolio committee's report presented here today. While we support the report as a reflection of the observation and deliberations of the committee, it is imperative to highlight several pressing concerns.

The department's inadequate response to chapter's nine and 15 of the National Development Plan which are crucial for supporting government priorities, particularly the economic transformation of the cultural and creative sector cannot be overlooked.

Ownership dynamics in this are starkly skewed resembling a system where the black majority remains a subordinate position serving as a labour force for a predominantly white ownership that reaps the benefits of production and profits.

The ongoing issues of spatial integration and design of human settlements are unacceptable as they continue to reflect the disparities and fenced during colonial and apartheid eras. This proportionately affects suburbs, townships and rural areas.

Schools and areas that have been historically disadvantaged are in dire need of equitable access to sports and arts facilities matching those available in previously white only areas.

The lack of true social cohesion particularly evident in national events hosted by the department raises serious concerns about representation and inclusivity showcasing a clear imbalance in participating demographics.

The failure to achieve meaningful job creation as outlined in the PSPNET Mzansi Golden Economy and other employment programmes is a significant issue. These programmes are plagued by corruption and mismanagement hindering their intended impact. The evident lack of understanding of the sector key leaders including the Minister, who at times quote wrong Acts profoundly affects governance. This is illustrated by decisions regarding board compositions that prioritise political loyalty over sector expertise.

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While the EFF supports the support of this report, it is crucial to emphasize these reservations which directly challenge any notion of the department's successes. It is critical also to question whether the strategies proposed by the department genuinely address the distinct challenges faced by diverse communities in the sports, arts and culture sectors.

Furthermore, economic instability poses a significant threat to the success of initiatives outlined in this report. The EFF supports this report. [Time expired.]

Mr S L NGCOBO: Hon House Chairperson the IFP acknowledges the department's achievements of 85% of its planned outputs in the quarter under review. We note the positive steps in promoting social cohesion in supporting the cultural creative industry through its initiatives such as the Mzansi Golden Economy and the Presidential Stimulus Programme.

However, we remain concerned about the several recurring challenges. There was significant underspending in recreation development and sports promotion and arts and culture promotion and development. These are precisely areas where investment

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should reach communities and grassroots initiatives. Delays in transfers undermine the impact of these programmes.

We urge the department to ensure that its flagship in events and projects reach rural and historically disadvantaged communities and that the objectives of the Imbozos and ministerial initiatives are clearly defined and evaluated. Sports, arts and culture are vital drivers of nation-building and economic inclusion. They deserve disciplined management and timely expenditure. The IFP support this report.

Ms J A BASSON: Hon House Chairperson, this portfolio committee, has observed, engaged and deliberated. Our reports reflect a department that in a midst of a profound and unnecessary renaissance let us be unequivocally clear this department was left in an inherited state of neglect. Very little was done to reach the people who needed it the most. It was a department adrift.

However, under the new leadership we witness revival. Revival of spirit, of purpose, of tangible delivery, a love for sport. A child out of court is a child in sport. Thank you.

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Mrs H DENNER: Hon House Chairperson the core objective of the department is to develop ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Our apologies hon member, just mute that microphone please.

Hon member, please continue.

Mrs H DENNER: Hon House Chairperson the core objective of the department is to develop and promote sport, arts and culture fostering a creative competitive and socially cohesive nation.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr C T Frolick): Can that member be removed from the platform please. Thank you.

Hon member, please continue.

Afrikaans:

Me H DENNER: Die belangrikheid van hierdie mandaat mag nie geringgeskat word nie. Daar sal nooit geld wees om al die doelstellings wat hierdie mandaat vereis 100% te verwesenlik nie, maar dit is nie net die finansiering van hierdie mandaat wat saakmaak nie. Meer belangrik is hoe die bestaande fondse

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aangewend word, wat die prioriteite is wat die mandaat onderlê, en die gesindheid waarmee dit uitgevoer word.

Wat besteding betref, Program 3: Kuns en Kultuurbbevordering en Ontwikkeling het 'n nominale afname na 2024-25 van R1,64 miljard beleef. Teen kwartaal twee het die departement slegs 48% van sy R6,11 miljard begroting bestee – minder as geprojekteer – terwyl daar vrae gevra word soos Sondag in die Rapport oor beloftes van befondsing aan kunstefeeste soos die Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, Suidoosterfees, Woordfees, Aardklop, Innibos, en Vryfees.

Die VF Plus het 'n skriftelike vraag hieroor aan die Minister ingedien en verwag dat die kwessie ten volle in die antwoord aangespreek sal word sodat ons almal agter die kap van hierdie spesifieke byl kan kom.

English:

The Mzansi Golden Economy strategy aims to unlock the creative industries' potential with R1,2 billion allocated for the creation of 60 390 jobs. However, it is unclear what criterion is used to allocate funding to applicants. Why applicants from certain established or applications from certain established

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applicants have been denied and whose applications have been approved based on what criteria?

Sustained support for South Africa's art and culture sector especially its festivals is vital, and we need more than just empty promises. I thank you, hon House Chairperson.

Ms M P KOBE: No declaration. We support this report.

IsiNdebele:

Nom D M SKOSANA: Sihlalo, angikuthokoze. Kunomraro godu la. Angazi njengombana nanirareja abantu abalaleleko emakhaya ukobana kuhle kuhle ningophe ukwenzani. Amalimi ngapha nkhayapha akusi malimi amabili engiwalaleleko kwaphela. Kunelimi leSiswati, isiPedi, isiNdebele, kodwana abantu emakhaya abakwazi ukulalela. Bekukhulunywa ilimi lale kude. Ngiyanibawa bona Sihlalo, wena ngibawe khulu kuwe angazi kangaki ngagcina nathi ngizuphuma kwathiwa mina ngenzalokhu nalokhya. Kodwana ngiyanibawa; sibawa bona abantu emakhaya bakwazi ukwazwa. Asizokulalela amakhuwa kwaphela la. Ngiyabawa.

English:

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Skosana, whilst you were speaking, I was scrolling through the channels, and you are quite correct. There is a shocking lack and absence of translation services. I will ask the table to technically look into it and advise, and I will come back to this House. Let me just double check.

ActionSA confirmed that there is no declaration from them.

Alright. We move on.

Mr W M THRING: No declaration. Thank you.

Ms C T NONTENJA: No declaration.

Mr S M GANA: No declaration. We support the report.

Dr M A MAIMANE: No declaration.

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: Al Jama-ah supports the report.

Setswana:

Rre S T D LOUW: E re ke tseye tshono go leboga Modulasetilo wa rona yo o fanang ka tshono ...

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English:

... I rise today to express support for the report of the Portfolio Committee on Sport, Arts and Culture on the 2024-25 second quarter financial year and the nonfinancial performance of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture.

The report represents a comprehensive assessment that demands our careful consideration, as it reveals both commendable achievements and concerning challenges within our cultural and sporting landscape.

I must, however, acknowledge the department's solid performance trajectory, achieving 23 out of 27 planned output indicators, an impressive 85% success rate, during the second quarter. This demonstrates institutional capacity and a commitment to service delivery, despite operating in challenging circumstances.

The department's strategic focus on economic transformation through the Mzansi Golden Economy strategy deserves recognition, with R1,2 billion allocated over the medium term to create 60 390 job opportunities in the cultural and creative sector. This initiative represents a meaningful contribution to our national employment objectives and economic recovery efforts.

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Programme two – recreation development and sports promotion, attained an exemplary 89% success rate, supporting 17 sport and recreation bodies, and demonstrates tangible progress towards mass participation in sport.

Similarly, programme three – arts and culture development and promotion, maintained an 89% achievement rate, reflecting the department's commitment to cultural preservation and development.

The department's expenditure of R2,930 billion, representing 48% of the available R6,110 billion budget by the second quarter indicates reasonable fiscal discipline, adhering to spending patterns appropriate for the reporting period.

However, this report also revealed troubling deficiencies that cannot be overlooked. The variance of R440,5 million between the projected and actual expenditure raises serious questions about planning accuracy and budget execution capabilities. This 7,2% variance suggests systematic challenges in financial forecasting and implementation.

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Of particular concern is the administrative turmoil within programme one, where the deputy-director of corporate services and other departmental officials have been placed on administrative leave pending internal investigations. Such leadership instability directly undermines service delivery and institutional effectiveness.

The department's failure to attain full board constitution across its entities, with only 82% of councils and boards properly constituted, reflects governance weaknesses that require immediate attention.

The dissolution of the boards of Boxing SA and the National Film and Video Foundation alongside delayed PanSALB appointments demonstrates institutional management failures.

Programme four ... inability to support any tertiary students studying heritage practice during the quarter, despite 45 students who represented a full complement ... who failed in ... human capital development within the heritage sector. This zero-achievement rate in such a critical area is unacceptable. It is not even going to be welcomed.

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The report also highlights deeper structural issues affecting performances and delays in infrastructure development, including construction of the Polokwane Theatre and the Sarah Baartman Centre of Remembrance. This indicates project management deficiencies that waste public resources and delays community benefits.

The department struggles with compliance requirements by sports and recreation bodies, resulting in only 17 out of 20 targeted organisations being supported. It suggests inadequate stakeholder engagement and support systems that are filled.

Furthermore, the negative budgetary impact of an unplanned Cabinet-approved 30 years of democracy celebration project demonstrates poor financial planning and co-ordination within broader government initiatives.

