



**PARLIAMENT OF BOTSWANA**

**PRESENTATION OF COUNTRY REPORT ON PROGRESS ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS BY THE 51<sup>ST</sup> PLENARY**

**SADC PF**

Resolution	Status on implementation
<b>51<sup>ST</sup> SADC PF Assembly Plenary Resolutions</b>	
<p><b>1. MONITOR PROGRESSIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF FORUM RESOLUTIONS</b></p> <p>a. National Parliaments request Line Ministries for progressive updates on whether executive action reflects the content of the Forum resolutions in view of assessing in which fields should further parliamentary efforts be weighed in</p> <p>b. Resolutions are shared with parliamentary committees within the national Parliament in order to seek thematic alignment of intervention areas and to ensure that domestic standing committees benefit fully from the work and research conducted to arrive at regional Resolutions.</p> <p>c. Standing Committees at national level to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 51<sup>st</sup> Plenary Assembly took place in July 2022. In that regard, the monitoring of implementation of resolutions from the meeting is at its infancy and still on-going 4 months later. However, it is also worth noting that many of the resolutions also address on-going programmes and action plans which Parliament is dealing with or has addressed. Parliament will thus continue exercising greater oversight to ensure implementation at national level.</li> <li>• While Resolutions are yet to be adopted by Parliament, a draft Action Plan for 2023 has been developed for Parliament Oversight Committees. The draft action plan has mainstreamed Inter Parliamentary Resolutions within committees’ activities with a view to tracking and ensuring implementation of such resolutions and ensuring feedback. The action plan will further be supported by the revised Strategic Plan 2023-2027 whose development has commenced. The framework is premised on the outputs and outcomes from various regional and international</li> </ul>

<p>develop an information sharing arrangement with Line Ministries to monitor progress and report same to the Forum</p> <p>d. state reports on the implementation of the Forum resolutions for the 51st Plenary Assembly be compiled by the national Parliament after collecting information from Line Ministries (either through the parliamentary committee system or otherwise) and that same be transmitted to the SADC-PF Secretariat within 3 months</p>	<p>resolutions to inform targeted parliamentary actions, monitoring and evaluation of impact. A key focus area of this action plan will also be on enhanced parliamentary action on the monitoring of Implementation of Regional and International Protocols and Agreements through domestication into National Legislation and instruments. The Action Plan further identifies the following thematic areas for action;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universal Health Care and Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights</li> <li>• Gender Development and Equality</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> <li>• Migration and Refugees</li> <li>• Governance and Human Rights</li> <li>• Sustainable Development Goals</li> <li>• Food Security and Nutrition</li> <li>• Youth Development</li> <li>• Participatory Democracy</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. "TOWARDS ENERGY EFFICIENCY, SUSTAINABILITY AND SELF SUFFICIENCY IN THE SADC REGION</b></p> <p>a. SADC Member States to ensure the participation of women and youth in energy policy formation, implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliament of the Botswana debated and adopted the National Energy Policy in 2021– this a key, strategic instrument for the successful and economic development of the local energy sector. A prominent objective of the Policy is to achieve a substantive penetration of new and renewable energy sources in the country’s energy mix; the</li> </ul>

and decision making.

- b. Member States to endeavour to leverage opportunities in the renewable energy space for training, skills development and job creation for the youth.
- c. Member States to domesticate technology and embrace new technologies such as hydrogen and pumped storage hydropower (PSH) in order for the region to be energy secure and self-sufficient as well as to ensure energy sustainability for the region..
- d. SADC Member States to embrace renewable energy resources for their energy production.
- e. Member States to guard against vandalism of technology infrastructure and ensure that stolen equipment from other Member States is not sold in their countries.
- f. Member States to consider the use of electric cars, that is to say, e-mobility powered by renewable energy.
- g. Member States to fast-track

goal is to attain adequate economic energy self-sufficiency and security, as well as positioning Botswana to fulfil its vision in becoming a regional net exporter, especially in the electricity sector. The Policy also recognises and supports increased energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy as key drivers for an inclusive transition to a clean energy future.

