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***PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY***

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The House met at 14:01.

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

**QUESTIONS - DEPUTY PRESIDENT**

Question 19:

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, the question posed by hon Michalakis is important as it gives us an opportunity to highlight progress made towards developing key legislative interventions and policy reforms to achieve the strategic priorities of the Government of National Unity, GNU.

The GNU has adopted the Medium-Term Development Plan, MTDP, 2024-29, which has three strategic priorities; driving inclusive growth and job creation, reduce poverty and tackle the high cost

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of living, and building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

In October 2020, government introduced Operation Vulindlela, a significant initiative aimed at accelerating economic reforms. Operation Vulindlela focuses on enhancing the country's growth trajectory and improving its overall economic performance through various strategies.

Phase one of Operation Vulindlela achieved key reforms in the following areas: Energy, water, telecommunications, and visa systems, leading to significant private investment, a more competitive electricity market, and improved mobile connectivity. These include the passing of the Electricity Regulation Amendment Bill which was signed into law on 16 August last year, and the publication of a Ministerial Determination and associated regulations to enable the first round of Independent Transmission Projects, ITPs.

Furthermore, President Cyril Ramaphosa signed the Economic Regulation of Transport Bill into law on 6 June 6 last year, establishing a new Transport Economic Regulator. This regulator will oversee multiple transport modes, including road, rail,

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maritime, and aviation, and aims to enhance co-ordination and transparency within the regulatory framework of the sector.

In May 2025, President Ramaphosa launched Phase 2 of Operation Vulindlela, building on the first phase. Phase 2 of Operation Vulindlela is focusing on improving service delivery at the local government level and addressing spatial inequality, while continuing with key reforms in critical sectors.

Thus far, we are doing a comprehensive review of the White Paper on Local Government. The White Paper is aimed at reforming the local government system, including the introduction of a performance-based financing mechanism designed to enhance the reform of municipal water and electricity services.

In this regard, the Department of Co-operative Government and Traditional Affairs, COgta, is developing the Municipal Structures Amendment Bill, sometimes called the Coalitions Bill, for Cabinet approval in the next few months. Cabinet also adopted the Roadmap for the Digital Transformation of Government which aims to moderate and modernise services through investment in digital public infrastructure.

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Government has made significant headways in institutional reforms to strengthen our state-owned enterprises. Through the National State Enterprise Bill, we are introducing reforms to strengthen our state-owned enterprises, SOEs, focusing on improving governance, unbundling monopolies, and introducing competition to reduce costs and boost efficiency, while transforming SOE boards to be fit for purpose.

Key initiatives include restructuring Transnet to allow for competition in rail and port operations and accelerating Eskom's transition into a systems operator for a decentralised energy market.

Lastly, as part of our commitment to build a capable, ethical, and developmental state, Parliament is processing the Public Service Commission Amendment Bill and the Public Service Amendment Bill to improve state capacity and professionalise the public service. On 04 November this year, the NCOP passed the Public Administration Management Amendment Bill, and the Bill has been sent to the President for assent.

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All these reforms demonstrate our commitment to deliver on the Medium-Term Development Plan and the strategic priorities of the Government of National Unity. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Deputy President, I have been informed that the follow up question will be taken by hon Nodada.

*IsiXhosa:*

Mnu B B NODADA: Ndiyabulela Somlomo.

*English:*

Deputy President, as responsible partners in the Government of National Unity we have the duty to challenge policy thinking to advance our fight against current unemployment and poverty. Our thinking should always be about ending poverty, growing the economy and creating jobs for the 13 million poor, mainly black South Africans and the 12 million struggling in the queue of unemployment, mainly young black South Africans. I come from the deep rural Tsolo in the Eastern Cape where majority of the people behind these statistics have never benefitted from Black Economic Empowerment, BEE.

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The DA has tabled legislation to ensure government procurement grows our economy, creates jobs and frees millions of South Africans locked out of opportunity and stop the connected looting few benefitting from luxury mansions and vehicles, as you know. Leading government's business, will you stand with the millions of poor South Africans that need a leg up or will you choose to side with the rich looting connected few?

We must envision a new empowerment model for South Africa with a test for redress and transformation is measured by ending poverty and creating opportunities for those who need it most. So, the question is, why would you not support a policy or legislation that gives opportunities to those who need it based on a means test rather than keeping economic opportunities only for the politically connected through the BEE? Will you support our economic inclusion legislation to grow the economy and create jobs for poor South Africans? I thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, to the hon Nodada, we all want policies that ensure inclusion. Most of these reforms I am talking about are intended to ensure exactly that. The Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment, BBBEE, is currently being reviewed. The Department of Trade Industry and Competition is

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currently looking at where the gaps are, and I am sure that you can make an input in that process because at the end of the day we want legislation that will ensure that we benefit the majority of South Africans.

I will not support legislation that seeks to benefit a few, as you are saying, we want to benefit the majority of the people to the extent that there may be weaknesses. Let's correct that and make amendments. That is also why there is this review. There is no need to ditch the legislation and introduce something else, let's rather refine it and make sure that indeed it can ensure the inclusivity that all of us are looking for. I thank you, hon Speaker.

Ms N A GCALEKA-MAZIBUKO: Deputy President, considering that social compacting between the government, labour and civil organisation is central not only to building consensus and social cohesion but also to achieving the MTDP's four main priorities, how is your office strengthening this partnership approach through platforms such as the National Economic Development and Labour Council, Nedlac, the Presidential Infrastructure Co-ordinating Commission, the Presidential Climate Commission and Operation Vulindlela Steering Committee

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to ensure that proposed Bills or legislative reforms are aligned with stakeholder input and reflect social consensus? I thank you, Speaker.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, thank you to hon Mazibuko. The National Economic Development and Labour Council, as we all know, provides a unique platform for dialogue to ensure social cohesion especially that government, business and civil society come together and come out with proposals that seek to support the implementation of these priorities that I have spoken about.

Of course, it is important that before we pass legislation in Parliament we engage Nedlac. One you get the consensus at that level it is very easy to ensure that we can pass legislation that will indeed help us to accelerate the process of transformation. We are working very closely with Nedlac. I had an opportunity in September to address a Nedlac summit. It is a very important institution to us.

The other institutions like the Presidential Infrastructure Coordinating Council and others are also important because they assist in providing strategic direction to the work, not only of the President but of the entire Cabinet. Even if they are called

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the Presidential Commission, they provide strategic guidance to work of the entire government. So, these are very important institutions and most of them are driven and underlined by the need for dialogue and social cohesion so that we bring everybody onboard. Thank you very much for your question.

Mr W M DOUGLAS: Hon Speaker, to the hon Deputy President, thank you for your reply. With respect, your answer highlights intentions and makes more empty promises, but it does not address the widening gap between the four stated priorities and government's actual performance in implementing them. If we look at the Medium-Term Development Plan, real inclusive economic growth remains stagnant at below 1% - non-existent basically - unemployment sits at 43,1%, youth unemployment sits at 72,4% and the global unemployment rate is only 4,9%, making our unemployment rate officially the highest and worst in the world while per capita income has declined by more than 6% over the last decade and our poverty indicators have worsened.

So, hon Deputy President, given these realities and your role as leader of government business, how do the legislative items you mentioned concretely resolve these failures and why should South Africans believe that new legislation will be implemented

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effectively when existing laws designed to prevent mismanagement, corruption and unauthorised expenditure are already being ignored and violated within your department ... [Inaudible.] [Time expired.] ... Thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, to the hon Douglas, the plans that government have put in place are being implemented as we speak. So, the MTDP is not just a plan - we have ensured that it is actually an implementable plan with clear time frames. All the Ministers, government departments and agencies have clear time frames in terms of the implementation. As leader of government business one of my responsibilities is to ensure that we fast track the implementation of legislation and follow up with Ministers. However, we don't end there because at the end of the day legislation must make impact in how we change the lives of our people, particularly poor people. So, it is not just the issue of coming with laws all the time and not tracking the impact of these laws. We do exactly that.