Despite all these challenges, we support the consideration of the report because it provides essential transparency and accountability mechanisms necessary for improvement.

Our recommendation as the committee ... of a road map to address identified deficiencies while building on existing strengths.

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The department must provide comprehensive reports on all internal investigations as recommended, ensuring that administrative disruptions that are led by the Minister do not compromise service delivery. Progress updates on the filling of vacant positions will address capacity constraints affecting performance.

It is quite important ... that the establishment of a proper project management system for IT initiatives and infrastructure development will enhance service-delivery efficiency and reduce cost overruns.

The ANC therefore supports the consideration of this report and the swift implementation of its recommendation, and we wish to reiterate that the Minister must align himself with the annual performance plan and an understanding of the day-to-day running of government to be able to measure himself. I thank you.

Mr M G MAHLAULE: I move that the report be adopted.

Motion agreed to (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Report accordingly adopted.

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CONSIDERATION OF FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF
COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE

CONSIDERATION OF SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

CONSIDERATION OF THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN,
YOUTH, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

CONSIDERATION OF FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

CONSIDERATION OF FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

CONSIDERATION OF SIXTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF STATISTICS SOUTH AFRICA
(STATS SA)

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CONSIDERATION OF SEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION

CONSIDERATION OF EIGHTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF INDEPENDENT POLICE
INVESTIGATIVE DIRECTORATE (IPID)

CONSIDERATION OF NINTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF BASIC
EDUCATION

CONSIDERATION OF TENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS ON UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE OF DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS
AND ENERGY

Mr S S ZIBI: Hon House Chair, hon members, these reports were carried over from the Sixth Parliament because they could not be processed in time. On behalf of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, I hereby table before this House 10 reports on unauthorized expenditure by various government departments and entities. These took place between the financial years 2006 to

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2007 and 2019 to 2020 financial years. The Budget Votes involved are Vote 3, Department of Cooperative Governance, totalling R1,123 million. Vote 11, Department of Public Service Administration, R8,812 million. Statistics SA, R142,2 million. Department of Basic Education, R6,5 million. Department of social development, R15,13 billion. Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, R27,3 million. Department of Correctional Services, R121 000. Independent Police Investigative Directorate, R891 000. Department of Telecommunications and Digital Technologies, R4,7 million. Department of Minerals and Energy, then, R4,860 million. All recommendations I will now refer to are in terms of section 34(1)(a) and 34(1)(2) of the Public Finance Management Act, PFMA. Section 34(1)(a) allows the committee to recommend to the House that the said amount be financed as a direct charge against the National Revenue Fund. Section 34(1)(2) allows the committee to recommend to the House that the said unauthorized expenditure be financed as a direct charge against funds allocated to the department for future years.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts, SCOPA, recommends that unauthorized expenditure in respect of Votes 3, 11, 16, 20, 22, 24, 30, and 34 are charged against future allocations in

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accordance with the relevant section of the PFMA aforementioned. In the case of Vote 19, we recommend that this be charged directly from the National Revenue Fund. In the case of Vote 14, the committee recommends as follows: For the years 2017-18, R11,4 million be funded as a direct charge against funds allocated to the department for future years. An amount of R26,5 million be financed as a direct charge against the National Revenue Fund. 2018-19, R7,8 million be funded as a direct charge against future allocations. An amount of R48,9 million be financed as a direct charge against the National Revenue Fund. 2019-20, the unauthorized expenditure should be financed as a direct charge against the National Revenue Fund. The unauthorized expenditure in respect of Vote 19, the Department of Social Development, at R15,134 billion was a result of the necessary decision to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and was unavoidable.

Hon Chair, as the hon members can see, some of this unauthorized expenditure dates back as far back as 2006-7. For this process to be meaningful, it is important that the Auditor-General reports are processed quickly so that the recommendations can be affected within the prevailing budget cycle. Such long delays, as members can see in the detailed reports, result in situations

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where some of the departments or Ministries either no longer exist or did not exist at the time.

I therefore call on all stakeholders in this process to work with the committee so we can process these as soon as practicable. I thank you.

There was no debate.

Mr M G Mahlaule moved: That the Reports be adopted.

Declarations of vote:

Mr P G ATKINSON: Chairperson, the reports before us reveal a catastrophic disregard for taxpayer money in many departments over the past decade. Many years ago, some of these departments decided to spend money that had not been properly authorised with no regard to the consequences. The Department of Public Services Administration, for example, had a ministerial office that overspent its allocation by R8,8 million in 2014 without seeking any authorisation. The consequences will now, for the most part, fall on those departments' future budgets, as recommended by the committee when these reports were processed through the Sixth Parliament.

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It is concerning, Chairperson, that some of these reports referred to unauthorized spending that happened close to two decades ago. Accountability deferred is accountability denied. Consequences must be implemented, but they should ideally fall upon those who cause the issues. Public entities have not limited themselves, however, to spending what they should not spend. There are also far too many circumstances where they avoid settling bills which they are liable for. An example of this has been the fact that a number of departments have not really been paying the Auditor-General for services.

We particularly welcome the National Treasury's move to recover R1,83 billion in debt owed to the Auditor-General by many government departments. The Auditor-General's last line of defence is against corruption and mismanagement. We cannot afford to allow municipalities and SOEs to rack up debt with the Auditor-General like they have with so many other public entities.

Chairperson, the Auditor-General also made an important point during her presentation to the standing committee this past week. Before we consider this report, she said that there is a hidden financial cost to noncompliance and financial

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mismanagement. The cost is reflected in the high premiums demanded by banks and investors to loan money to certain municipalities and public entities. At the end of the day, this cost is borne by ordinary South Africans. Either they must pay higher taxes to finance the extra risk generated by their municipalities' inability to follow the rules, or the extra cost of borrowing means that the infrastructure they desperately need just never gets built. As the Auditor-General herself noted, the City of Cape Town has far lower borrowing costs than most other municipalities because of its track record of good governments, because the municipality submits its statements on time, and because it spends what it is authorised to, not just what it wants. This translates into lower borrowing costs, and this is part of why the City of Cape Town is now spending more on infrastructure than Johannesburg and Durban combined.

Chairperson, the DA governs 12% of South Africa's municipalities. But our municipalities represent more than half of all the clean audits in the country. Just yesterday, President Ramaphosa told ANC Councillors to come and look at how the DA does things. We'd be very happy to show you. Across government, at local, provincial and national level, we're making sure that we run a tight ship, that we pay our bills on

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time, and that the rules are all followed at all times. That is what we do in government. And that, Chairperson, is the DA difference. Thank you.

Mr T T S KUBHEKA: Chair, these reports were processed by the Standing Committee on Public Finances, SCOPA, in the previous administration. Ours is now merely a rectification of a technicality.

What we have fundamentally observed though is that this egregious financial ill-discipline has spent nearly two decades. This inexcusable negligence in processing of these reports has happened without implementing any clear consequence management for responsible officials.

These reports document a staggering R15,35 billion in unauthorized expenditure, exposing a culture of impunity where officials are responsible for massive financial mismanagement face no meaningful consequences.

The Department of Basic Education explicitly did not take any disciplinary action against any official, despite R6,5 million

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in wasteful expenditure, establishing a dangerous precedent that undermines fiscal accountability.

Hon Chair, while departments squandered billions through incompetence, we must always remember that 55% of South Africans live below the poverty line, and that unemployment stands at a catastrophic 33,2%, with youth unemployment sitting at 62,2%. The Department of Social Development spent R15,13 billion rand in COVID-related overspending. While emergency-driven, we understand, this occurred alongside systematic poverty affecting millions.

Statistics SA, which is tasked with measuring inequality, itself wasted R142,2 million through poor financial management, while South Africa maintains the world's highest inequality, with a Gini coefficient of 0,63. Most damning, Chair, are the timeline delays. The Department of Cooperative Governance, R1,1 million unauthorized expenditure occurred in 2006-7. Yet we are addressing this 18 years later.

The Department of Minerals and Energy's R14 86 million electrification fund mismanagement happened in 2010-11 financial year, and this represents a 14-year accountability gap. Such

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delays institutionalize impunity, demonstrating that consequences, if they come at all, are meaningless.

Chair, these reports reveal systematic failures to meet departmental annual performance plans while wasting public resources.

The Auditor-General reports that 87% of municipalities failed procurement compliance, while infrastructure delivery remains poor, despite R68,4 billion being allocated. Service delivery continues failing, while departments demonstrate fiscal irresponsibility with complete impunity.

Chair, these reports symbolize a government that has institutionalized impunity, while ordinary South Africans suffer poverty, unemployment, and inequality. Families struggle with the R796 monthly food poverty line, while officials waste billions without consequence through poor planning and inadequate oversight. As MK Party, we say that these reports represent a moral failure to serve South Africans with the required integrity and accountability. The wasted money could have funded schools, clinics, could have created jobs, could have enhanced women's empowerment. Instead, it was squandered

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through incompetence, rewarded by a culture of impunity. Furthermore, even though SCOPA of the 7th Administration has no authority over these reports, as MK Party, we request that the Special Investigating Unit, SIU, must investigate these reports with the purpose of ensuring enforcement of consequence management for all of them. Thank you, Chair.

