



**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY MODEL LAW OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 AHEAD OF THE 47<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY ASSEMBLY VIRTUAL SESSION**

**PRESENT**

1. Hon. Andre L. Tumba, Chairperson of the RPMLOC, DRC
2. Hon. Bertha. M. Ndebele, Vice-Chairperson of the RPMLOC, Malawi
3. Hon. Anne Marie Bilabangu, Committee Member, DRC
4. Hon. Jeronima Agostinho, Committee Member, Mozambique
5. Hon. Peete Peete Ramoqai, Committee Member, Lesotho
6. Hon. Anele Ndebele, Committee Member, Zimbabwe

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Boemo Sekgoma	SADC PF Secretary General
Sheuneni Kurasha	SADC PF Secretariat
Paulina Kanguatjivi	SADC PF Secretariat
Ronald Windwaai	SADC PF Secretariat
Jeline Quatre	SADC PF Secretariat
Luciela Fernandes	Angola
Leyd Tula Buange	Angola
Dennis Gondwe	Malawi
Betty Zulu	Zambia
Edna Kanguya	Zambia
Ndamuka Marimo	Zimbabwe
Elizabeth Hove	Zimbabwe
Cleophas Gwakwara	Zimbabwe

**AGENDA**

1. Credentials of Delegates and Apologies.
2. Opening Remarks by the Secretary General.
3. Election of RPMLOC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for period 2020-2022.
4. Overview on the Mandate of the RPMLOC and Priority Activities of the Committee for Years 2020/2021.
5. Any Other Business.

*The meeting was called to order at 09:35 a.m. by the Secretary General who proceeded to advise the meeting of the Members present and staff in attendance.*

## **1.0 CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES AND APOLOGIES**

With all the Members present, a quorum for the meeting was confirmed.

## **2.0 WELCOME REMARKS BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

In her opening remarks, the Secretary General welcomed and thanked Members and staff for making time to attend the meeting. She proceeded to advise the Committee, that the RPMLOC had recently been enacted as a fully-fledged organ of the Forum under Article 10 of the Constitution following resolutions made by the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Plenary to that effect. In underlining the resolutions of the 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assemblies the Secretary General noted that the resolutions set the groundwork of the RPMLOC, which formed the Committee's mandate, "***the monitoring of the extent to which model laws have been domesticated***".

The Secretary General informed the Committee that its mandate dovetailed with the Strategic Plan of the Forum for 2019-2023, with regards to ensuring inter-parliamentary cooperation in the harmonisation of legal norms on thematic issues. She highlighted the benefits of harmonised legal norms which can only be met by filling the lacunas between International Law and Domestic Law within the SADC Region. To that end she highlighted the need to ensure that legal provisions adopted at International Level become applicable at National Level. The Secretary General, consequently, advised the Committee that this was the basis under which a dedicated oversight committee was established with a membership of Chairpersons of Standing Committees and in their absence the Vice-Chairpersons of Standing Committees of the Forum.

She encouraged the Committee to engage the Civil Society which conducts shadow reporting as a means to countercheck domestication at National Level.

Making reference to Committee Secretaries the Secretary General advised that Committee Secretaries will perform the administrative duties for the Committee, to ensure that the work of the Committee operates without hindrance.

In concluding her remarks the Secretary General encouraged the Committee Members to elect Presiding Officers for the Committee that would embrace the ethos of the Committee to ensure that the Committee is operational.

### **3.0 ELECTIONS FOR RPMLOC CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR PERIOD 2020 TO 2022**

#### **3.1. Election Guidelines**

Mr. S. Kurasha facilitated the election of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the RPMLOC. He began by advising the Committee that the election process was guided by the Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the SADC-PF. In particular—

- (a) Article 14(3) of the Constitution which provides for the principle of rotation;
- (b) Rule 38(5) of the Rules of Procedure makes provision for the gender composition of the Chairpersonship; and
- (c) Rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure which articulates the role of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson.

#### **-3.2. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

##### *3.2.1 Election of Chairperson*

Mr. Kurasha called for nominations for election to the Chairpersonship of the RPMLOC. A self-nomination was received from Hon. Andre L. Tumba of the DRC which was seconded by Hon. Darren Bergman of South Africa.

No further nominations were received. Uncontested Hon. Andre L. Tumba became the Chairperson of the RPMLOC and a declaration was made to that effect by Mr. Kurasha.

##### *3.2.2 Election of Vice-Chairperson*

Two nominations were received for the post of Vice-Chairperson as follows—

1. Hon Bertha M. Ndebele of Malawi, nominated by Hon. Anele Ndebele and seconded by Hon. Andre L. Tumba
2. Hon. Jeronima Agostinho of Mozambique, nominated by Hon. Peete Peete Ramoqai of Lesotho seconded by Hon. Darren Bergman of South Africa.

Committee Members proceeded to vote electronically. The votes having been tallied Mr. Kurasha advised the meeting that Hon. Bertha M. Ndebele had won the election with a sixty percent vote in her favour.

#### **3.3 Congratulatory Remarks by the Secretary General**

The Secretary General Congratulated the Hon. Tumba and Hon. Ndebele on their election to the post of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson respectively. She then proceeded to handover the presiding over the meeting to the duly elected Chairperson of the RPMLOC.

### **3.4 Hon. Andre Leon Tumba (Chairperson) Inaugural Speech**

The Chairperson registered his pleasure and readiness to work with the Committee as Chairperson. He underscored that the work of the Committee is not an independent mission but one that must be conducted by a team.

### **3.5 Hon. Bertha M. Ndebele (Vice Chairperson) Inaugural Speech**

The Vice-Chairperson conveyed her delight to having been elected to be the Vice-Chairperson of the RPMLOC and that she readily accepted the post. Like the Chairperson the Vice-Chairperson also emphasised the need to always work as a team.

## **4.0 OVERVIEW OF THE MANDATE OF THE RPMLOC AND PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2020 TO 2021**

Ms. Elizabeth Hove presented the overview of the mandate of the RPMLOC. In her brief presentation she informed the Committee that their Terms of Reference emanated from Article 16 (4) of the Constitution. Ms. Hove summarised the work of the Committee to be centred on ensuring that Model Laws are seen to be domesticated at national level.

There being no further business, the Sub-Committee adjourned *sine die* at 10:32 a.m.

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**Hon. Andre Leon Tumba**  
**CHAIRPERSON**

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**Ms. Boemo Sekgoma**  
**SECRETARY GENERAL**

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**DATE**

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