- As part of our green transition towards reducing our carbon footprint Botswana has invested on the development of locally produced Electric Vehicle. Research and Development is on-going with international partners and local research institutions including the Universities of Botswana and international University of Science and Technology.
- Through NDP 11, under the Rural Village Electrification Programme, 442 villages out of a total of 492 gazetted villages have been electrified as well as network extensions in 72 villages, bringing the level of rural electrification to 90.4%.
- For villages far from the national grid, the construction of localised solar-powered mini-grids will be considered. Under the NDP 11, with Parliament Appropriation, Botswana is currently financing the construction of 2 of the envisaged 12 solar power stations to diversify its power

<p>establishment of rural electrification authorities/agencies to implement rural electrification projects effectively and efficiently.</p> <p>h. Member States to adopt and implement energy efficiency strategies to maximise existing energy production assets.</p>	<p>supply pool targeting especially rural areas (Shakawe and Bobonong initially). Independent power producers have also been granted licences to deliver the remaining solar power stations. Power purchase Agreements have already been signed with 2 local producers for a 100Mw and 5Mw solar power stations while a tender for a 200Mw station is currently floating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The US Government is collaborating with the Government of the Republic of Botswana, the Government of the Republic of Namibia, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the International Finance Corporation to a Mega Solar project in the countries. The Mega Solar project marks an important step in Botswana’s efforts to fight climate change. A memorandum of Intent was signed by the two countries in April 2021.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. RESOLUTION ON THE ADOPTION OF THE SADC MODEL LAW ON PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>a. Member States to adopt or adapt into their domestic legislation the SADC Model Law on Public Financial Management to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of strengthening the Public Finance Management Act [Cap 54:01] (the “<b>PFM Act</b>”), Parliament amended the PFM Act in 2021 by essentially expanding the purview of the PFM Act to include disposal over and above control and issue of public supplies.</li> </ul>

<p>ensure harmonised legal frameworks and an integrated approach public financial management in the interest of enhanced public service delivery in the SADC region.</p> <p>b. Member States to enact provisions that will ensure enforcement of legislation that will promote enhanced public financial management.</p> <p>c. Member States to review their domestic legislation which has a bearing on public financial management systems with a view to identifying areas requiring reform in order to bring the legislation in line with the aspirations of the SADC Model Law on PFM.</p> <p>d. SADC Member States to enact and adopt specific legislative provisions to bring their legislative landscape in tandem with the gold standard set in the SADC Model Law on PFM</p>	
<p><b>4. RESOLUTION ON THE MOTION ON STRENGTHENING THE FIGHT AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME IN THE SADC REGION</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Botswana signed the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) 2002 and then ratified the Conventions' supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons,</li> </ul>

- a. Member States to continue waging a concerted war against transnational organised crime such as human trafficking and drug trafficking
- b. member States to put into action strategies aimed at countering extremism and terrorism and continue strengthening cooperation in the establishment of regional frameworks, such as the implementation of law enforcement against poaching strategy and counter terrorism strategy
- c. Member States to enhance their collaboration and partnership with existing counterpart organisations such as the African Union Mechanism for Police Corporation (AFRIPOL), International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- d. Member States to enhance regional cooperation, joint operations and exchange of information on transnational organised crimes, especially human

Especially Women and Children in the same year.

- National legislation on Anti-Human Trafficking was passed by Parliament in 2014 while the National anti-Human Trafficking Action Plan came into place in 2018.
- Declaration of Assets Act passed by Parliament to provide for accountability and transparency by among others high ranking officials, public officers, politically exposed persons and political leadership holding public office.
- In relation to transnational organised crime, such as money laundering and financing of terrorism, amendment of the Anti-Human Trafficking Act has been effected. The amendments have also been necessitated by the requirement for Botswana to comply with recommendations of Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- Botswana is a member of the FATF through her membership of the FATF-Style Regional Body (FSRB) called the Eastern and Southern Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG). The Anti-Human Trafficking Act has therefore been amended to criminalise smuggling, introduce