What I was saying in my answer is that in order to implement these priorities that the GNU has decided on, there is a need for legislation to be put in place in a number of these sectors, as I mentioned, in energy, water and so on and they must be fast

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tracked, tracked, monitored and reviewed where necessary so that we can make sure that we don't have empty slogans but real implementation. Thank you very much for your question.

Dr M A MAIMANE: Deputy President, the unemployment statistics came out today and they indicate that unemployment is on the rise and are clear that the majority of the people unemployed happen to be black. As it so happens, I was in the Eastern Cape, and I want to say to you that part of the reasons why people are unemployed is because they don't have a furthered education that empowers them for their future. So, if you are black in the Eastern Cape and poor, the probability of your education is simply weak.

We also know that an economic problem is the fact that there is policy uncertainty within the GNU. There are certain members who say we must look at redress one way and your party says another way. I welcome that you are reviewing BBBEE but in that review I want to ask, can we not focus BBBEE on the education, particularly of black children? If that be so, would you not argue that those who don't support that view maybe should not be serving in your Cabinet of GNU? Thank you very much.

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, thank you very much to hon Maimane for supporting the review. We do urge everybody to support the review and we are also engaging our partners in the GNU to understand what we are doing here. Hopefully we will convince them that this is the right thing to do. You don't have to throw away the legislation; you review it, amend it and make it better so that we can achieve our objectives.

I agree with you that we should invest a lot in education and skills for our people. That is why we have the Human Resource Development Council which the President has asked me to lead. We work with labour, business and nongovernment organisations, NGOs. We are putting the issue of education and skills on top of the agenda of what we do, particularly amongst young people so that we don't have people called unemployed graduates and so on. That is a very important thing.

We are very concerned about high levels of unemployment. Even when sometimes they say unemployment has declined a bit by 1% we don't become excited because it is still high and therefore, we need to do everything to ensure that these plans that we are reviewing can be implemented faster. That is why in the government today we speak about the speed of execution. We want

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things to be done faster so that we impact positively on the lives of our people. That is what we are doing. Thank you very much for your question.

Question 20:

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Order. You have asked a question. I am answering. Order. There is no change yet. Yes, that the speaker has been informed of. The Leader of the Opposition, the MK party, remains Judge Hlophe until advised otherwise. So ... [Interjections.] ... let us continue. Hon members, we are meeting in a hybrid. So, we might as well ask all other members who are supposed to be here, where are they, if that is the idea. But for now, we have members who have been asked to follow up on the question that has been asked. Hon Deputy President.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, let me thank the Leader of the Opposition, hon Judge Hlophe, for his concern about land reform. I want to reiterate, hon Speaker, from the beginning that the government remains committed to accelerating land reform. However, the responsibility of amending the Constitution, as the hon member has raised, rests with Parliament. Hon members may recall that the Sixth Parliament

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established the Joint Constitutional Review Committee, which held public hearings across South African provinces to gather public input on amending section 25 of the Constitution.

However, the National Assembly could not pass the Bill since it required a two-thirds majority vote for the 18th Amendment of the Constitution. Section 25(7) of the Constitution guarantees that any person or community dispossessed of property after 19 June 1913, due to past racially discriminatory laws or practices, is entitled to either restitution of that property or other equitable redress as provided for by an Act of Parliament. This provision forms a critical part of our land reform and restitution process as it addresses the injustices from the apartheid era and beyond.

Furthermore, the current constitutional framework provides for the expropriation of property subject to just and equitable compensation. To this end, on 23 January 2025, President Cyril Ramaphosa signed into law the Expropriation Bill, which repeals the pre-democratic Expropriation Act of 1975 and sets out how organs of state may appropriate land in the public interest for a variety of reasons. For its part, the Interministerial Committee on Land Reform and Agriculture has not engaged on the question of backdating land claims before 1913, as this would be

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inconsistent with the provision of the Constitution. However, during the dialogue between the government and the National House of Traditional and Khoisan Leaders held in August this year, it was agreed that the Minister of Land Reform and Rural Development would convene the National Land Indaba to consolidate and finalize all critical issues related to land reform in the country. As a government, we remain focused on strengthening implementation, accelerating redistribution, securing tenure, and ensuring that land already restored to communities becomes productive and contributes to inclusive economic growth. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy President. I have been informed that the supplementary question will be taken by hon Molefe.

Mr M K B MOLEFE: Madam Speaker ...

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members, do not be naughty. You did not say the same thing when hon Nodada took a question for hon Michalakis. So, hon Molefe has been asked to take the question.

Mr M K B MOLEFE: Thank you.

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The SPEAKER: Let us proceed.

Mr M K B MOLEFE: In light of the fact that the ANC's 54th national conference resolution adopted in Nasrec in 2017, expressly called for expropriation of land without compensation ...

*Afrikaans:*

... sonder vergoeding ...

*English:*

... for the members of the Government of National Unity, GNU ... will the Deputy President come clean and confirm whether, as ANC deployees in government and in Parliament, have now abandoned this resolution in favour of the diluted, coward, and self-out formulation of expropriation with nil compensation, where judges ultimately determine whether compensation is nil or billions of rands to the white farmers? Further, was it a deliberate decision by the ANC during the Convention for a Democratic SA, CODESA, negotiations to agree on the sell-out position that all land stolen between 1652 and 1913 be forgotten as effectively entrenched through section 25(7) of the Constitution? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Molefe, we did not deviate from the conference resolution. When we came to Parliament to pursue that resolution, we had to engage all other parties. Remember that we must ensure that we move with all parties. I did say earlier on that when it came to the amendment of section 25, we were not able to succeed in Parliament to do that because it needed a two-thirds majority. We went further as the ANC to ensure that we have a way in which we can continue to expropriate land. There are circumstances, as you correctly say, where nil compensation is accepted, and that is guiding all government institutions. So, land is being expropriated, and where appropriate, we do not have to pay particularly because it is for the public good. That is happening. As we speak now, our only challenge is that we need to move faster. I am happy to report that we are starting to see a much faster movement. We are pushing much faster to expropriate land, guided by what Parliament has decided on. We need to operate within that framework. We cannot deviate from it unless it is changed by Parliament. That is how we are going to continue to work. But yes, our people need land, and we will provide them with land. That much, we are committed to. We will not deviate from that. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

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*Tshivenda:*

Ms C M PHIRI: Ndi a livhuwa, Mulangadzulo. Muthusa Muphresidennde, mbudziso yanga ndi ya uri: Ndi mbekanyamushumo dzifhio dza muvhuso dza u t̄avhanyisa mafhungo a u netshedza mavu, nahone u swika zwino zwi khou tshimbilisa hani? Muvhuso wo vha wo tea u sa khou t̄avhanyisa u netshedzwa ha mavu naa nga u shumisa Mulayo wa u Dzhiulula mavu une wa yelana na tshiteŋwa tsha vhu25 tsha Ndayotewa saizwi vho zwi amba uri Muphresidennde vho u saina sa Mulayo wa shango une wa tendela u dzhiwa ha mavu u itela u t̄avhanyisa u netshedzwa ha mavu? A si tshone tshifhinga naa itshi, Muthusa Muphresidennde, tsha uri muvhuso nga matavhi awo mararu, zwine zwa vha muvhuso wapo, muvhuso wa mavundu, na muvhuso wa lushaka u dzhiulule mavu u itela u t̄avhanyisa zwa u netshedzwa ha mavu kha vhadzulapo naa? Ndi a livhuwa. Aa. [U fhela ha tshifhinga.]