Ms H O MKHALIPI: Hon House Chairperson, greetings to the commander-in-chief and commissars. House Chair, we are here today, to confront one of the most damaging practises in government, the persistent culture of unauthorised expenditure. This is not simple about money being spent incorrectly. It is about a crude and entrenched form of theft where spending happens outside the laws and rules of the Public Finance Management Act, PFMA. The Auditor-General has consistently exposed these cases and Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Scopa, has investigated them in detail. What emerges is not a collection of isolated mistakes, but a pattern that reveals deep systemic problems.

Year after year, departments across government fall into the same trap. To give a few examples, the Independent Police Investigative Directorate has recorded unauthorised expenditure

in the past years. The Department of Mineral Resources and Energy overspent its budget vote by nearly R15 million in 2010/11 because of something as basic as unverified banking details and spelling mistakes when transferring funds. In 2019/20, the Department of Social Development recorded a staggering of R15,1 billion in unauthorised expenditure linked partly to the COVID-19 pandemic, but still pointing to serious gaps in financial oversight. The Department of Public Service and Administration overspent by more than R8 million on a Minister Advisory Body and increased personnel. These are not just minor slips-ups. They expose weaknesses that cost the public dearly.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts has been clear in its recommendations, unauthorised expenditure must be dealt with by reducing the future allocation of the departments concerned as required by section 34 of the PFMA. But accountability must mean more than adjusting budgets. It must mean verifiable recoveries and real consequence management for officials. Too often, those who preside over financial misconduct are simply redeployed elsewhere, where they continue the same practises without consequence. Each report ends with a call for the Auditor-General to follow up and report again after 2025/26 financial

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year. This shows that we cannot let these matters disappear in the system. Continuous monitoring and enforcement are essential. Yet, the fact that Parliament debates the same problems across multiple departments year after year raises hard questions. Are our recommendations strong enough to stop this madness, or are they treated as routine administrative penalties that never touch the root causes? The writing of unauthorised expenditure must be criminalised. This madness must come to an end. We need a stronger culture of financial discipline in every sphere of government, and the Government of National Unity, GNU is not even helping. It is making things worse. [Applause.]

Mr N M HADEBE: Hon House Chairperson, the IFP expresses concern about unauthorised expenditure, noting that it reflects poor financial management, weak internal controls, and a disregard for the principles of accountability and transparency in the use of public funds. Such expenditure undermines the effective delivery of services to citizens and diverts much needed resources away from critical programmes aimed at improving the lives of South Africans. The IFP therefore, calls on government departments and entities to strengthen financial oversight and ensure strict compliance with the Public Finance Management Act.

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While the IFP welcomes the recommendations that unauthorised expenditure be financed through a reduction of the department's future allocation in terms of section 34(2), it notes with concern that this measure will negatively impact service delivery. The IFP is of the view that reducing budget allocations is not enough. The Auditor-General must fully utilise the additional legislative powers granted to ensure that there are real repercussions for financial misconduct, including holding officials personally accountable so that a culture of consequence management is entrenched within the public service. In consideration of the issues we have raised, the IFP accepts the report. I thank you.

Ms S M PETERS: Chair, hon members, the PA hereby declare our support for the report under consideration. We concur with the recommendation that the Auditor-General of South Africa should follow up with all committees referenced in this report regarding their audit outcomes on unauthorised expenditure subsequent to the conclusion of the 2025/26 financial year. Furthermore, it is imperative that these committees be subject to ongoing monitoring and ensure strict adherence to mitigation actions and preventative measures set out in the report. Confirmation must be obtained that such processes are being

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consistently implemented in order to safeguard against the recurrence of unauthorised expenditure.

The question is, are the supply chain and procurement officials skilled enough and qualified to spend the country's money? In South Africa, less than a thousand people within procurement have a professional designation. Through such oversight and accountability, Parliament will not only address historical instances of unauthorised expenditure, but also reinforce preventative mechanisms that promote good governance, fiscal discipline, and the prudent use of public money. I thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. Hon Wessels, just hold on for a moment. It would seem that there might be a problem with the broadcasting. Okay, can all members on the virtual platform please mute? I think we are ready to proceed.

Mr W W WESSELS: House Chairperson, this report highlights in the majority of cases of unauthorised expenditure, not only the inefficiencies and weaknesses that other members referred to but also a very big problem with our budgeting. Because what it shows in a majority of these cases is that budgets do not make provision for the unforeseen. That is why overexpenditure then

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occurs because we do not actually plan for eventualities, because this is life. Life is life and when in this world of black swans and things that happen such as pandemics and so forth, you will always have expenditure that you could not plan for. But we do not make provision for it, not in our national budget, not in budgets for departments and that is why you then have overexpenditure.

But let me also echo what a lot of colleagues have already mentioned with regards to the fact that these unauthorised expenditure in a lot of these cases have been coming over a lot of previous financial years. The big question that must be answered is why? Why did only the Sixth Parliament deal with this? Section 38(1)g) of the PFMA is very clear that an accounting officer must immediately report unauthorised expenditure to National Treasury. Now, the question is, did the accounting officers report or did National Treasury not come to Parliament to consider these because the implication, is now that these departments' budgets are now going to be reduced in October for overexpenditure that occurred 18 years ago. Is that really in the interest of service delivery? I thank you.

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Mr A D BEESLEY: Hon House Chair, in a recent written question from Action SA, we asked the Minister of Finance what was the total amount reported to the National Treasury in terms of fruitless and wasteful expenditure, irregular expenditure and unauthorised expenditure by public departments and entities, including municipalities, over the last five years? The answer was a staggering R1,38 trillion. This amounts for half of the entire government's ... [Inaudible] 17:30 South Africa's budget for the current year, it stands at R2,6 trillion. What we have before us is only a fraction of these exorbitant losses.

The sad reality is that unauthorised, irregular and fruitless and wasteful expenditure is not coming down, it is escalating. It points to a government that is failing and a Government of National Unity that is failing in its promise to build a capable, ethical and developmental state. One of Action SA's policy levers for fixing our country is to have a professional public service, one in which state institutions are managed and staffed by highly qualified, ethical and committed public servants who act with care, professionalism and a true sense of duty.

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Currently, that is not the case. Cadre deployment continues without restraint and there is no genuine political will to stop the rot in our institutions. A critical challenge is accountability, or rather the lack thereof, for officials who breach procurement legislation. Three reasons stand out. Firstly, many of those responsible for implementing disciplinary charges themselves have their own skeletons in their closets. Secondly, our justice system is broken, including the serious underfunding and compromised independence of the Hawks. Lastly, the effectiveness of the Special Investigating Unit, SIU has been intentionally watered down.

Until corrupt officials are jailed and incompetent officials are fired, we will never win the battle against unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. I thank you. Thank you.

Mr W M THRING: Hon House Chairperson, the ACDP welcomes the report Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Scopa, highlighting the unauthorised of over R80 billion in some 10 government departments. Now as dismal as these particular figures are the transparency in highlighting their failures must be appreciated. However, I think it also needs to be noted that

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this comes against a backdrop - this unauthorised expenditure comes against a backdrop of many South Africans are facing in terms of high unemployment. One of the highest unemployment rates in the world sitting at 33%. Over 40% on the expanded definition of unemployment. We have a debt to the gross domestic product, GDP, of some 77%.

We have a deficit on our national account. We have a gini coefficient of some 0,63% one of the highest gini coefficients in the world indicating the deficit between those who have and those who have not which continues to grow.

So, it is in this particular backdrop that we need to understand that we cannot continue having this kind of unauthorised and irregular expenditure in our government departments.

The ACDP will call for accountability including ensuring that those who have fallen foul of keeping to the law and in particular your Finance Management Act are held to the fullest account. Thank you, hon House Chairperson.

Ms C T NONTENJA: Hon House Chairperson, the UDM welcomes the move by the Seventh Administration, Standing Committee on Public

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Accounts, Scopa, to bring this mess ahead for us to deal with it. However, it brings to us the fact that we had a failing government. You cannot tell us how for all these years those people disregarded the Public Finance Management Act, and nothing was done. It is something that is continuing at all levels of government. It is something that Scopa is now dealing with it.

The UDM hopes that what Scopa has started doing is something that is going to give a lesson going forward that we cannot have a situation where there is no consequence management where the UIFW are allowed to pile up for years and years and you start asking yourself: Where was the oversight for all these years?

I understand that some parties are blaming the Government of National Unity, GNU, but this is not the work of the GNU. Hon House Chairperson, I must state that without fear of favour. However, all we need to do is to respect the laws that govern us which is what has been missing all along. I thank you.

Xitsonga:

Ttn S M GANA: Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu ...

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English:

... as Rise Mzansi we support the reports and also the work that Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Scopa, is doing on this particular matter. What is important, whilst I take the arguments that have been advanced, that it might be maybe the legislation or many of these unauthorised expenditures are as a result of unforeseen and unplanned things that happened. We need to be honest with ourselves that there is that culture of not planning properly and spending unauthorised money. That is if we are to be honest of ourselves it is a gateway in some instances and in most instances, it is a gateway to stealing public funds. So, we need to close that loop.

We do accept that there would be instances where there are emergencies that happen, and you did not foresee. However, let us not make excuses for human errors and also for people trying to open windows to steal from the public. However, as I said we support the work of Scopa. We will continue to support them as they move into the last couple of financial years digging in to see how the monies of the people of South Africa have been in an unauthorised way been spent.

Xitsonga:

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Ndzi khensile swinene, Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu.