<p>trafficking, drug trafficking, money laundering, poaching and smuggling of stolen goods.</p>	<p>mandatory sentences and to amend the meaning of exploitation to include use of a person in illegal activities, debt bondage and human sacrifice amongst others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Financial Intelligence Act was re-enacted with amendments in February 2022 to continue the establishment of the Financial Intelligence Agency and the National Financial Intelligence Coordinating Committee; to provide for the reporting of suspicious transactions and other cash transactions; to provide for mutual assistance with comparable bodies outside Botswana in relation to financial information and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto</li> <li>• Furthermore, it is worth highlighting that Parliament also amended other laws relating to anti-money laundering and combatting terrorism and proliferation financing; these include Proceeds and Instruments of Crime (Amendment) Act, 2022, Trust Property Control Act, 2022, Counter Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2022, Chemical, Nuclear and Biological &amp; Toxins Weapons, (Prohibition) (Amendment) Acts, 2022.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. RESOLUTION ON PARTICIPATION OF PARLIAMENTS TOWARDS BUILDING</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliament through its Portfolio Committee on agriculture, Lands and Housing has centred its work on food security.</li> </ul>



**RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS IN THE SADC REGION THROUGH ENHANCED PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT**

- a. Member States to create an enabling environment for Parliaments to meaningfully engage in the budget process by ensuring that adequate time and resources are provided to allow Honourable Members execute their oversight role without any impediments.
- b. Parliaments to build the capacity of Honourable Members of Parliaments with the necessary knowledge to effectively participate in the budget process, and notably, public spending in agriculture.
- c. SADC countries to recognise the important contribution that women and youths make towards agriculture in the region and set aside a specific quota in their national budgets to ensure food security in the region.
- d. Member States to strengthen Parliaments' oversight role in order to effectively interrogate public finance

Part of its activities included a review of the Ministry of Agriculture Budget requests prior to the Committee of Supply with a view to identifying funding priorities and implementation gaps based on previous year's budget performance. Additionally, the Committee in 2022 implemented Community scorecards in various districts to assess and track amongst others, Ministry of Agriculture's inputs relating to service delivery and levels of service delivery relating to food production (crops and livestock).

- To add further impetus to the work of Parliament on Food Security and nutrition and to ensure the realisation of the Malabo Protocol amongst others, the Draft Parliament Action Plan on Food Security and Nutrition 2023 proposes several interventions towards this resolution as follows;
  - Assessment of national policy, legislative, and institutional frameworks for responsible investments in agriculture and food systems including capacity building
  - Ensuring consistency in the legal and policy framework to effectively promote responsible investments in agriculture
  - Advocating for reform to existing laws and/or adopting new laws to promote responsible investments in agriculture and food systems

<p>spending, with a special focus on the procurement of agricultural inputs.</p> <p>e. Member States to sensitise their citizens to enable them identify fraudulent public spending in the agriculture value chain.</p> <p>f. Members States to provide citizens with platforms that they can utilise to report incidences of financial malpractices in the agriculture sector, noting that smallholder farmers are the most affected by illicit financial flows in the agriculture sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensuring adequate financing for the implementation of laws related to responsible investments in agriculture and food systems</li> <li>○ Ensuring effective parliamentary oversight to monitor implementation of laws and regulations related to responsible investments in agriculture and food systems</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. RESOLUTION ON DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILISATION AS A SUSTAINABLE WAY TO MANAGE PUBLIC DEBT IN THE SADC REGION – WHAT ROLE CAN PARLIAMENT PLAY</b></p> <p>a. Member States to actualise the convergence goal set out in Annex 2 of the SADC Protocol of Finance and Investment of maintaining a public debt-to-GDP ratio of no greater than 60 per cent.</p> <p>b. National Parliaments to be fully involved in debt contraction and ensure that the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliament debated and passed motion by the Minister of Finance requesting Parliament to authorize an increase in the Bond Issuance Programme from the current P15 billion to P30 billion.</li> <li>• In its recommendations the Committee mandated Government to look into sustainable ways to maintain a reduced Government debt and avoiding a deficit to safeguard the developmental needs of future generations. This should accordingly be complemented in that regard, by effective delivery and a national budget that yields more for the economy. Parliament encouraged the Ministry to set up proper governance over the use of the finances raised through the Bond issuance, with a clear line of</li> </ul>

approved borrowing plan is consistently being followed and debt servicing is undertaken as per the loan agreements.