MUTHUSA MUPHRESIDENNDE: Ndi khou livhuwa, Vho Phiri, Tshivenda tshanga a tsho ngo t̄amba.

*English:*

I understand, hon Speaker, that hon Phiri is concerned about fast-tracking land reform, particularly to ensure that we can reverse the legacy of 1913, where land was dispossessed from

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black people. I want to confirm, hon Phiri, that we are doing that. We are fast-tracking land reforms. There are several people who have received farms in various parts of the country now. You were concerned about what was happening in the provinces as well. We are making sure that farms are distributed to most of those areas in our provinces. It is going to take a bit of time to reverse the legacy of 1913, but it is something that we are dealing with.

*Tshivenda:*

Ri khou ŋea vhathu dzibulasi.

*English:*

We are giving them farms to ensure that they can till the land. Also, we are giving people land to develop their houses and other forms of developments, not just for farming purposes. Addressing the legacy issue of 1913 is something that we are dealing with.

*Tshivenda:*

Ndi a livhuwa. Ndaa.

*English:*

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Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Deputy President, the 12th Land Access Movement of SA, Lamosa, report on Land Court submitted in June 2025, shows that there is a total of 5 364 outstanding land claims from the claims that were lodged before the 1998 deadline. It further shows that the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights will need a further 30 years to settle these remaining land claims at a cost of R172 billion. There are still other new land claims that will not be processed until the 1998 claims are concluded. This surely demonstrates to you, Deputy President, that the land restitution as a form of land redistribution is not working as currently conceptualized. Has the Deputy President thought of introducing the expropriation of land without compensation within the GNU, canvass and take a position, and come and present the new Bill here in Parliament, as you elaborated earlier on?

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, member Mkhaliphi, for the follow-up question. I said earlier that the ANC is pro expropriation of land without compensation. We have never deviated from that. But I said when we came to Parliament, it was clear that engaging with other parties, we could not go that route, and therefore introduced another approach, which hon Molefe said earlier was a sell-out position. But it is working

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because we are saying that there would be instances where land can be expropriated with nil compensation, particularly for land that we require for public good, for public purposes, to build schools, to ensure that we build clinics, and that people can come up with new development. But we are giving people farms as we speak. So, it is not that that is not happening. So, the issue, member Mkhaliphi, of coming up with new legislation, is something that can be done. But at the moment, let us use what we have. It is working. Let us use it. Let us not dump it and say it is not working. You must ask the Minister of Land Reform, who will tell you that it is working. I have been out there with him, giving communities and people land in various parts of our country. As I said, all we need to do is move a bit faster. It is working.

Mr S S ZIBI: Hon Deputy President, urbanization is a global phenomenon. It is also happening here in South Africa, which means millions of South Africans move to or closer to urban areas where they do not have any land on which to build their own homes and to settle. What is the government's plan to stay ahead, to catch up with the rate of urbanization, and then stay ahead of the urbanization rate so that when South Africans move to urban areas, they do not have to suffer the indignity of

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being evicted or having to stay in informal settlements? Thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Indeed, hon Zibi, many people are moving to the cities. It is not just a South African phenomenon. You find it all over the world. People believe that a better life is in the cities. When they get there and do not get employment, then they start building shacks. That is why you have a proliferation of informal settlements in provinces like Gauteng, the Western Cape, and, to some extent, in KwaZulu-Natal, in areas like Durban, where you find people moving in. We plan that the land must be released and developed to settle people. Now, one thing that I have noticed is that many of our people believe that you can only deal with the homelessness of many people who are coming from rural areas through RDP housing. But it does not have to be that way. Many people do accept ... if you develop land, make sure there are basic services like water and so on. People do settle, and they build their own homes. So, in short, I can say what needs to be done, and I know the MEC for Housing has a programme called Rapid Land Release. It is exactly for that purpose, so that we can deal with the mushrooming of informal settlements. Sometimes people settle on land that is not suitable. If the government provides the land and develop it

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properly, we will be able to guide urbanization. Otherwise, people will settle on flood lines, and then we will have a problem of floods and so on. So, the Rapid Land Release Programme will deal with that challenge, and it is happening as we speak. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Question 21:

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, government recognises that Communal Property Associations, CPAs, remain central to the success of our Land Reform Programme. Therefore, the question posed by the Deputy Chief Whip of the ANC the hon Mpapane regarding the functionality of CPAs, is important as it highlight the need to focus on these critical enablers for our Land Reform Programme.

However, CPAs around the country are facing substantial governance and operational challenges because of internal disagreements limiting their efficacy and preventing beneficiaries from reaping the economic benefits of Land Reform Programme transfers.

To address these challenges President Cyril Ramaphosa signed a Communal Property Association Amendment Bill into law on 30

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September which amends the 1996 Communal Property Association Act. In terms of this new legislation, land under the control of CPAs will be owned by residents who are members of associations and not by the leaders of associations, but every member of the community should be part of the ownership of the land.

This Act also established a Communal Property Association's Office which will be managed by a Registrar of Communal Property Associations to improve oversight and administration. These changes aim to address challenges, enhance member rights and improve the management of communally owned properties in South Africa.

To this end the Acting Registrar was appointed on 1 April this year, while the permanent office is being established through a fit-for-purpose structure that will support this mandate.

In this regard government has placed emphasis on ensuring that every CPA become a sustainable, transparent and inclusive vehicle for community ownership thereby fulfilling the constitutional goal of equitable access to land for all South Africans.

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Through the Department of Land Reforma and Rural Development, government is implementing practical support for communities which includes following measures: Firstly, training and governance audits, help CPA committees meet compliance standards.

Secondly, technical advice through transactional advisers who assist with business plans and management systems.

Thirdly, mediation services via the Land Rights Management Facility to resolve disputes and reduce costly litigation.

Fourthly, youth and women participation programmes to renew leadership within the CPAs.

These measures form part of a single co-ordinated approach under the work of the Interministerial Committee on Land Reform and Agriculture. It is therefore incumbent upon all key role-players including members of CPAs themselves to perform their functions in a manner that advances the interest of their members and communities at large.

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As for our part, through the newly established Office of the Registrar of Communal Property Associations, government will continue to monitor the functionality of CPAs, by ensuring that they are properly governed and are in compliance with the provisions of the Communal Property Associations Act. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP OF THE LARGEST MINORITY PARTY (Mrs D E Mpapane): Madam Speaker and hon Deputy President, thank you for the comprehensive response to my question. Hon Deputy President the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development in the financial year end of 2024, indicated that 1 744 CPAs were registered. Eighty two percent of those CPAs are noncompliant, 7% partially compliant and 11% are fully compliant.

Hon Deputy President, the future looks bleak. Also, in 2024 the amendment you indicated the President signed into law indicated was introduced.

So, what enforceable measures and consequence management are being implemented to deal with the persistent noncompliance and also the corruption within the CPAs? Thank you.

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker and hon Mpapane, thank you very much for that question. Your observation is correct. I did say earlier that there had been a lot of challenges facing our CPAs. In fact when I travel throughout the country, I discover that that where we are making faster progress with land reforms it is where the CPAs are working well. So, that is why then the President then decided that we should come up with a mechanism to intervene. So, the Registrar of Communal Property Associations it is a mechanism to intervene. To look at areas where there are disputes. The Registrar has powers to dissolve a committee that is not working and appoint a new one. So, they can set up a committee which is involved in conflict and ensure that a new one is appointed through the Communal Property Associations Amendment Act. The Act give them powers to be able to do so.

In some instances, they can appoint an interim committee to be able to perform the work. So, once there are these interventions you begin to see progress in many areas where there have been challenges. We are going to continue and assist CPAs including with training. For some of them you find that they are ordinary community members trying to do work, but they need to be capacitated. Training is included as part of assisting the CPAs

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to strengthen them because they are really the backbone of ensuring the fast-tracking redistribution of land.