English:

Dr M A MAIMANE: Hon House Chairperson, first of all as Bosa we endorse and support this report and the work that the Standing Committee on Public Accounts is doing. I do think though it is important hon members that we need to think deeply about what the system is producing. We can all sit here as victims as though we were not lawmakers and though these issues are new. However, many of them are legacy issues.

Unauthorised expenditure is something that the Auditor-General speaks about it consistently yet we as lawmakers would come here and make speech after speech almost as if this is something that we will amend this year and do it again next year.

May I make three critical suggestions. The first one is in looking at issues of wasteful and fruitless expenditure that we deploy the right leadership and financial officers to spaces and departments that are not operating properly. We cannot just simply live it to the departments that are perpetual failures in this regard.

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Secondly, I think we need to apply digital technology.

Artificial Intelligence, AI, as part of the future, gives us an opportunity to be predictive about where financial matters are coming from. If we can adopt that we can predict and deal with reports in real time rather than waiting years later.

Lastly, we are lawmakers let us enforce the law. Where there are problems of accountability let us hold those people accountable.

So, hon House Chairperson, my hope is that this discussion will not lead to another let us just lament and fail to do the hard yards let us act now, modernise so that we can deal with the financial integrity of the South African budgeting process.

Thank you very much.

Mr V ZUNGULA: Hon House Chairperson, we note ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Maeco, please remain muted on the virtual platform.

My apologies hon member.

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Mr V ZUNGULA: So, as we note the report we want to advance that the government must move away from only reporting unauthorised and irregular expenditure to action being taken against the culprits. All of the monies that have been lost must returned. Government must send a very strong message against all of the wrong doers in the public sector. We are of the strong believe that harsh punishments will deter such practices from persisting in the future. Thank you.

IsiNdebele:

Mr G J SKOSANA: Sihlalo ohloniphekileko, ngiyathokoza. Malunga ahloniphekileko sizwe sekhethu, lotjhani. Sihlalo ohloniphekileko,

English:

I rise on behalf of the ANC to support the tabling before this august House, the findings of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts regarding unauthorised expenditures across 10 departments. These reports reflect a concerning pattern of financial mismanagement, inadequate planning and insufficient oversight in the use of public funds amongst others.

Whilst some instances were driven by the emergencies or unforeseen circumstances others were avoidable and highlights systemic weaknesses in financial governance. Unauthorised expenditure as defined by the Public Finance Management Act is not simply a line item in the financial statement. It is the violation of the parliamentary vote. It means money was spend without legislative approval either by overspending a budget or using funds for purposes other than what was voted for.

IsiNdebele:

Malunga ahloniphekileko,

English:

... the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs incurred R1,1 million in the unauthorised expenditure in the year 2006-7 due to overspending on travel subsistence and legal fees.

The Department of Telecommunications and Digital Technologies overspend R4,7 million in in the years 2013-14 largely due to currency depreciation affecting membership fees to international organisations.

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The Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities recorded unauthorised expenditures of over R27 million in the year 2011-12 and R2,2 million in the year 2015-16 and R3,2 million in the year 2019-20 primarily due to overspending on compensation and goods and services.

The Department of Correctional Services overspend by a R121 000 in the year 2015-16 due to adjustments in housing allowances and medical aids contribution.

The Department of Social Development recorded a staggering R15,1 billion in unauthorised expenditure in the year 2019-20 reportedly driven by emergency early payment of social grants during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Statistics SA incurred R142,1 million in unauthorised expenditures across three financial years that is 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 largely due to budget reduction affecting compensation of employees.

The Department of Public Service and Administration overspend by R8,8 million in the year 2013-14 due to increased personnel in the Minister's office.

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While the Independent Police Investigative Directorate recorded R891 000 unauthorised expenditures in the year 2005-6 and the year 2008-9 reportedly due to printing costs and unanticipated salary transections.

The Department of Basic Education overspend by R6,4 million in 2014-15 on the National Teachers Awards.

The Department of Minerals and Energy incurred R14,8 million in unauthorised expenditure in the year 2010-11 due to delays in transferring funds to a municipality.

IsiNdebele:

Sihlalo ohloniphekileko,

English:

... these figures are alarming. They demonstrate the urgent need for stronger financial controls, proactive planning and accountability mechanisms. While some departments have implemented corrective measures, the recurrence of unauthorised expenditures across multiple years and departments is unacceptable.

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We therefore call on the political leadership and the executive management of the said departments to enforce stringent consequence management. Merely evaluating the past is not enough we must chant a new course.

IsiNdebele:

Malunga ahloniphekileko,

English:

... the misuse of public funds undermines service delivery and erode public trust. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that every rand is spend wisely and in accordance with the law.

Our clarion call and commitment to building a capable, ethical and developmental state remains more relevant today than ever before. We dare not falter nor lose heart in our efforts for ethical leadership and professionalise public service.

IsiNdebele:

Siyihlangano ye-ANC siyawusekela lombiko.

English:

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We accept the invitation that we receive from the hon Atkison that municipalities who are not performing well must come to Cape Town to learn. I want to add another municipality which is in Mpumalanga, called Nkangala District Municipality where I come from. It has received nine consecutive clean audits, and it is led by the ANC! Nine consecutive clean audits! So, I am extending an invitation that other municipalities can come and learn to Nkangala District Municipality!

IsiNdebele:

Sihlalo ohloniphekileko, ngiyathokoza! [Kwaphela iskhathi.]

English:

The ACTING CHIEF WHIP OF THE LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mr M G Mahlaule) moved: That the Reports be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

First Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Cooperative Governance accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

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Second Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Telecommunications and Digital Technologies accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Third Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Women, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Fourth Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Correctional Services accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Fifth Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Social Development accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Sixth Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Seventh Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Public Service and Administration accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

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Eighth Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Independent Police Investigative Directorate (Ipid) accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Ninth Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Basic Education accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

Tenth Report on Unauthorised expenditure of Department of Minerals and Energy accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOME
AFFAIRS ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO LEBOMBO PORT OF ENTRY, MPUMALANGA
PROVINCE, ON 10 DECEMBER 2024**

There was no debate.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members, I wish to remind you that this matter was debated in the virtual miniplenary last Friday, 12 September. However, the decision thereon can only be taken in this full plenary. This is also the case for the consideration of other decisions of question before this House

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for the matters to come, in the 18th to 25th Orders. Are there any objections to the adoption of this report in the 17th Order?

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted.

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION ON CONDUCTING A
PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY AND OVERSIGHT VISIT TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (Democratic Alliance, uMkhonto weSizwe Party and Freedom Front Plus dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO GAUTENG, NORTH WEST
AND MPUMALANGA PROVINCES DURING 24 - 28 MARCH 2025**

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There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party and Economic Freedom Fighters dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION ON THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT ON PERFORMANCE OF DEPARTMENT
OF BASIC EDUCATION IN MEETING ITS PRE-DETERMINED OBJECTIVES FOR
2024-25**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
EDUCATION ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO GAUTENG ON 24 - 28 FEBRUARY 2025**

There was no debate.

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Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party, Economic Freedom Fighters, United Africans Transformation and African Transformation Movement dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
EDUCATION ON 2024-25 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL AND NONFINANCIAL
PERFORMANCE REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND
TRAINING**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party, Economic Freedom Fighters, United Africans Transformation and African Transformation Movement dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
FORESTRY, FISHERIES, AND ENVIRONMENT ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO
KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE FROM 25-28 FEBRUARY 2025**

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There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party, Economic Freedom Fighters, United Africans Transformation and African Transformation Movement dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON WATER
AND SANITATION, ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO KINGDOM OF LESOTHO**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party, Economic Freedom Fighters, United Africans Transformation and African Transformation Movement dissenting).

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES ON 2024-25, FIRST AND
SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT
OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

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There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

Report accordingly adopted (uMkhonto weSizwe Party, Economic Freedom Fighters, United Africans Transformation and African Transformation Movement dissenting).

PASSING OF AMBASSADOR MNINWA JOHANNES MAHLANGU

(Draft Resolution)

Mr W T D PLAATJIES: Hon Chair, the ANC moves without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes with great sadness the passing of Ambassador Mahlangu on Sunday, the 24th of August 2025, while on his way to a South African hospital after a brief illness;

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- (2) further notes that Mahlangu was part of the drafters of the first democratic Constitution and was elected to the First democratic Parliament in 1994;
- (3) also notes that in 2002 he was elected permanently as the Deputy Chair of the National Council of Provinces and after the third democratic election in 2004 he was re-elected as a permanent Deputy Chair of the NCOP;
- (4) acknowledges that in January 2005 he was elected as the Chairperson of the NCOP and represented South Africa in many international conferences and seminars;
- (5) further acknowledges that he held the position of High Commissioner of Kenya, Ambassador Extraordinary of Somalia and permanent representative of the UN Office at Nairobi;
- (6) understands that this excellent career also includes a post as South African Ambassador in the USA;
- (7) remembers his legacy as one of unwavering dedication and love for his country; and

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- (8) extends its heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and colleagues who worked alongside him.

Agreed to.