- c. SADC Governments to create a favourable and conducive environment for private sector investment in order to attract more enterprise setups, and ultimately increase revenue collection from these enterprises.
- d. National Parliaments and SADC governments to demonstrate political will in curbing corruption, plug resource leakages and capital flight through establishing stronger legal frameworks that could allow for tracking, stopping and recovering of illicit financial resource flows.
- e. SADC countries to stiffen penalties for tax evaders in order to address tax evasion related to under-declaration of the volumes of exports, cheating on the costs of production and transfer pricing.
- f. Member countries to desist from offering generous tax breaks that undermine DRM

accountability to Parliament and to make sure that the same prudence is exercised in the same way if financing had been raised from international development finance institutions or international debt market and not relax governance and accountability simply because it is a domestic issuance.

- In relation to minerals, Botswana submitted and won the bid to host the Permanent Secretariat of the Kimberly Process. The Kimberley Process is an international, multi-stakeholder initiative created to increase transparency and oversight in the diamond industry in order to eliminate trade in conflict diamonds. Under the Kimberly process Member nations must also pass legislation to comply with the requirements and impose regulations to ensure it's carried out. If they do that, all the diamonds mined earn a certificate that ensures they can enter the legitimate diamond trade.
- Botswana has also under its Diamond Hub initiative ensured that it moves away from just mining and selling rough diamonds towards setting up industry for sorting valuation and cutting. Through this diamond beneficiation, investment in the diamond sector has been realised and employment created for Botswana.

<p>efforts but remain focused on increasing transparency in granting tax exemptions and curbing wasteful tax incentives.</p> <p>g. SADC Governments must embrace the African Mining Vision and strengthen national measures to maximise tax revenues in order to maximise returns from the mining sector.</p> <p>h. Member countries to take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Area to increase intra-Africa trade and benefit from technology transfer and development of regional value chains.</p>	
<p><b>7. RESOLUTION ON THE THEME “THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS IN MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES AND SYSTEMS IN ACCELERATING HEALTH FINANCING FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (UHC) IN THE SADC REGION.”</b></p> <p>a. countries to design and implement efficiency improvement initiatives across all health system levels and functions in order to enhance health financing in the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of its journey towards attaining Universal Health Coverage (UHC), the Government of Botswana (GoB) has committed to ensuring access to quality health services for its population. However, there is growing pressure on publicly subsidised health services due to both existing inefficiencies and limited fiscal space exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and global economic change.</li> <li>• To achieve its goals of reaching HIV/AIDS epidemic control and attaining UHC, the GoB is currently exploring instruments to expand the health revenue base, increase</li> </ul>

region;

- b. countries in the region, especially those with low GDP per capita, to explore options on potential participation of communities in financing of public health services and establish optional payment arrangements at public hospitals;
- c. countries in the region should build capacity of health system actors in order to promote leadership, governance, and accountability for effective harmonisation of health financing decision-making across all levels;
- d. to facilitate revision and effective execution of resource allocation frameworks including public finance management systems across the healthcare delivery system;
- e. countries in the region to promote the use of evidence in health financing decision making at all levels and enhance lobbying and advocacy mechanisms for the effective implementation of the strategic or innovative health financing

efficiency gains, and improve the overall sustainability of the sector through the African Collaborative for Health Financing (ACS) project, under the leadership of the Ministry of Health and the National AIDS and Health Promotion Agency (NAHPA) supported by PEPFAR and USAID

- The Integrated Health Services Plan will be finalised under NDP 11 to assist in identification of an Essential Health Services Package (EHSP), which would define the health services that citizens could expect to receive through the public health system, and similarly the services that the public health system would be obliged to provide.
- The formulation of the Health Financing Strategy is complete and is awaiting approval. The proposed strategy provides for improvement in the current health financing mechanisms that will ensure that all people living in Botswana have access to a wide range of cost-effective health services and reduce the burden of the delivery of health services on government in the quest to achieving universal health coverage. An important component of the health financing strategy is a proposal to introduce a purchaser-provider split in the public health service, which is common in health services in other countries. Amongst others, this would involve the provision of

options;