Thank you very much for the question. We are really intervening in that manner. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Mr M A NHANHA: Hon Speaker and hon Deputy President, building on what the Deputy Chief Whip of the ANC has just mentioned the definition of insanity is doing the same thing all over and all over again expecting different results. It is true that over 80% of our CPAs have failed.

Now it is abundantly clear hon Deputy President that that the system is either not working in South Africa or not suitable for our environment. Is it not about time that we should look elsewhere for other forms of land ownership, learn from those people particularly those who have walked this path before us?

*IsiXhosa:*

Athi amaXhosa, inyathi ibuzwa kwabaphambili. Enkosi.

*English:*

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, yes there are a lot of challenges with respect to the current model of CPAs. When we started with this programme obviously, we thought it would be smooth sailing. However, there are challenges when you begin to provide land to people. Most of these challenges come from families and so on like who is the rightful owner of the land and communities.

So, it is true that we must continue to look at whether there are best models elsewhere that we can use. Currently, the Minister of Land Reform and Rural Development is busy with that to ensure that we can improve. However, we are trying our best in ensuring that we resolve the problem. That is why the Act was amended to bring in the Registrar and ensure that we do not waste time if people cannot work together, we dissolve and put in the new committee and move on.

We will continue to pay special attention. For the issue of land is very important to us. We want people to acquire land.

*IsiXhosa:*

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Sifuna ukuba abantu bawufumane umhlaba. Mabawufumane. Siza kuyilungisa le nto, abantu bawufumane umhlaba. Siyabulela lungu elihloniphekileyo uNhanha.

*English:*

Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The hon Maxon. Others do not know who the hon Maxon is. It is the hon Mkhaliphi.

The hon Hadebe.

Mr N M HADEBE: Madam Speaker and hon Deputy President, recognising that the limited productivity of Communal Property Associations threatens both local livelihoods and national food security: What comprehensive strategies and measurable interventions has government implemented to ensure that CPA-managed land contribute effectively to agricultural output, supports rural job creation, provide market access for small scale producers and strengthens food security across all provinces as part of an Integrated National Land Reform and Rural Development Programme? I thank you.

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker and thank you very much hon Hadebe for the follow up question. When we go around looking at the programmes of land reforms, I have come across some very important initiatives that are working. So, it is one thing to train people which we are doing. However, some of the initiatives working very well are when emerging farmers and established farmers are partnering. I have seen a lot of those programmes in the Free State and Mpumalanga working very well. When we were in Bethlehem, emerging farmers planting apples exporting them to Europe in partnership with other farmers' very successful model. Same thing in Mpumalanga. I have seen in the Free State and also in KwaZulu-Natal. So, we are encouraging that as well because we want this initiative to be productive. When people get land, we do not want land to lay fallow we want the land to be used and be productive and so on.

Lastly, maybe on the issue raised, hon Hadebe is that it is support for emerging farmers. We noticed that in earlier years government would give people land and not provide continuous support. I am not saying we should babysit people but just be cautious that we must be there for a while and look at what they are doing and where help is needed kind of support and so on.

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So, we are looking at the combination of all these things so that these people who receive land should not fail. However, I agree with you that it is important that we need to ensure food security, productivity and we can do it if government is there giving support. I can assure you we are doing it. Thank you, hon Speaker.

*Sesotho:*

Ngaka L W MAHLATSI: Kgotso, Maafrika.

*English:*

Hon Deputy President, in the view of persistent challenges confronting Communal Property Association, including with governing structures, limited technical and financial support and the prevalence of leadership that exclude younger and more skilled generation from decision making processes, these challenges have led to poor land productivity, community disputes and the collapse of many restitution projects.

What specific measures the government introduced to reposition CPA's functions and sustainable institution that can effectively manage restituted land and contribute to rural economic transformation?

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*Xitsonga:*

Khanimambo!

*English:*

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker,...

*Sesotho:*

... kgotso morena'ka. Taba e o e buang e bohlokwa haholo. Haholo ntlheng ya hore re tlise batjha. Ke ile ka e bua pejana hore re se re e qadile taba eo.

*English:*

... to bring the younger generation on board, men and women and we know that young people like urban life. They do not like to be farmers and all that. However, if we train them earlier in life, encourage them they will take that direction.

So, we are already doing it. I think the hon Mpapane's question earlier did raise sharply the issue of younger generation coming on board to be part of leading the CPAs.

*Sesotho:*

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Ke ntho e re bonang eka e tla re thusa haholo ya hore batjha ba be teng. Re se ke ra nstha ba seng ba hodile hore ba sebetse mmoho le batjha.

*English:*

You know, so that they get knowledge from the older ones but we make sure that the younger ones become more active in these associations because they are very key in driving land reform. We do need the young blood, young people, men and women come on board serve on CPAs and drive this programme.

*Sesotho:*

Ke a leboha morena'ka.

*Xitsonga:*

Khanimambo!

XIPIKARA: Khanimambo!

XANDLA XA PRESIDENTE: Khanimambo! Khanimambo! Khanimambo!

Question 22:

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, hon Speaker. Allow me to begin by affirming to hon Malema that the government of national unity is coherent and working. However, it is true that the government of national unity has encountered challenges. Listen to me, it has encountered challenges in fostering co-operation across political and ideological divides. Such differences in political ideologies and policies are inevitable in the government of national unity that is made out of 10 political parties. Here we are not talking about two parties, but 10 parties. When you have 10 parties you can't expect that it will just be smooth sailing.

The government of national unity statement of intent serves as a foundation for this government as it outlines shared principles and priorities that continue to guide coalition parties. As the government of national unity, we are resolving our political and ideological disagreements through a consensus building framework, commitment to a unified statement of intent and the implementation of designated conflict resolution mechanisms.

In this regard, last year, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced the establishment of a government of national unity, GNU, Clearing House Mechanism to resolve policy disagreements and delegated the office of the Deputy President to lead the

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Clearing House Mechanism. Thus far, the GNU Clearing House Mechanism was instrumental in advancing recommendations on the implementation of, firstly, clause 4 and clause 5 of the Basic Education Laws Amendment Act. As a result, President Cyril Ramaphosa authorised the full implementation of the Basic Education Laws Amendment Act on 20 December last year.

On 29 October this year, the GNU Clearing House Mechanism adopted its terms of reference which creates a framework for resolving conflicts where consensus cannot be reached. Through these terms of reference, we have agreed that the Clearing House Mechanism serves as a recommending body rather than a decision-making structure. Any unresolved issues at the level of the clearing house will be referred to the political leaders' forum for decision-making. On 3 November, leaders of political parties in the GNU concluded a highly productive two-day retreat. The leaders met to reflect on progress in the implementation of the priorities identified in the GNU statement of intent, to discuss contemporary national and international issues and to address critical issues facing the country. Political leaders unanimously agreed that GNU remains united and strong.

[Interjections.] The leaders also reflected on the Budget processes for 2025. Together we have committed to ensure more

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efficient collaboration when formulating budgetary priorities and frameworks having learnt valuable lessons from the previous experience. There won't be fights about budgets this time. The leaders have met. The GNU remains focused on key priorities to enhance the South African economy. [Interjections.] It seems they are not happy when the GNU works well.

Hon Speaker, the GNU remains focused on key priorities to enhance the South African economy including rapid and inclusive economic growth together with members of the executive who have been working on an investment drive to market our economic policy and to attract foreign direct investments to our country.