**UNSANCTIONED POLITICAL DIPLOMACY IN IRAN BY CHIEF OF SA NATIONAL
DEFENCE FORCE**

(Draft Resolution)

Mr C HATTINGH: Hon House Chair, on behalf of the DA, I hereby wish to move without notice:

That this House—

- (1) notes with great concern that the Chief of the SA National Defence Force, SANDF, Gen Rudzani Maphwanya engaged in unsanctioned political diplomacy during his visit to Iran;
- (2) further notes that the President as Commander-in-Chief has effectively exonerated him despite clear breaches of

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the SANDF Code of Conduct and the Constitution's requirement of strict military neutrality;

- (3) also notes that this failure to impose consequences teaches the officers' corps all the wrong lessons, undermines parliamentary oversight and deepens South Africa's diplomatic isolation, particularly in relation to the USA;
- (4) acknowledges that the Minister of Defence has failed in her constitutional duty to ensure accountability, having authorised and defended the general's conduct;
- (5) calls on the President to urgently restore civilian control over the military;
- (6) holds the Chief of the SANDF accountable; and
- (7) reconsiders the fitness of the Minister of Defence to hold office.

The motion having not been agreed to, will be converted to a notice of motion.

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MADLANGA COMMISSION INTO ALLEGED INTERFERENCE IN SAPS POLITICAL
KILLING INVESTIGATIONS

(Draft Resolution)

Mr D M SKOSANA: Chair, on behalf of the MK Party, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes the ongoing Madlanga Commission into alleged interference in the SAPS political killing investigations, including the disbandment and docket removals raised by Lt-Gen Mkhwanazi;
- (2) also notes reports that 121 dockets have been returned to the political killing task team and that an ad hoc committee has been established by Parliament to probe related matters;
- (3) calls for urgent witness protection, the preservation of evidence and a co-ordinated timetable between the commission and ad hoc committee.

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(4) resolves that the Minister of Police tables weekly updates to this House on the dockets chain of custody, case progress and any executive direction issued by the SA Police Service.

(5) I must emphasise once again, we have noticed that there's a ... [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon member, just hold on for a moment. I have a hand. Hon Michalakis, why do you want to be recognised?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Chair, I rise on Rule 123. Rule 123(2) states that a motion cannot be brought before this House that binds the executive. I believe that the Table advised earlier that this motion is not allowed in terms of Rule 123(2).

The one that was circulated by the MK Party subsequent to that is a different motion that we received before 12 o'clock. I would like to get your ruling on this because I believe that the Table advised that motion is out of order.

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Mr D M SKOSANA: [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members ... Okay, just put it on the record, please.

Mr V G REDDY: House Chair, the MK Party will withdraw that motion without notice. Thank you.

ANNUAL UMKHOSI WOMHLANGA CEREMONY

(Draft Resolution)

Mr M B BLOSE: Can I go, Hon Chair?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, hon members. Allow the hon Blose to continue.

Mr M B BLOSE: Keep quiet ... [Inaudible.] ... keep quiet.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order!

Mr M B BLOSE: House Chair, on behalf of the EFF, I hereby move without notice:

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That the House—

- (1) notes the hosting of the annual Umkhosi WoMhlanga ceremony that was held in the eMashobeni Royal Palace under the leadership of His Majesty King Misuzulu kaZwelithini;
- (2) further notes the cultural, social and moral significance of this ceremony as a platform for celebrating and preserving our traditions and values, in particular usiko lakwaZulu;
- (3) acknowledges His Majesty King Misuzulu kaZwelithini for his role in leading and sustaining this important cultural institution that instills pride amongst our people and preserves our cultures and our institutions;
- (4) further acknowledges the royal family for their contribution in protecting and honouring the rich heritage of the Zulu nation and the customs of our people;

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(5) recognises that Umkhosi WoMhlanga is not only a cultural celebration but also an occasion that unites the nation, instills discipline and uplifts young women through cultural pride and moral guidance;

(6) congratulates the participants izintombi zomhlanga for their dedication, discipline and commitment to upholding this tradition on an annual basis and carrying forward the legacy of their forebears.

Agreed to.

SA POLICE SERVICE COMMEMORATION DAY

(Draft Resolution)

Mr M S MOELA: House Chair, the ANC moves without notice:

That the House—

(1) notes the annual police commemoration day that was observed on Sunday 7 September 2025 at the SAPS Memorial Site at the Union Buildings in Pretoria;

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- (2) further notes that the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Mr Paul Mashatile, joined the families of the officers and reservists who lost their lives in the line of duty;
- (3) recalls that this year's event commemorated 27 members of the SAPS who have fallen in the line of duty in 12 months between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2024;
- (4) condemns the ruthless criminals who sought to silence justice by killing our officers;
- (5) reminds them that attacking a police officer is an attack on the state itself, which will be met with the full might of the law;
- (6) expresses gratitude for the sacrifices made by the SA Police Service as our community's first line of defence; and
- (7) extends its heartfelt sympathies to the families and loved ones of our brave officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

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Mr C M DUGMORE: House Chair, just a point of order. While the hon member was delivering a very serious notice of motion around the loss of life in the SA Police, from the other side, I think mainly the EFF and MK Party, they were showing disrespect.

They were talking and they were making a noise while there was a statement to honour the fallen members of the SA Police. I think it's disrespectful.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members, hon members, hon members ... I note what you have said. It might be because we were changing House Chairs that I did not notice any noise. However, going further, can all of us give each other an opportunity? I'm also speaking ... on the right because they are also making a noise. So, can we all give each other an opportunity to speak when it is that time? However, we do note that. I asked if there are no objections. I put the motion.

Agreed to.

PRINCE MANGOSUTHU BUTHELEZI'S GRAVE DECLARED A HERITAGE SITE

(Draft Resolution)

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Mr N M HADEBE: House Chairperson, on behalf of the IFP, I move without notice:

That this House—

- (1) commends the KwaZulu-Natal provincial government's decision to declare the late Prince *Mangosuthu Buthelezi's* grave a provincial heritage site;
- (2) remembers that Prince *Buthelezi* was not only a leader but a man of extraordinary devotion to his people and his country;
- (3) acknowledges that he was also the traditional Prime Minister to the Zulu nation under three kings — King Cyprian Bhekuzulu, King Goodwill Zwelithini kaBhekuzulu and King Misuzulu kaZwelithini;
- (4) further acknowledges that he founded the IFP in 1975, which he led until 2019, and became its president emeritus soon after that;

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- (5) recognises that he served as a Member of Parliament from 1994 to 2023 and as a Minister of Home Affairs in the first Government of National Unity from 1994 to 2004;
- (6) further recognises that Prince *Buthlezi* was sworn in on 22 occasions as Acting President of the Republic of South Africa; and
- (7) congratulates the provincial government of KwaZulu-Natal for preserving Prince *Mangosuthu Buthelezi's* rich legacy that extends far beyond the cultural, ethnic and political spectrum.

Agreed to.

LAND CLAIM VICTORY FOR RICHTERSVELD COMMUNITY

(Draft Resolution)

Ms J S PETERSEN: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

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- (1) notes with profound admiration and celebration the historic and successful conclusion of the land claim by the Richtersveld community, a victory two decades in the making;
- (2) recognises that the Constitutional Court in a landmark judgment affirmed the community's customary-law ownership of their ancestral land and its precious mineral resources, a ruling that stands as a powerful testament to the strength of our Constitution and the rule of law;
- (3) further recognises that this claim, lodged in 1998 under the Restitution of Land Rights Act, has rightfully restored ownership of approximately 194 600 hectares of land, including an 84 000-hectare coastal strip of diamond-rich land, to its rightful custodians, the 2 630 beneficiaries of the Richtersveld; and
- (4) calls on all relevant parties to ensure the full, equitable, and effective implementation of this settlement so that the beneficiaries are restored to their heritage and realise that all people deserve this for generations to come.

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Agreed to.

DEATHS OF FORMER SPRINGBOKS BEVIN FORTUIN AND BOLAND COETZEE

(Draft Resolution)

Mrs H DENNER: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes with sadness the recent passing of two great stalwarts of South African rugby, Bevin Fortuin and Jan “Boland” Coetzee who were aged 46 and 80 respectively;
- (2) remembers that Bevin Fortuin, who was born on 6 February 1979, played two Tests for the Springboks, against Ireland in Dublin in 2006 and against Australia in Sydney in 2007, and played for the Emerging Springboks, SA u21s, and the Southern Kings;
- (3) recalls that provincially he represented the South Western Districts Eagles in 122 games between 2000 and 2010, and, from 2005 to 2009, he played 79 times in the

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colours of the Toyota Cheetahs, including making
22 Vodacom Super Rugby appearances;

- (4) acknowledges that, after hanging up his boots, Fortuin ploughed back into the game with a long coaching career, most recently as head coach of African Rainbow Community Gold Cup side Northam Rhinos;
- (5) further notes that Jan "Boland" Coetzee, born 20 January 1945, made his debut against the British and Irish Lions in Cape Town in 1974, at the age of 29, and represented his country in six Test matches;
- (6) also notes that Coetzee made 127 appearances for Western Province in his time, and he also turned out for the Junior Springboks, South African XV, Gazelles, and South African Universities and excelled as winemaker as well;
and
- (7) expresses its deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of both Bevin Fortuin and Jan "Boland" Coetzee.

Agreed to.