- f. countries in the region to put in place mechanisms for effective donor coordination, including strengthening health sector-wide approaches and platforms for multi-donor joint funding of health sector strategic plans;
- g. the need for political commitment to fast-track economic transformation for purposes of expanding the fiscal space that the health sector urgently needs;
- h. countries in the region to fast-track direct facility financing for purposes of catalysing community resource mobilisation;
- i. countries in the region to take steps to strengthen community engagement and dialogue with policy makers on sustainable health financing options with the intention of minimising out of pocket spending which impedes accessibility to health services;
- j. Countries should fast track the implementation of appropriate health

centralised funding – whether financed from taxation or other mechanisms –for the purchase of health services on behalf of the public from decentralised service providers, such as District Health Management Teams.

<p>financing strategies that safeguard financial risk protection in order to enhance access to health services by vulnerable groups including women, adolescents and young people.</p>	
<p><b>8. RESOLUTION ON THE THEME “TOWARDS STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENT IN CURBING CORRUPTION AND PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE SADC REGION: ENGAGING PARLIAMENTARIANS ON HOW TO USE PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT TO EXECUTE MEASURES TO FIGHT CORRUPTION.”</b></p> <p>a. Member States to draw lessons from the provision in the Venezuela electoral legal framework requiring a mandatory pre-voting and immediate post-voting auditing of at least 30% of AVMs and elections results in order to ensure transparency in the voting process and election results.</p> <p>b. Member States to engage Venezuela to learn more about AVMs with VVPT</p>	<p><b>Development and strengthening Legal Framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a number of legislative reviews were done, resulting in the enactment of the following financial sector laws by Parliament, along with related regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Securities Act and Regulations to regulate the capital markets and service providers;</li> <li>• Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority (NBFIRA) (Tribunal) Regulations to regulate the manner in which the Tribunal reviews the decisions of NBFIRA and Self-Regulated Organisations;</li> <li>• The Building Societies (Amendment) Act, 2018, which served to increase the protective cap of the Botswana Building Society (BBS) from 15% to 25% to allow BBS to raise additional capital;</li> <li>• The amendment of the Banking Act, passed in 2018, to provide for handling of suspicious transactions of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism, in order to align the Act with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

capabilities in view of harnessing the numerous advantages of using such technology in election management, including the ability to instantly verify, count and declare election results.

- c. role of Parliament in curbing corruption and promoting accountability in the SADC region at national and regional level;
- d. curbing corruption by among other things, ensuring separation of powers and the attendant transparency and accountability between and among the organs of state;
- e. State institutions, including Parliaments to resist capture by being transparent and accountable and setting an example of incorruptibility to society as a whole through implementing and enforcing their own codes of conduct so as to be able to withstand corruption and permit the rapid exposure of corruption.
- f. Member States to ensure the development of a robust, clear and fair legal framework to promote transparency

- The Financial Intelligence Act was re-enacted with amendments in 2022 to align it with anti-money laundering laws and FATF recommendations.
- The Retirement Funds Act and the Insurance laws were revised in recognition of the rapid growth of and recent developments in the respective sectors. The Retirement Funds Act, for example, separated Pension Fund operations from Pension Fund administration services, while the Insurance Industry Act substantially increased capital requirements for Insurance Companies to ensure capacity to pay claims in line with increased values insured.