Through our visit to London in September last year and the South Africa-France Investment Conference which took place in May this year, we have been able to boost our trade and investment relations with the United Kingdom and France. Our objective includes promoting South Africa as an ideal investment destination, highlighting opportunities in sectors such as renewable energy, manufacturing, agribusiness and digital economy. This includes the recent investment drive led by the President in Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Swiss Federation.

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In conclusion, the GNU is together moving towards the right direction. Together we are executing an economic programme that has been agreed upon by all partners in government. The GNU acknowledges and adheres to established protocols and procedures of government in which the executive authority is exercised jointly by members of the Cabinet and the President. All Ministers and Deputy Ministers in the government of national unity, regardless of their party affiliation, are collectively implementing the mandate and a common programme of action of government which is aimed at improving the lives of all South Africans for the better. I thank you, hon Speaker.

Mrs N J NOLUNTSHUNGU: Thank you, Speaker. Statistics SA published their quarterly labour survey today indicating that unemployment is stubbornly high at 31,9%, while the expanded rate of unemployment is at 42,4%. This indicates that your tinkering with neoliberal policies over the past 30 years has led to immeasurable sufferings by the majority of our people who are jobless for most part of their lives. Have you and your GNU partners reflected on the failures of the neoliberal policies to create jobs and transform our economy over the past 30 years? More specifically, have you reflected on the need for a more radical redistribution of wealth to tackle the colonial and

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apartheid legacy of concentration of jobs and opportunities on the white settlers? I thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Noluntshungu, when leaders of the GNU met a week ago on 03 and 04 this month, on top of the agenda and our first priority as GNU was driving growth and job creation. It was the first thing on top of that agenda that whatever we do let us make sure that we drive growth and create jobs for our people and let us make sure that all government departments' agencies are focused on this priority. We came out of that retreat having agreed that we must ensure the speed of execution to ensure that we get this work so that it doesn't become a slogan. We are busy ensuring that we grow the economy and we create jobs for our people.

One of the things I said just now is that we are going all over the world to attract investors to this country. I've just said that I've been to Europe and Japan, and the President is also out there in the previous two weeks. Interestingly, people are prepared to come in big numbers to invest in our country. I think we must encourage that. That's why proper working in unison and unity of the GNU is a positive thing because investors look at that - the stability of the country. They see

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a united leadership that is focused therefore they are coming. It's very important because investors look for those sites where people are focused. It should not be a sign of joy, but a sign of focus.

Let me conclude answering hon Noluntshungu. Yes, we have to focus on driving growth and creation of jobs. We are doing exactly that. One of the things the President has done is to say to all members of the Cabinet, whether you are from the ANC or any other party, that when you bring a memorandum here, I want to see the timeframes – when are you going to implement this and when are we going to achieve the result – otherwise don't bring your memorandum here. There is a very strong focus on getting things done and done faster. We have to create jobs for our people, and we are doing it. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Speaker, on a point of order. Deputy President, are you still radical or have you been captured lately?

The SPEAKER: Order! That's not a point of order.

*Xitsonga:*

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Dk M J MASWANGANYI: Xandla xa Puresidente, ha swi twa leswaku GNU ya tirha, kambe a hi tlheleleni eka mhaka ya broad-based black economic empowerment, B-BBEE. A ku na ku twanana exikarhi ka mihlangano leyi nga eka GNU. Nakambe, a hi tlheleni hi vulavula hi mhaka ya pholisi ya matikomambe. Loko hi vulavula hi pholisi ya matikomambe van'wana va ya eIsrael na van'wana va ya eAmerika. Hi ku tirhisa endlelo ro basisa migingiriko ya matirhelo ya nhlango "clearing house mechanism", xana mi ta swi endla njhani leswaku ku va na ntshamiseko kufikela laha vavekisi va swi vonaka leswaku hi vulavula hi nomo wun'we ku nga ri leswaku van'wana va ya eAmerika va ya vulavula tiko ku biha kambe va ri swirho swa GNU? Xana mi ya yi lunghisa njhani mhaka leyi ...

*English:*

... in the interest of the country?

*Xitsonga:*

Ndza khensa, Xipikara.

*English:*

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, hon Speaker.

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*Xitsonga:*

Tatana Maswanganyi, mhaka leyi yi vulavuriwile swinene loko hi ri eka nhlango lowuya leswaku hi fanele hi tirha hi ndlela yin'we. Hi mayelana na mhaka ya pholisi ya matikomambe, hi vurile leswaku hi fanele hi tinyika nkarhi hi tshama ehnai hi yi vulavula kahle leswaku van'wana va nga yi le kasi van'wana va ya hala. Hi twananile leswaku hi fanele ku tinyika nkarhi wa yona.

Hambi yi ri mhaka ya B-BBEE hi va kombisile lavan'wana leswaku mi nga tirhi hi ndlela ya leswaku mi ta susa swilo kutani mi swi siva hi swin'wana. Hina hi sungurile ku endla nkambisiso wa mhaka ya leswaku B-BBEE yi kota ku tirhela vanhu hinkwavo. Van'wana va vula leswaku B-BBEE yi tirhela van'ana kambe a yi tirheli vanhu lava hluphekaka. Hi vurile leswaku hi ta yi lunghisa mhaka leyi.

Hi ri GNU hi huma eka mihlangano yo hambanahambana leyi yi nga na mianakanyo yo hambanahambana. Leswi swi endla leswaku kun'wana hi nga twanani kahle hikwalaho hi nga endla leswaku ku va na endlelo ro basisa migingiriko ya matirhelo ya nhlango "clearing house mechanism" leswaku laha swi nga lunghangigki hi kota ku ya swi lunghisa hi tlhelo leri.

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*English:*

The good thing is that at the retreat the terms of reference of the Clearing House Mechanism were ratified and adopted by the leaders. This means that we have now agreed that this is the way we are going to work. If there's a dispute on policy and so on, it will go to the clearing house to work it. If there is still a difference or disagreement we don't vote in the clearing house. The chairperson would rather say let's have another meeting or rather let's put up a small committee.

*Xitsonga:*

Tatana Mswanganyi, hi endla leswaku ku va na komiti leyi nga ta swi languta endzhaku yi vuya yi kombisa hilaha hi nga swi endlisaka xiswona.

*English:*

That's what we are trying to do. Until now there has not been any voting in the GNU. We reach consensus and agree on how we work. And it is working very effectively.

There was a bit of a challenge with the clearing house. We took a bit of time, but it's now resolved. It's all systems go.

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*Xitsonga:*

Ha karhi ha swi lunghisa, Tatana Maswanganyi. Hi ta va hi ri karhi hi mi vikela leswaku hi swi endla njhani kambe swona swa karhi swa lungha.

*English:*

Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Dr M J BURKE: Madam Speaker, economic policy incoherence can come from multiple sources such as not establishing the terms of reference of the GNU Clearing House Mechanism for more than a year. Another source is rumours of wanting to include parties within the GNU that do not believe in section 25 of the Constitution. Would the Deputy President agree with me that both these are bad for policy certainty? What role does the Deputy President played in creating this uncertainty? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. It seems somebody is answering for me already. In fact, the hon Burke is asking me a question that I have already answered. In essence I did say that we have resolved the Clearing House Mechanism. All you could say is that it took too long. Yes, we agree it took too long, but it has been resolved. That's a point I'm making.

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And it has been resolved not through voting, but by finding one another, and we have done so. We are happy that it has been done. Now we are focusing on implementation.

There may be areas where we don't agree. We have agreed in the mechanism that there will be instances where we agree to disagree, but the country must move forward. Nobody will keep the country back because there's something they don't agree with. People must learn to make compromises so that the country can move forward. The GNU is working very well. Thank you, hon Speaker.