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CALL FOR STATE OF EMERGENCY TO CURB CAPE FLATS GANG VIOLENCE

(Draft Resolution)

Ms D E JAMES: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) acknowledges that the Cape Flats has descended into a state of crisis, where communities live under siege, gunfire echoes daily, and bullets litter the streets, leaving innocent residents in constant fear;
- (2) notes with grave concern that current law enforcement strategies have proven incapable of protecting these communities, with an underresourced and understaffed Police Force unable to stem the bloodshed caused by these gangs;
- (3) further notes that the urgency to act rests only with the President, who has duly received public correspondence on behalf of all affected communities calling for the

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declaration of a state of emergency in terms of
section 37 of our Constitution;

- (4) recognises that without decisive intervention, children will continue to lose their lives in their homes, in their schools, and on the streets while at play; and
- (5) further recognises that only the President, after years of izimbizo and failed interventions, possesses the power to mobilise the resources necessary to end the bloodshed, through the declaration of a state of emergency as called for, enabling the deployment of intelligence services, the SA National Defence Force, and a whole-of-government response to restore safety and dignity to the people of the Cape Flats, as you have seen from the protestors, the women who chained themselves to the gates of Parliament earlier.

Agreed to.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO AMAPIANO STAR BASSIE FOR CLAIMING TOP HONOURS
AT METRO FM AWARDS**

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(Draft Resolution)

Ms A N KUMBACA: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes that Amapiano sensation Basetsana Maluleka known as “Bassie”, lit up the 2025 Metro FM Awards with a triumphant sweep, claiming three of the night’s top honours for her chart-topping anthem “Kwelanga 2.0” on 20 May 2025;
- (2) further notes that her powerful vocals and genre-defining sound reaffirmed her place at the forefront of South Africa’s music scene;
- (3) recognises that Bassie first gained attention in 2018 with her feature on DJ SjiJo’s “Qaphela”, and, in 2019, she built her name with the hit “Abafana Besgcoko” by TPO and Monotone that received strong TV airplay;
- (4) believes that Bassie’s triumph with “Kwelanga 2.0” is more than just a personal victory but a powerful

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testament to resilience, creativity, and storytelling through music; and

- (5) congratulates her on her achievements and wishes her much success in her music career.

Agreed to.

**LAUNCH OF SHADES DAY BY SOUTH AFRICAN GUIDE-DOGS ASSOCIATION FOR
THE BLIND**

(Draft Resolution)

Mr W M THRING: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes that South Africa is estimated to have a million people who are blind or visually impaired, and the estimates show that there is 97% unemployment among blind and partially sighted people;

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- (2) further notes that the South African Guide-Dogs Association for the Blind is soon to launch "Shades Day", a campaign that raises funds to support visually impaired people and to create awareness about protecting our eyes from the sun's harmful rays;
- (3) also notes that the launch on 17 September 2025 at 11:00 in Paulshof, Johannesburg involves an immersive experience themed, "Around the world in four senses"; and
- (4) commends this innovative concept where people will get to meet guide dogs and puppies whilst learning about the importance of eye health.

Agreed to.

DEREGULATION OF LABOUR ENVIRONMENT

(Draft Resolution)

Mrs D VAN DER WALT: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

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- (1) notes that, with the advent of the new Schedule 8 to the Labour Relations Act, the Code of Practice dismissal, the Department of Employment and Labour is taking the first small steps to try and deregulate the labour environment in South Africa;
- (2) recognises that it is common cause that this deregulation will encourage the business community and, in particular, the small business community to open the gates and make way for employment of more employees; and
- (3) resolves to admit that it has been a long journey and that this movement of deregulating the employment structures is a good start to encourage the business community to grow and to strive for increasingly more employees.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Are there any objections?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE OPPOSITION: Chair, the MKP objects.

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: We object. We are with the workers all the way.

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Dr L W MAHLATSI: The UAT objects.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): There being an objection, the motion without notice now becomes a notice of motion on the Order Paper.

CALL TO RESOLVE WATER OUTAGES IN JOHANNESBURG

(Draft Resolution)

IsiZulu:

Mr K B MADLALA: Sibonge, Sihlalo, egameni le-MKP ...

English:

... I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes the escalating water outages in Johannesburg and elsewhere, with critical infrastructure failures and economic disruption;

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- (2) recognises the significant public interest in resolving this matter transparently and fairly;
- (3) encourages the relevant authorities to take steps to address the matter quickly; and
- (4) reaffirms Parliament's role in continuing to monitor progress and engage the executive through established oversight mechanisms.

Agreed to.

**CALL FOR GREATER GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OF LOCALLY MANUFACTURED
GOODS**

(Draft Resolution)

Mr C G NIEHAUS: Chair, I move without notice:

That the House—

- (1) notes the importance of municipalities, provinces, entities, and all government departments playing a

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- stronger role in supporting locally manufactured goods as part of advancing industrialisation and inclusive economic development;
- (2) further notes with concern that despite the existence of South African innovations such as SSS Cars founded by Sibusiso September, Libra phones developed in Soshanguve, and manufacturers such as Lindiwe Sanitary Pads, government procurement continues to favour foreign products over local production;
- (3) acknowledges that government procurement is a vital tool to support domestic industries, create jobs, and build sustainable economic capacity; and
- (4) calls on the Portfolio Committee of Trade, Industry and Competition to strengthen its oversight over procurement practices in government departments, municipalities, and public entities to ensure that opportunities for locally manufactured goods are prioritised and expanded.

Agreed to.

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INTERNATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE DAY OBSERVED

(Draft Resolution)

Ms N MAKASI: On behalf of the ANC I move without notice:

That the House -

- (1) notes the International Day of Sign Language which is celebrated every year on the 23 September;
- (2) further notes that the day recognises the importance of sign languages in their realisation of human rights for deaf people across the globe;
- (3) aims to raise awareness of the deaf communities, issues and challenges;
- (4) celebrate the richness of sign language culture and promoting linguistic diversity;
- (5) understands that the day is a global movement towards recognising the importance of sign languages in

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fostering inclusivity, accessibility and understanding; and

- (6) calls on all to help celebrate this day by remembering the power of communication, the strength in diversity and the need to ensure everyone, irrespective of their abilities has an equal opportunity to be heard.

Agreed to.

AGRICULTURE STRENGTHEN FOOD SECURITY

(Draft Resolution)

Xitsonga:

Tat S M GANA: Mutshamaxitulu, ...

English:

On behalf of Rise Mzansi I move without notice:

That the House -

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- (1) celebrate the incredible work that is done by the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development as evidenced by his 2024-25 annual report which was tabled by;
- (2) recognise that the department supported over 9 700 subsistence producers, revitalised 11 Agri-parks and established 25 township abattoirs to strengthen local food economies;
- (3) notes that the department's veterinary services facilitated R5 billion in trade through stringent health certification and enhancing biosecurity and market access;
- (4) also recognise that the department created over 5 000 job opportunities through the Expanded Public Works Programme, EPWP, with a focus on youth, women and persons with disabilities;
- (5) recalls that the department has placed particular focus on food waste reduction and to that end has supported agro-processing hubs, urban farms and school

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gardens that reclaim surplus, reduce spoilage and redistribute nutrition; and

- (6) finally, affirm the need for similar efforts in other provinces to build a secular and inclusive food system where no harvest is wasted and every citizen is nourished.

Motion objected.

TSHIDI MADIA DIES

(Draft Resolution)

Dr M A MAIMANE: Hon House Chairperson, I rise on behalf of BOSA ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): ... hon Maimane, can you, please, take your seat. There is a point of order, hon Reddy.

Mr V G REDDY: I think it was a slip of the tongue, I think you meant to say that it will be converted to a notice of motion.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): I said exactly that. I don't know, you wanted me to recognise you. Hi, hon Reddy. Continue, hon Maimane.

Dr M A MAIMANE: On behalf of BOSA I move without notice:

That the House -

- (1) notes with deep sadness the passing of Ms Tshidi Madia, a distinguished journalist and a respected commentator in SA politics;
- (2) recognises her significant contribution to political reporting, her commitment to truth telling and her role in strengthening democratic discourse in our country;
- (3) express condolences to her family, her colleagues and the wider media fraternity during this time of loss; and

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- (4) conveys its appreciation for a legacy of fearless journalism and dedication to holding leaders accountable.

Agreed to.

KING HINTSA KA-KHAWUTA

(Draft Resolution)

Mr V ZUNGULA: On behalf of the ATM I move without notice:

That the House -

- (1) notes with deep concern that the head of King Hintsa ka-Khawuta, Zanzolo, the great Xhosa king who was killed by the British colonial forces in 1835, remains in the possession of foreign institutions and has not yet been returned to his people;
- (2) recognises that King Hintsa is a symbol of African resistance against colonial conquest, dispossession and oppression;

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- (3) also notes that the continued withholding of his head is affront to the dignity and memory of the African people;
- (4) acknowledges the pain and trauma that is unresolved matter continues to inflict on the descendants of King Hintsa, the AmaXhosa nation and all Africans who revere his sacrifice;
- (5) further recognises that the restoration of African monarchies, the respect for their heritage and the dignity of traditional leadership are integral to healing historical wounds and reaffirming African identity; and
- (6) also resolve that Parliament as a voice of the people, lends its full support to the rightful return of the remains of King Hintsa to ensure that justice, dignity and historical redress are achieved.

Agreed to.