<p>and accountability, deter corruption, prevent undue influence of money in politics (state capture) and curb the misuse of public resources</p>	
<p><b>9. RESOLUTION ON THE THEME “SECURING EFFECTIVE PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT THROUGH GENDER SENSITIVE NATIONAL BUDGETS.”</b></p> <p>a. Member states to consider the implementation of programmes to strengthen the technical and functional capacities of the Supreme Audit Institutions, National Parliaments and civil society who work in public finance control.</p> <p>b. SADC parliamentarians to advocate for gender responsive policies, in order to ensure that public policies in the SADC Member States take the different needs, interests and realities that men and women have into account at all times.</p> <p>c. Member States to implement gender responsive budgetary processes so as to address the different needs of men and</p>	<p><b>Building Capacity for a Gender responsive Parliament:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliament will undertake self-assessment in collaboration with the IPU on Gender Sensitive Parliaments in January 2023. This would help identify existing gaps and assist in developing an action plan towards addressing gender issues and in strengthening the Women’s Parliamentary Caucus.</li> <li>• The draft Actin Plan on Gender Development and SRHR will drive parliamentary action on gender-related issues from 2023, supported by a new Parliament Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• Parliament will also be collaborating more with CSOs and Development partners to strengthen its advocacy, legislative and oversight role relating to Gender issues. Currently Parliament is receiving support from the country based UN Agencies, CSOs and is in the process of developing MOUs with Diplomatic Agencies amongst them, the EU Delegation to Botswana and the British High Commission to further support its work on gender issues.</li> </ul>

<p>women, boys and girls appropriately in the interest of enhancing equitable poverty reduction and development</p>	
<p><b>10. RESOLUTION ON ENHANCING THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT AND ISSUES AFFECTING THE YOUTH IN THE SADC REGION AND MECHANISMS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS TO DIRECTLY ENGAGE WITH THE YOUTH</b></p> <p>a. National Parliaments to apprise themselves with average debt stocks and debt repayments within their respective States because this is key in understanding the implications of national debt on the social sector, which should be ring-fenced to protect people’s lives.</p> <p>b. Member States to ensure personnel in Government planning department are capacitated to design gender specific interventions in national budgets such as</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Portfolio Committee on Youth, Sports and Culture has conducted oversight visits to youth funded ventures across various Districts with a view to assessing their performance and impact of the funding provided under the YDF.</li> <li>• The Youth Committee has also conducted an assessment of the extent of provision of youth-friendly services within the health sector across various District. In 2021, the Committee also held a youth roundtable in Ghanzi with a view to facilitating dialogue amongst rural youth and CSOs on SRHR issues.</li> <li>• The Budget process in Botswana continues to follow the bottom –up approach with budget and planning estimates emanating from grass-roots/local or ward level through structures such as the Ward and Village Development Committees before finding their way into District Development Plans. This ensures and facilitates grass-roots/local participation in the planning and budget processes.</li> <li>• The Department of Gender Affairs has been moved to the Ministry dealing with Youth in order to harmonise coordination and policy delivery relating gender and youth</li> </ul>

the economic and social value of women's unpaid care work.

- c. Member States to enhance the participation and/or involvement of communities in the budget planning and execution because people in communities are a part of the broader political and social picture.
- d. Member States to formulate Budget Codes and Annual Gender Responsive Budget statements to show political commitment to gender equality.
- e. Member States to enhance access to information laws because difficulties in accessing information from Government departments and spending agencies, including absence of gender disaggregated data is a huge challenge in the development and implementation of Gender Responsive Budgeting. Enacting access to information laws will promote research and enable data generation and information flow throughout the budgeting process.

issues. The Department provides direction on issues of gender mainstreaming across all sectors and is also responsible for ensuring Botswana stays on track of its gender development commitments at national, regional and international level.

- The National Youth Policy is set to undergo review to incorporate emerging issues under the NDP 11.
- A National Internship Programme under the Ministry of Youth is on-going to provide on the job training and preparation of graduates for work.
- A national Service Programme (Tirelo Sechaba) programme is also currently running under MYSC to provide for out of school youth to gain meaningful work experience within the communities they reside in while awaiting formal employment.
- A targeted financing programme for youth entrepreneurship development is funded under MYSC – Youth Development Fund.
- Youth, Women and People with Disabilities enterprises are supported under the Economic Diversification Drive and Local Procurement Policies through affirmative action and reservation policies.
- Parliament passed the Economic Inclusion Act and the Local Procurement Act to further strengthen participation

- f. Member States to put mechanisms in place to ensure representation of the youth in Parliament.
- g. National Parliaments to enact enabling legislation for young people. The starting point would be the domestication of the SADC Youth Protocol. Measures could be taken to undertake scoping study to identify the strengths and gaps in existing regional and national policies and programmes; advocate for the domestication of the SADC Youth Protocol for ease of alignment, implementation, coordination and monitoring of policies and to strengthen the oversight role of Parliaments on the youth empowerment policies implementation.
- h. Members States to build a culture of inter-generational leadership, which is defined by conscious generational awareness of leaders from different generations. There is need for proactive and meaningful engagement between leaders across generations through

of historically marginalised groups within economic activity of the country.