Mr R A P TROLLIP: Thank you, Speaker. Hon Deputy President, the previous Budget impasse came about because GNU partners couldn't agree on the Budget. That impasse led to, among others, the chairperson of the finance committee and the secretary-general of the ANC coming to us for our support to the Fiscal Framework. They made all sorts of commitments that VAT would be scrapped before the tabling of the next Budget. Those commitments didn't really materialise because it was poorly handled. The Minister of Finance was overseas. Commitments made weren't honoured. The Minister of Finance had to go to court on the steps of court settle with their main GNU partner. The EFF claimed pyrrhic

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victory at your expense. Is the Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement set to be presented tomorrow without embarrassing incident as before due to the ingrained divisions in the GNU? Or will your newfound unity and focus prevail? [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon member, we have found one another. Don't be worried about anything. [Interjections.] If you were listening to me I did say earlier that we have learnt from that experience. I'm not sure what happened in the morning, but we have learnt from the previous experience. Remember, GNU's success is not lack of disagreement, but rather the ability to be able to forge ahead with consensus. That's what we're doing.

Hon members, don't be worried about the Budget or anything. We are going forward, and we have agreed. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy President. I nearly forget. Indeed, in the morning we were advised that the MKP has reinstated hon Makhubele as the Chief Whip of the party. Congratulations, hon Makhubele.

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Question 23:

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Speaker, let me welcome this critical question by hon Hadebe. Through the Cabinet Committee on Justice, Crime Prevention and Security, JCPS, government is implementing a single, nationally co-ordinated plan to counter the drug threat by combining intelligence, prosecution and border enforcement. The JCPS Committee provide strategic direction for policy and planning through the National Drug Master Plan, which sets out the national strategy for reducing supply, demand and harm, and is jointly implemented together with the Social Protection Cluster. With respect to law enforcement, the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, the Hawks, targets serious corruption, organised crime and commercial crime. Drug manufacturing and dealing falls within this mandate, with the SA Narcotics Enforcement Bureau, SANEB, serving as the specialist section for investigating serious drug-related cases.

The National Priority Crime Operational Committee, NPCOC, brings together the heads of the National Prosecuting Authority, NPA, the Financial Intelligence Centre, FIC, the Special Investigating Unit, SIU, the SA Revenue Service, Sars, the SA Police Service, SAPS, Detective Service and Crime Intelligence, and the National

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Prosecuting Authority, NPA's, Asset Forfeiture Unit, AFU. Given the global nature and extent of the drug problem, South Africa continues to collaborate with partners at regional, continental and global levels, particularly, to curb cross-border drug trafficking and strengthen law enforcement. In this regard, the SAPS and the Hawks host multiple liaison desks that enable real-time collaboration with foreign counterparts for cross-border operations and intelligence exchange. This collaboration is underpinned by Mutual Legal Assistance, MLA, agreements, with various countries around the world. This helps to secure evidence and support extraditions.

These relationships are further structured through bilateral Ministerial Memoranda of Understanding, MOU. South Africa, Mozambique, and Tanzania have established the Trilateral Planning Cell, TPC. The TPC was created to co-ordinate cross-border and transnational operations to counter the illicit flow of heroin and methamphetamine, sometimes called crystal meth, along the Southern Route, which links West Asia and East Africa and beyond the Southern African Development Community, SADC, region. During the 2025 financial year, the Hawks were successful in dismantling 19 clandestine drug laboratories, making 45 arrests at 18 of those sites, with at least two cases involving identified international

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actors and ongoing investigations. Over the same period, there were 263 arrests linked to the manufacture or dealing of illicit drugs, alongside the confiscation of drugs, manufacturing equipment and precursor chemicals with an estimated value of over R469 million.

Through our efforts to deal with organised crime, money laundering and criminality linked with terrorism, the Financial Action Task Force, FATF, announced the removal of South Africa on the FATF greylist on 24 October 2025. This follows over two years of intensive efforts by the country, led by National Treasury to address strategic deficiencies in its anti-money laundering, AML, and counter-terrorism financing, CFT, systems. The delisting is a major milestone that acknowledges South Africa's success in meeting all the 22 action items required by the FATF's action plan. So, we have met all of them, as we speak. We congratulate National Treasury and all government departments and agencies on the success of their collective efforts and commitment to ensure that the country exits the FATF greylist. Government will continue with co-ordinated efforts to dismantle criminal networks and curb the flow of drugs into our country. We call on all of society to continue to collaborate with us on these efforts. I thank you, hon Speaker.

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Mr N M HADEBE: Hon Deputy President, the follow-up question is, while the measures to strengthen the co-ordination among law enforcement and security agencies are welcomed, we can all agree that this scourge of organised drug cartels must be addressed decisively and proactively. Therefore, hon Deputy President, I would like to know, what long-term measurable strategies does the government have in place to ensure a sustained and proactive national response, one that does not just disrupt these criminal networks, but also prevent these activities from recurring in the future? Thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Hadebe, thank you for the follow-up question. One of the issues that we looked at, is a co-ordinated effort by law enforcement agencies, as I said earlier, that we are now getting them to work together. You are aware, hon Hadebe, that we have now strengthened our border management through the Border Management Agency because some of the drugs come through these borders. So, all these authorities now, work in a co-ordinated fashion, particularly, to ensure prevention as you say, rather than wait for the problem to happen, because illicit drugs is a big problem, illicit money laundering and so on. So, if you have Sars on board, working with SAPS, the Special Investigating Unit, SIU, the National Prosecuting

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Authority, NPA, and all of them in a co-ordinated fashion, I think we will be able to beat these criminals in their game. So, that is really what we are doing, but also, well-funded efforts for this agencies of government so they do have, I will not say they have sufficient resources, all of them, but because of co-ordination, I think they are able to pull their resources together to be able to deal with this problem. Thank you very much, hon Chairperson.

Mrs H DENNER: Hon Deputy President, the proliferation of synthetic drugs and the emergence of new psychoactive substances pose a significant challenge to law enforcement efforts. What steps are being taken to address the evolving nature of drug trafficking, including use of the dark wave platforms and cryptocurrency, and how is the government investing in capacity building of law enforcement agencies to stay ahead of these emerging threats? Thank you, Chairperson.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Denner, as I said earlier that the co-ordinated approach is the most successful one, we do see results, and we are ensuring that these agencies of government are properly funded to do their work and we will continue to monitor the results. Now, we do have in the presidency the

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Minister responsible for Monitoring and Evaluation. So, we look at our programmes and we evaluate them. So far, we think that this approach is working, but the drug problem is quite huge and it is something that might take us a bit of time to get rid of.

We may not get rid of it completely, but I think with the efforts we have now, we are going to make sure that we prevent drugs coming into our country or being manufactured in our country. You have seen in some of the provinces where we were able to discover, actually, the factories that are manufacturing drugs. So, we are using intelligence as well, so that as the member, hon Hadebe has said earlier that we must ensure prevention. So, with intelligence we are able then to know in advance or be able to infiltrate the syndicates and be able to find them wherever they are. So these measures are working and we are going to continue monitoring them. Thank you very much, Chairperson.

Mr S N SWART: House Chair, the ACDP commends the government on the delisting from the path of grey list, and this is a huge step in the right direction. There are other ways as well, hon Deputy Presidents, such as asset forfeiture of the proceeds of crime which, or as can result in crime not paying. Secondly,

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strengthening whistleblower protection and we saw the tragic death of Babita Deokaran. Would the hon Deputy President consider these as well, as the very important issue relating to porous borders, which we know, is a way that drugs come into the country, and giving the resources that SAPS has to border management, which still have to be transferred? Chair, I appreciate, though I had a few questions there. So, I am in your hands, thank you.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Deputy President, we are in your hands.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Chairperson, I am in your hands. Hon Swart, yes, indeed, I have mentioned the asset forfeiture earlier on, they are part of our co-ordinated efforts. The Minister of Justice is currently looking at the issue of whistleblowers to see how it can be tightened up in the legislation because it is very important, as well, that whistleblowers are protected, and so, we are working on that. We are tightening up border control through the Border Management Agency, BMA. You are quite right with your last comment on the SAPS to transfer some of the responsibilities to the Border Management Agency, BMA.

