

**NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF PROVINCES**



TERMS OF REFERENCE

COMMISSIONS

**6th
DEMOCRATIC
PARLIAMENT**



1. Purpose and Mandate of Commissions

The Commissions should make proposals on the strategic plan of the 6th National Council of Provinces.

2. Chairperson

Each commission shall be assigned a chairperson.

3. Rapporteur

Members of the Commissions should elect a Rapporteur from amongst its members to present the outcomes of the Commissions' discussions in plenary.

4. Impact of technology

Commissions must explore how the use of technology will improve the carrying out of each of the constitutional obligations.

5. Administrative Support

- a) One NCOP Procedural officer to assist Chairperson.
- b) One Content Advisor and One Researcher to assist Rapporteur to draft report of the Commission.



A. Commission on Oversight and Accountability

The Commissions on Oversight and Accountability should make proposals on the oversight priorities for the 6th National Council of Provinces.

Questions to be addressed

- a) What are the government priorities for the 6th term?
- b) What obligations does government have within the priorities in terms of the National Development Plan, SADC Masterplan, Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals?
- c) What are the envisaged key provincial interests in each of the government priorities determined above?
- d) What are the oversight priorities for the NCOP?
- e) How should the NCOP schedule the identified oversight priorities over the 5-year term of the 6th Parliament?
- f) What mechanisms should be used to ensure coordination of oversight programmes amongst the three spheres of government and between the NCOP and the NA?

B Commission on Law-making and Facilitation of Public Involvement

The commission on Lawmaking and Facilitation of Public Involvement should make proposals on approaches and mechanisms to ensure coordinated lawmaking processes and facilitation of public involvement between the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA.

Questions to be addressed

- a) What are the roles and powers of the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA in the national law-making processes and facilitation of public involvement?



- b) What mechanism should be used to ensure co-ordination of the law-making processes in the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA?
- c) What mechanisms should be used to ensure coordination of facilitation of adequate public involvement in the law-making processes between the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA?
- d) What mechanisms should be used to ensure coordination of facilitation of adequate public involvement in oversight programmes (Taking Parliament to the People, Provincial Week and Local Government Week) between the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA?
- e) What mechanisms should be developed/employed to ensure that there is adequate public involvement in the law-making processes of the National Council of Provinces and provincial legislatures?
- f) What key government Bills may be anticipated in the 2019-2020 financial year?

C. Commission on International Relations

The Commission on International Relations/Parliamentary Diplomacy should make proposals on roles and functions of the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA in international relations and parliamentary diplomacy.

Questions to be addressed

- a) What is the mandate of the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and local government in international engagement and parliamentary diplomacy?
- b) What mechanisms should be developed/employed to ensure that provincial interests are taken into account in international laws/treaties/agreements?
- c) What mechanisms should be developed/employed to ensure coordination and synchronisation of international engagement programmes of the National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA?



- d) What mechanisms/processes should be employed to ensure broader participation National Council of Provinces, provincial legislatures and SALGA in the outcomes of international engagement and parliamentary diplomacy activities?