NANDI NYEMBE DIES

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(Draft Resolution)

Ms N E NKOSI: The ANC move without notice:

That the House -

- (1) notes with great sadness the passing on of the legendary South African actress, Nandi Nyembe, at the age of 75 on Saturday 23 August 2025;
- (2) acknowledges that throughout her remarkable 53-year career, Nyembe has brought to life some of the most iconic characters on South African television;
- (3) recalls that the award-winning actress became a household name through her unforgettable performances in drama series such as Soul City, Yizo Yizo, Zone 14, Showmax ... [Inaudible.] ... and Oscar nominated SA film yesterday;
- (4) understands that through every performance Nandi gave our people pride in our stories a purpose;

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(5) recognises that she broke barriers and inspired young actors in villages and townships to dream beyond their circumstances; and

(6) extends its heartfelt condolences to her family, friends and colleagues in the entertainment industry.

Agreed to.

ACTIVIST IMAM ABDULLAH HARON REMEMBERED

(Draft Resolution)

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: On behalf of Al Jama-ah, I move without notice:

That the House –

(1) notes and remembers that this year marks the 56 commemorations of Imam Abdullah Haron who was brutally tortured by the apartheid security branch members whilst in detention;

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- (2) further remembers that since his detention on 28 May 1969, he endured brutal torture and succumbed to his injuries on 27 September 1969;
- (3) also notes that the rights of his arrest marked the Mawlid al-Nabi celebration of the birth of our messenger, the last messenger, Prophet Muhammed ...
[Inaudible.] ...;
- (4) further notes that this year in the month of September, Muslims globally celebrates 1 500 years of the birth of the last messenger, Prophet Muhammed ...
[Inaudible.] ...;
- (5) acknowledges that the month of September since 1963 until 1977, eleven killings in detention occurred including that of Steve Biko, Solomon Soluji, Solwandle and seven more activists;
- (6) further acknowledges the 2022 reopened inquest and findings of Imam Haron's killings and the reopening of Steve Biko's inquest on 12 September 2025; and

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- (7) also recommends to the Department of Basic Education to consider introducing the book, *The Killing of the Imam*, written by Barney Desai ... [Time expired.]

Agreed to.

CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOK WOMEN'S RUGBY

(Draft Resolution)

Mr A D DE BLOCC VAN SHELTINGA: On behalf of the DA I move without notice:

That the House -

- (1) celebrates the Springbok women's inaugural appearance in a Rugby World Cup quarter final marking their best ever performance in this tournament;
- (2) congratulates captain Nolisindiso Booi, coach Swys de Bruin, the players and the support staff for their ceiling shattering efforts;

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- (3) recalls that their victory over higher ranked Italy was their first against this formidable opponent and moved South Africa to the top ten of the World Rugby rankings;
- (4) notes that these impressive results were achieved despite women's rugby still undergoing professionalisation in South Africa;
- (5) considers that the imbokodos [women] physically dominant style is an important symbol for women strength and resilience in the context of South Africa's twin crises of gender-based violence and femicide;
- (6) reflects on the unique nation building power of sports and particularly rugby in South Africa;
- (7) recognises the Springbok women as national heroes and a model for future development; and
- (8) heeds the call for increased investment into women's rugby and women's sport more generally in South Africa.

IsiZulu:

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Wathint' abafazi wathint' imbokodo.

Agreed to

JUICYGEMS UNPLUGGED CODING COMPETITION

(Draft Resolution)

Mr S T D LOUW: On behalf of the ANC I move without notice:

That the House -

- (1) notes that the pupils from Cefane Arts Academy in eNgcobo, Eastern Cape, has advanced beyond the national stage of the Juicygems coding for Mandela competition and represent the world championships on September 30 to be held virtually;
- (2) further remembers that the pupils; Mishka, Chloe, Terika, Diya and Nikara from the academy have been selected as top 8 finalists in the Tangible Africa global coding unplugged competition to end their place on the global stage;

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- (3) acknowledges that this prestigious challenge hosted by the Tangible Africa, initiated by Nelson Mandela University and the Leva Foundation, is all about making coding accessible;
- (4) recognise that through hands on unplugged activities and creative problem solving, these young minds are mastering the fundamentals of coding in the most innovative ways; and
- (5) finally, expresses its gratitude to the Qefane Arts Academy for representing our country on the global stage.

Sepedi:

Ke a leboga.

Agreed to.

SOCIAL ASSISTANT ACT OF 2004

(Draft Resolution)

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Dr L W MAHLATSI: House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) acknowledges that Social Assistant Act of 2004 provide the disability grant as support for persons with disability;
- (2) notes that under Regulation 20(2) the income of the spouse is counted in the means test whether married in, in or out of community of property;
- (3) further notes that this means many people with disability could lose or reduce access to their grants once they marry, not because their disability has changed, but simply because their spouse has earning income;
- (4) realizes this in effect undermines the Constitution, section 9 on equality, section 10 on dignity and section 27 on social security; and

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- (5) calls the Department of Social Development to urgently review this provision, so that persons with disability are not unfairly punished for choosing to marry.

Agreed to.

AFRICAN UNION THEME OF THE YEAR

(Draft Resolution)

Ms P MKHIZE: House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) welcomes the African Union theme of the year 2025
"Justice for Africans and People of African Descent
through Reparations;
- (2) notes the urgent need for South Africa to give effect to
AU resolutions on reparations and restorative justice,
to address the historical crimes of slavery, colonialism
and apartheid;

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- (3) recognizes that a comprehensive reparation and restorative justice implementation plan covering legal acknowledgement, restitution mechanisms, economic justice measures and assets or cultural restitution would mark a significant step towards justice; and
- (4) encourages the executive and relevant stakeholders to prioritize engagement with Parliament and the public on concrete measures to implement such a plan in line with the AU theme of the year.

Agreed to.

DIRCO TO INTERVENE IN THE SOUTH SAHUC CONTROVERSY

(Draft Resolution)

Ms H ISMAIL: House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes the urgent need for the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, DIRCO, to

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intervene in the South Africa Hajj and Umrah Council, SAHUC, controversy; ensures the protection of South African pilgrim's rights and interests;

- (2) appeals to the Civil Rights Commission to investigate the allegations of corruption and deception against SAHUC and share its findings to this House, especially considering there are allegations of misconduct and forensic reports;
- (3) calls on DIRCO to advise on any new directive from the Hajj Ministry regarding Hajj operations for transparency in the interests of South African pilgrims;
- (4) urges for transparency and accountability in Hajj operations for South African Muslims;
- (5) calls for the implementation of the SAHUC system to ensure a more efficient and organized Hajj experience rather than a monopoly by SAHUC as the only tour operator; and

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- (6) further urges for urgent action to be taken to prevent SAHUC from becoming a monopoly given the impending Hajj season and the need to protect the interests of South African pilgrims.

Agreed to.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

(Draft Resolution)

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: House Chairperson, I move without notice:

That the House-

- (1) notes that the United Nation International Day of Peace is celebrated on September 21 each year to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace;
- (2) further notes that the International Day of Peace is also a day of ceasefire in all aspects;

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- (3) understands that the theme for 2025's International Day of Peace is "Act Now for a Peaceful World";
- (4) appreciates the fact that everyone in society has a role to play and that we can all come together to speak out against issues like hate-fuelled-violence, racial and gender-based discrimination, and more; and
- (5) encourages us all to raise awareness of this day by helping to raise a new generation of peacemakers, to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and people, based upon respect and shared values.

Agreed to.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Ms N E NKOSI: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House-

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- (1) role of cyber intelligence in policing cybercrime in South Africa.

Mr M J CUTHBERT: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the DA:

That the House-

- (1) debates the negative impact of broad based black economic empowerment policies on the South African economy and their failure to meaningfully uplift disadvantaged South Africans.

Mr J S MALINGA: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the MK:

That ...-

IsiZulu:

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Le Ndlu ixoxe ngomthetho, ngomthelela omubi wokugeleza kwenkece ngendlela engekho emthethweni okuphuca iNingizimu Afrika neAfrika yonke jikelele izigidi zamarandi minyaka yonke. Siphinde sikhathazeke ngokuphoqwa kohlelo olubizwa nge-OECD, olubizwa nge-Two-Pillar Solution oluthatha amalungelo ethu entela liwanikeze amazwe angaphandle acebile.

English:

- (2) further debates the urgent need for South Africa to reject framework that entrenches neocolonialism dependence and instead champion a United Nation, UN, Tax Convention as an alternative, progressive and just global tax framework that restore our fiscal soviet; and
- (3) compels multinational to pay their fair share and redirect stolen wealth back to our people.

Ms M DLAMINI: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the EFF:

That the House-

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- (1) notes that the South African real estate market has been saturated by white minorities who are engaged in structured racism to exclude the black majority, reproducing apartheid spatial patterns and racial inequalities;
- (2) further notes this is deliberately done to drive up property market values, exclude local participation, and prioritize foreign investment, further entrenching racism in housing and land ownership; and
- (3) debates the inflated prices of properties in South Africa, which make it impossible for the black middle class and working-class people to access housing.

Mr E A CLOETE: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House-

- (1) debates the building of a united front ...

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members, there's a lot of noise now and we can't hear the speakers. Continue hon member.

... building of a united front of community leaders, civil societies, businesses, and every citizen against crime.

Inkosi R N CEBEKHULU: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the IFP:

That the House-

- (1) debates the proliferation of illegal firearms in our communities, which continues to fuel bloodshed and entrench criminal networks.