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That is being worked on now as something that was outstanding, as a result, we do not have enough manpower on the Border Management Agency, BMA, because this function was with the police. However, when they transferred that function to the Border Management Agency, BMA, they did not transfer the warm bodies, as a result, the Border Management Agency, BMA, started with very few people compared to when SAPS was there. So, it is something that we are trying to resolve, so that we do have them. However, we can never say we will have enough because our borders are quite long, stretching over long kilometres, but we are going to increase personnel on the borders. Thank you very much, hon Chairperson.

Mr I ISMAIL-MOOSA: His Excellency, Deputy President, I am sure we are in agreement that drug trafficking is largely driven by socioeconomic inequalities, lack of law enforcement and transnational crime networking, which all have a negative impact on communities. Knowing and bearing in mind that there are some corrupt officials at border posts and airports, and corrupt officers within SAPS who work hand in hand with these cartels, what measures is the Deputy President taking to act against those corrupt officials and take the bull by its hands against corrupt police officers who are the barriers to effectively

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address and combat drug trafficking? Are our families, the fellow South African citizens, feeling really comfortable and safe to report and expose these serious crimes?

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Moosa, thank you for the question. I did say earlier that the Minister of Justice is working on the issue of whistleblowers, in terms of ensuring that there is legislation that will protect them, the moment there is not, and they are very important in this process. Yes, it is true that the draft trafficking is also linked to socioeconomic conditions in our country because you know where people are unemployed and starving is easy for the drug cartels to put them into that trade because then they can make money. They even sell this to school children, and so on. So, for addressing socioeconomic conditions, it is something that we must continue to do and do it urgently whilst also strengthening our law enforcement. Also, we must deal with the corrupt officials harshly. Let us make sure that when police connives with criminals, they must be taken out of the system.

We cannot leave the police to continue working with criminals and we know them, they are there. They keep working as police officers. They should not, So, that is important. Also, the

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communities must also have – that is why, we had said before, and I think I have said this on a few occasions, that we must strengthen our Community Police Forums, CPFs, because in most cases, communities know who is selling drugs. In most cases, they know. These people live amongst us, but then we keep quiet because he is my brother or my sister. So, communities are very important to flush out the drug dealers because they are there in our communities. The government will do its part as well, tighten the borders so that drugs do not come in, but also through intelligence make sure they are not manufactured in the country. Thank you very much for your question, hon Moosa. Thank you, hon Chairperson.

Question 24:

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hon Chairperson, let me appreciate this important question from the hon Hlongo. Inclusive economic development and localised job creation constitute key objectives of the District Development Model, DDM, approach to service delivery. The DDM approach prioritises districts and metros for development and allows for a spatially integrated plan – what we call One Plan, to address poverty, unemployment and inequality.

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Currently, over 30 districts or metros are executing at least one DDM catalytic project. In this regard, we are engaged on outreach service delivery programmes to evaluate progress achieved in the roll-out of the DDM, including monitoring the implementation of catalytic projects. On 2 October this year, we embarked on a service delivery working visit to the community of Qunu in O R Tambo District Municipality in the Eastern Cape province as part of government efforts to strengthen the capacity to deliver public services to communities.

This visit was in response to service delivery concerns raised by representatives of the Qunu community during our visit to Enyandeni, the Royal Palace in Libode on 19 August this year. During the visit, we had an opportunity to strengthen our partnerships with critical stakeholders like traditional leaders, business academics and nongovernmental organisations. Through the Department of Small Business Development, which is an active participant in DDM, we have developed what we call Small, Micro And Medium Enterprise Support Plan that aligns with the DDM and is escalated to the district level.

This ensures that small businesses' support is included in Each District One Plan. Over the past three years, the Small

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Enterprise Development and Finance Agency has disbursed over R6,7 billion across all the 52 district municipalities and metros. Furthermore, the Minister of Electricity and Energy addressed the fifth investment conference in Limpopo, themed "Limpopo Rising: Africa's New Investment Frontier", which focusses on attracting vital investments and fostering economic growth in the region.

Among other things, the conference focusses on the transformation of Special Economic Zones, SEZs, and industrial parks, particularly in the Musina-Makhado SEZ and the designation of the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Industrial Park SEZ, aiming to unlock the potential for economic transformation. This demonstrates our government's commitment to create jobs for local communities utilising the DDM approach. Despite these achievements, the implementation of DDM continues to face capacity challenges at municipal level, including inadequate budgets to implement DDM plans, inadequate local economic data, and inconsistent monitoring framework to measure progress.

In this regard, Ministers have been appointed as DDM champions to strengthen the whole-of-government approach in addressing these challenges. Lastly, through the DDM-based planning, we

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will better align our industrialisation and small enterprise development innovation to local opportunities, integrate local enterprises into value chains, and strengthen local economies to create sustainable employment opportunities. I thank you, hon Chairperson.

Ms A S HLONGO: Thank you, Deputy President, for the response. Deputy President, the District Development Model remains one of government's most important instruments for building a capable development state and for ensuring integrated planning and implementation across all spheres of government. However, as we move from planning to implementation, the real test of the DDM will depend on how effectively government can finance and account for integrated projects across districts and metros. This speaks directly to the sustainability and accountability of the One Plan, One Budget approach.

Therefore, Deputy President, my follow-up question is: How will the One Plan for different districts be financed in 48 districts and eight metros, as its implementation requires an integrated financing approach involving national departments, provinces, local government, state entities, and even the private sector? How will government have to adjust its auditing system to

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accommodate integrated project implementation required by the district development model? Thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, hon Chairperson. Hon Hlongo, what we are doing in the 44 districts and eight metros is to ensure that there are these one plans. Therefore, in terms of financing, the key is to ensure that government, at national, provincial, and local level align their funding of these plans. The reason is that you would find that ... or maybe let me state what is the mischief we are dealing with. The problem was that you would have national government departments having plans at district level, in particular provinces, but provinces are not involved. So, we were working in silos.

The President said that we should align and make sure that if the plan is to build a school in a particular district by the national Department of Education, the province and the municipality must get involved because there are things that we must all of us do. National department will build a school, but the province must ensure that there is a road that goes to the school. The municipality must ensure that water is going to be supplied to the school. All of them have budgets for this. All they need to do, once they have agreed that this is a plan, is

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to bring the budgets - because they have the budgets already. You don't need new money to finance the one plan. You are just realigning the budgets that are already there to prioritise what the plan is that is agreed upon. That is exactly what we are going to do.

We are going to end silos and ensure that funding is aligned. We don't want a situation where a school is built, but there is no road leading to it because the municipality was unaware that building the school was a priority and therefore did not budget for it. We don't want a situation where water cannot be brought to the area because we are busy elsewhere. That is why the whole-of-government approach is so important when doing projects. That's really what we are trying to do.

*Xitsonga:*

Ndza khensa.

*English:*

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon Chance, you may ask the next follow-up question.

*English:*

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Mr R W T CHANCE: Thank you, House Chair. Deputy President, the District Development Model continues to be presented by the ANC as a silver bullet to improve service delivery and economic development for South Africans. Yet, since being piloted, we have seen very little change. The one-stop shop initiative that was intended to cut red tape and support small business is being held captive by the very same problems the DA has warned about.