- Affirmative Action and reservation policies in economic participation for women and youth in rural areas is also provided under the Rural Development Programme. The Rural Development Council is a high level structure chaired by His Honour the Vice President, with a mandate to improve the quality of life of citizen residents in remote areas by providing various poverty alleviation programmes to those who are disadvantaged.
- To encourage local production Government continues to implement various measures including banning the importation of certain agriculture produce (vegetables, chickens) and reservation of certain businesses for locals (bakery, confectionary).
- Government is also intensifying the implementation of the Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (ETSSP) to provide for pathways development in schools. Two secondary schools are currently piloting the pathways development programme in the fields of Agriculture and Hospitality and Tourism. This will contribute to developing the appeal and potential of vocational training from early learning and ensure that no learner is lost by identifying and leveraging on the capabilities from an early age.

mutual respect.

- i. Member States to put in place internship and mentorship programmes and initiatives through which knowledge and skills can be transferred from the more experienced and highly regarded persons such as Members of Parliament to the young people for them to learn and develop as this will result in considerable hastening of personal and professional growth.
- j. National Parliaments to develop legislation that gives direction to Government departments, agencies, ministries as well as the private sector to implement policies that target young people. Further, legislators should ensure that they create an environment that compels institutions to ensure that young people take part in businesses, for example, to enhance their lives. Further URGED SADC National Member States to incentivise the private sector to employ more young people through tax

- Government is also implementing outcomes-based education and assessment to improve quality of education.

incentives.

- k. Member States to ensure that their education systems are responsive to the issues affecting the young people by encouraging Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) education. The misconception and/or stigma about TVET education should be addressed and redressed
- l. Member States to ensure that trade laws within their countries encourage local production. Parliament should look at how to tilt that scale so that 15 percent of trade was with the outside world and the remaining 80 percent was within Africa. Parliaments must drive targeted interventions in legislative policy towards the agriculture sector to ensure that Africa made use of its natural resources to boost production.
- m. Member States provide the requisite structural support to increase production in order to create sustainable agriculture industries that are labour intensive for the

<p>employment of the youth. Members of Parliament should take deliberate measures to advocate for appropriate policy to address youth unemployment, which would ultimately address the issue of strengthening youth participation in governance processes and other spheres.</p>	
<p><b>11. RESOLUTION ON THE THEME “TRACKING PROGRESS ON THE DOMESTICATION OF SADC MODEL LAWS BY MEMBER PARLIAMENTS UNDER THE THEME “IMPROVING PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IN SADC: MAPPING THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS”</b></p> <p>a. Member States to work with civil society organisations and law enforcement agencies that had a readily available database in place with regard to both gender-based violence and child marriage.</p> <p>b. Member States to set up data bases of their own regarding child marriage and gender based violence so that critical data can be easily accessible and retrievable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Botswana National Strategy towards Ending GBV was developed in 2020 as a policy document intended to guide a national multi-sectoral, decentralised and multilevel response to gender-based violence.</li> <li>• An Inter-Ministerial Committee on GBV was also established in 2020 to provide high level leadership in combating GBV.</li> <li>• Government and CSOs also collaborate to on GBV through advocacy, education and services such as counselling and shelters. Most importantly CSOs are well placed to provide data on GBV given that official statistics show that only a few GBV cases actually get reported.</li> <li>• Parliament will through its Public Participation Strategy and the Civil Society Engagement Plan strengthen its collaboration and network with CSOs to support its work on gender development, SRHR and Human Rights.</li> <li>• Committees will also leverage the Botswana Speaks</li> </ul>

	<p>platform to involve CSOs in their work through feedback platforms on issues of common interest including GBV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The roll out of Community Scorecards by Committees across Districts will also target meaningful participation of CSOs in strengthening monitoring and evaluation of GBV, SRHR interventions and their impact on communities.</li></ul>
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