Ms J S PETERSEN: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the PA:

That the House-

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- (1) debates the outrage and grave concern that the residents of Brisbane in Johannesburg have been subjected to a complete and unacceptable lack of access to running water for a period exceeding three weeks;
- (2) acknowledges that the absence of such a necessity has created a devastating humanitarian crisis, jeopardizing public health, hygiene and the safety of vulnerable groups including children and the elderly;
- (3) recognises that persistent infrastructure failures and the metros demonstrable lack of capacity and urgency in resolving this crisis are indicative of a deeper systematic collapse in the governance and accountability within the municipality; and
- (4) further calls upon the Minister of Police to urgently investigate why South African Police Service, SAPS, opened fire on the people who demonstrate peacefully for their rights and deal with those officers.

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Mr W W WESSELS: House Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House I shall move on behalf of the FF Plus:

That the House-

- (1) debates the effectiveness of Parliament's going paperless strategy considering the unnecessary and wasteful expenditure that still occurs daily due to superfluous printing and the effect thereof in contributing to deforestation, excessive water and energy consumption and pollution.

Mr A D BEESLEY: I hereby move on behalf of ActionSA:

That the House -

Debates at its next sitting that South Africans have been betrayed by coalition government which has failed to produce a single credible plan to address the lack of growth and the deepening unemployment crisis as economic growth has remained below 1% since the formation of the GNU resulting in an increasing expanded unemployment rate of 43%.

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Ms M P MAKGATO: Chairperson, I hereby move on behalf of the ANC at its next sitting:

That the House -

Debates mainstreaming culture and heritage to assist in the colonization and the public social aspect and the education system.

Thank you.

Ms L M SCHICKERLING: Hon House Chair, I hereby move on behalf of the DA that at its next sitting:

That the House -

Debates the alarming rise in child pregnancies in South Africa with specific focus on the Eastern Cape where between April and July this year 117 girls aged between 10 and 14 gave birth in public facilities. These shocking figures exposed not only a social and health crisis but also the failure of the SAPS to act decisively against statutory rape and sexual abuse. Parliament must urgently debate why

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perpetrators continue to escape justice and why the SAPS is failing to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

Mr J A MNGXITAM: House Chair, I hereby give notice that the next sitting of this House I shall move on behalf of the MK Party:

That the House -

Debates the severe challenges faced by police stations with a specific focus on the crisis of motor vehicle repairs. The MK party believes that the shortage of roads worthy police vehicles is crippling crime prevention undermining public safety and demands urgent and immediate government action to restore operational capacity. Chair, crime came to Parliament today. We saw two women who chained themselves against the gates of Parliament to draw attention. It was not acting to draw attention to the crisis of crime prevention. Let us do something to prevent crime in the country.

Thank you.

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Mr M N PAULSEN: House Chair, I rise on behalf of the EFF and move that in its next:

That the House -

Debates an alternative electricity pricing policy that will, one, ensure more affordable electricity to all South Africans and number, two, ensure that all indigents receive 200 kilowatt hours free electricity.

Thank you.

Mr N T TSHOTETSI: House Chair, I move that in the next sitting of the National Assembly, we move:

That the House -

Debates the need to advance inclusive economic participation for women, youth and persons with disability by addressing structural barriers that exist in the labour market expanding procurement opportunities and strengthening enterprise support mechanisms to promote equitable growth.

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Thank you very much.

Mr V ZUNGULA: I move on behalf of ATM that in the next sitting:

That the House -

Debates the impact of all forms of illicit trade on the South African economy and how this impacts job creation, public health and safety discourages investment and fuels organized crime the countries under siege from criminal elements that are using illicit trade to fund terrorist activities and criminal activities across the country, the continent and the world.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): I'll give you an opportunity to answer, but I called BOSA twice and you did not respond.

Dr M A MAIMANE: My apologies House Chairperson. I did not hear you at all.

Dr M A MAIMANE: House Chairperson, I give notice that at the next sitting of this House I shall move an urgent matter of

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state-owned enterprise financial mismanagement as highlighted by the Auditor-General's latest report:

That the House -

- (1) notes with alarm that the Auditor-General's finding that key state-owned SOES remain financially unsustainable with adverts or disclaimed audit outcomes becoming the norm across entities;
- (2) further notes that despite repeated bailouts amounting to hundreds of billions of rands over the past decades, that SOE's continue to drain the fiscus without demonstrating improved governance, financial stability or service deliveries;
- (3) acknowledges that the mismanagement of SOEs not only undermines investor confidence and economic growth, but also diverse scarce resources from essential public services such as health, education and policing; and

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- (4) resolves that Parliament must demand a comprehensive strategy for each SOE, with such strategies being tied to measurable performance indicators, time frames and accountability mechanisms, failing which further bailouts should be so.

Ms S MOSIKATSI: House Chair, I move on behalf of the ANC that House at its next sitting:

That the House -

Debates improving the availability, function and decentralization of victim empowerment centres across the country.

Thank you.

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: I give notice that this House in the next meeting:

That the House -

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Debates for South Africa to protect its nine citizens who have joined the Global Sumud Flotilla, a coalition from 44 countries sailing together on 55 boats from Tunisia to take humanitarian aid to Gaza, the South African citizens are reinforcing their support of the countries International Court of Justice, ICJ, case against the Zionist Israeli entities genocide of Gazans.

Thank you.

Ms C LABUSCHAGNE: Hon House Chair, I hereby move on behalf of the DA that the next setting:

That the House -

Debates the rise of political killings and threats against officials as an inhibitor of professionalizing local governments.

Mr M NONTSELE: House Chair, I hereby move on behalf of the ANC that the House at its next sitting:

That the House -

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Debates the development and strengthening of local economies, creation of jobs and promotion of job placements, especially for the youth.

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Chairperson, I give notice that next sitting of the House:

That the House -

Debates the issue of taxing trusts in South Africa, with particular reference to the extent in which the trust is being used to legitimate estate planning versus tax avoidance and illicit financial flows, the implications of trust taxation of wealth, distribution, inequality and fiscal sustainability in South Africa. Potential reform to ensure that taxation of trust aligned with the principle of fairness, transparency and economic transformation, the adequacy of the current legislative framework governing the taxation of trust.

Mr S M GANA: Chairperson, I rise on behalf of Rise Mzansi that at its next sitting:

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That the House -

Debates the state of South Africa's academic hospitals, especially the Doctor George Mkhari, Chris Hani Baragwanath and also the former King Edward Hospital given the increased pressures they face due to population growth and inadequate budget.

Xitsonga:

Ndze khensile swinene, Mutshamaxitulu wa Yindlu.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Mkhalipi, there's no money informed. We must give each other opportunities.

Ms M C MAFAGANE: Hon Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the MK:

That the House-

- (1) debates government's failures to rein in foreign online gambling operators who are siphoning more than R1,5 trillion out of South Africa; and

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- (2) notes that the MK demands stricter licencing and advertisement control, decisive action to shut down illegal platforms and urgent measures to protect our people from exploitation and addiction.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Hon Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the DA:

That the House-

- (1) notes that in light of President Ramaphosa's remarks yesterday, that the ANC councillors can learn how to govern a municipality well by looking at how DA municipalities ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majazi): Hon members, hon members, hon members, there's absolutely no need to shout and you are not allowed to shout in the House. Please. [Interjections.]

Mr S THAMBO: House Chair, on a point of order. [Interjections.]

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Michalakakis ... hon Thambo, can you please take your seat?

Mr S THAMBO: Unfortunately, because of a lot of noise ...

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members, honestly. I cannot even hear what hon Thambo is saying. You are shouting and there is a point of order.

Mr S THAMBO: Thank you, Chairperson. There is too much noise, we cannot hear what the hon member is saying. If people are offended by the remarks of their President, they must take it somewhere else. We want to hear. Can he repeat from the beginning so that we can hear that information properly?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members ...

[Interjections.] ... Honestly speaking, I even said it that we couldn't hear anything because you howled. Honestly ... no, you have brought this on yourselves. Hon Michalakakis, I will give you another opportunity to start afresh.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Thank you, House Chair ... [Interjections.]

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Please, can we keep it down? Hon members, okay, now I will call you by name. Continue, hon Michalakis.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE SECOND LARGEST MINORITY PARTY: Hon Chairperson, I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the DA:

That the House-

(1) notes that in light of President Ramaphosa's remarks yesterday, that the ANC councillors can learn how to govern a municipality well by looking at how DA municipalities like the City of Cape Town and Stellenbosch municipalities are run; and

(2) debates how parties can follow the President's advice and learn from the DA's excellent track record of governance on local level that creates jobs and improves people's lives.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon Mahlatsi ...

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Dr L W MAHLATSI: Thank you, Chairperson. Please accept my apology.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members, can you please keep it down?

Dr L W MAHLATSI: Thank you, Chairperson. Please accept my apology. It was too noisy. Can he please repeat it?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): At some point, we must also go home. So, we will continue and give the ANC an opportunity.

Ms N MAKASI: Chair, with all due respect, you are ready for that debate. I hereby give notice that on the next sitting day of the House, I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House—

- (1) debate the prioritising of the efforts to resolve South Africa's inner city housing challenges; and
- (2) root out acts of criminality in accommodation that goes with it in the inner cities.

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Ms Z Majozi): Hon members, that was the last item on the Order Paper. I request members to stand and wait for the presiding officer and the Mace to leave the House. That concludes the business of the day and the House is adjourned.

Debate concluded.

The House adjourned at 18:54.