Cadre deployment, bureaucracy, and the lack of consequence management for underperformance. With so many municipalities, even under the DDM pilot sites, that are either dysfunctional or under administration, how do you intend to ensure that the one-stop shop initiative doesn't become another quick fix that doesn't fix anything? Importantly, Deputy President, what specific interventions will you implement to end cadre deployment, ensure accountability, and ensure that professionals are appointed to drive the ease of doing business initiative so that small, medium, and micro enterprises, SMMEs, actually benefit and jobs are created?

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Chairperson. Hon member, the DDM is not a quick fix solution. It arises out of long-term planning. But what you are doing here, you are forcing

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government to have the discipline of working as a government at all spheres. You are forcing them to work together rather than in silos. We have seen in the past - and I will give an example that many of you may have come across - where a hospital is built, maybe by a local authority or a province, and the national Department of Health says, "We don't have money to send nurses or doctors there," because we are not planning as government, instead, we are planning separately.

The DDM is forcing the discipline of doing things as a whole of government. Nothing should happen in a district that requires national government involvement without the national government knowing, or vice versa, without the province, the metro, or the municipality in that area being aware. Obviously, because this government department will accept this plan, accountability is ensured. When you build a school in a particular area, the director-general of Education must ensure that resources are going to be spent properly, and people should be held accountable - the same applies at the province and municipal levels. So, accountabilities are in place, but as I said earlier, we have also agreed that small businesses should benefit from the work we are doing. We are bringing them in as well.

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We are not going to leave small and medium enterprises, SMEs, behind; they are going to be part of this initiative to benefit from what we are doing. The government officials - the directors-general and the city managers must ensure accountability - that's their job. They are responsible for how the people's resources are spent where resources of the people are spent. We are going to make sure so that because once you have proper systems you can make sure that there is no room for corruption and all malfeasance. And that requires the officials to do their work - the directors-general, the city managers, the provincial directors-general, the directors-general of departments and so on. This is the best way to get government at all levels to work as government rather than 101 entities. Thank you very much, hon Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you, Deputy President.

The next follow-up is to be asked by the hon Mwali.

Mr S G MWALI: Thank you, Deputy President. The District Development Model lacks clarity regarding governance roles and structures. The District Development Model hubs have seen lacking the authority to ensure effective participation from all stakeholders. Like in the Integrated Development Plan, IDP,

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processes, Deputy President, stakeholders like traditional leaders are being alienated by the so-called Government of National Unity, GNU, due to inadequate consultation, which hinders the buy-in and co-operation. Deputy President, the question is: Why is it taking forever to recognise the relevance of traditional leaders in your governance model? Thank you so much.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you, hon Chairperson. Hon Mwali, in fact we have solved that problem. Yes, I personally did. Yes, remember, one of the responsibilities given to me by the President is to work with traditional leaders. In fact, I recall very well that it was in 2024 when I was in KwaZulu-Natal, where traditional leaders raised this sharply by asking: Where do we fit into the DDM approach? I said: You are right, in fact, you are part of it.

We are going to make sure that when we say who are the role players in the DDM, we don't leave the traditional leaders behind. It may well be that maybe there are some areas where you have noticed the lack of this. We are going to fix it. Just whisper to me where that place is. But in principle, it is done. The traditional leaders are part of the DDM. You can't leave

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them behind, because when you go to rural areas, you can't say that you are coming to build a school there and the traditional leaders are not part of that. It can't happen. That is how we should work. So, thank you for raising that. I will also ask my office to check if there are some areas in our country where traditional leaders are left behind. They shouldn't be. We must work with them. Thank you very much for the question. Thank you, hon Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you, Deputy President. The last supplementary question will be asked by the hon Mathopa.

Ms M L MATHOPA: Thank you, House Chair. The DDM was introduced with the bold promise of transforming how government coordinates development across local, district, and provincial spheres. It was meant to integrate planning, accelerate localised economic growth, and support SMMEs through better market linkages and district-level industrialisation. However, several years into the roll-out, the results remain uneven and, in many areas, deeply concerning. Deputy President, considering persistent government failures, capacity constraints, and corruption at municipal level, what concrete mechanisms are in place within

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the DDM to ensure financial responsibility and consequence management so that funds earmarked for local development actually reach communities and SMMEs? Thank you.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, hon Chairperson. Thank you, hon Mathopa, for the follow-up. You see, the good thing with the DDM is that, in itself, it's not an institution. It's a mechanism. That's why we call it the DDM approach. So, accountability lies in the institutions. When funds are to be used, the director-general takes responsibility, together with the deputy directors-general and the chief directors. The same applies to the city manager and all other managers, right down to the municipality or a district municipality.

So, this approach is about bringing our efforts together - it's about prioritising together. But the budgets remain within the institutions. You will never find some funding sitting somewhere and someone saying: "This is the DDM budget." It doesn't exist. It's in the institutions. That's why it's easy to force accountability, because there is no money. The money goes to the projects.

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Once the project is agreed upon by all spheres of government, they fund the project. They take responsibility for that. They account for that. They audit for that. They ensure the right people are appointed, the right reporting mechanisms, so that you don't have resources being wasted by any of the players in the DDM. The best thing with the DDM is that we are now forcing the discipline of prioritising, aligning, and making sure that we can make an impact in the way we deliver services. That's what we are doing. We will continue to perfect it. Remember, it's a new concept that the President started a few years ago. We will continue to perfect it as it goes. But we are getting it right. Thank you very much, hon member, for your question. Thank you, hon Chairperson.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members, that concludes questions to the Deputy President, and we thank the Deputy President for being with us this afternoon.

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON WATER  
AND SANITATION ON SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERLY EXPENDITURE REPORTS  
FOR VOTE NO 41 WATER AND SANITATION 2024-25 FINANCIAL YEAR**

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The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Hon members, I wish to remind you that this matter was debated in a virtual mini plenary last Friday, the 7th of November, but that in terms of our Rules a decision thereon can only be taken in a full plenary. This will also be the case for other decisions of question the House will decide on when we consider the Second to the Ninth Orders after this First Order.

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON SPORT,  
ARTS AND CULTURE ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO NORTH-WEST PROVINCE FROM**

**25 – 28 FEBRUARY 2025**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON BASIC  
EDUCATION ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO GAUTENG PROVINCIAL EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON CO-  
OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS ON OVERSIGHT VISIT  
TO MERAFOG, JOHANNESBURG AND TSHWANE**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO FREE STATE**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Is that a hand from the EFF?

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Of course. The Free State has worse municipalities ... We object, Chair.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Thank you. We don't need reasons.

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Hey, he's not talking to you. He's not talking to you.

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Mr R A P TROLLIP: Chair, on a point of order: Do these parties not attend these oversight meetings and are they not part of compiling these reports?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, hon Trollip, I don't think that is ...

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Order, Chair. No one must speak for us ...  
[Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): No, no, no. Everyone, stand down!

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: No one will tell us ... [Inaudible.] ... to do. We are objecting here. We are representing our political parties here.

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Order, order. Hon Mkhalihi? Hon members, parties who are represented in the National Assembly have a right, and I would think a responsibility, to apply their minds to all reports, whether they were part of these oversight visits or not. So, hon Trollip, unfortunately that is not a point of order that can be dealt with or

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sustained. Are there any further objections to the adoption of this report?

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Did you record the EFF's objection?

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): Yes we did.

Ms H O MKHALIPHI: Oh ... [Inaudible.]

The HOUSE CHAIRPERSON (Mr W Horn): We have three objections on record. Thank you.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO NORTH-WEST AND GAUTENG PROVINCES FROM 24 – 28 MARCH 2025**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO EASTERN CAPE**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES ON 2024-25 THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTER PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSITY AGENCY**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

**DECISION OF QUESTION ON REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOME  
AFFAIRS ON OVERSIGHT VISIT TO GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS IN  
PRETORIA**

There was no debate.

Question put: That the Report be adopted.

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

The House adjourned at 16:14.