



## **TALKING NOTES FOR HON. SHALLY JOSEPHA RAYMOND, MP ON SECONDING THE REPORT OF THE SADC PF REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY MODEL LAWS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Mr President, I rise to support the Motion on the Report of the Regional Parliamentary Model Laws Oversight Committee which has been so ably moved by the Chairperson, **Hon. Ishmael J Ndaila Onani, MP**.

Mr President, in agreeing with the Mover of the Motion, let me state from the outset that the slow pace in the domestication and implementation of the SADC Model Law on Elimination of Child Marriage and Protection of Children Already in Marriage and the SADC Model Law of Gender Based Violence and in development and initiation programmes, coupled with limited resources set aside for such programmes and for the protection of victims hinder the fight against Gender Based Violence and the efforts to eliminate child marriage. Therefore, I support the recommendation that Member Parliaments should implement the resolution adopted by the Committee relating to Domestication of the Model Laws and ensuring that Parliaments set aside resources for funding initiatives and programmes aimed at addressing issues of Gender Based Violence and child marriage and ensuring vigorous oversight in the implementation of the Model laws.

Mr President, I also reiterate the Mover's sentiments that SADC PF needs to engage, collaborate, partner and share experiences with cooperating partners including the African Union in the fight against GBV and elimination of child marriage.

Mr President, I further agree with the mover of the Motion that Member Parliaments should intensify their efforts in domesticating the Model Laws and commit to setting aside budget for their implementation as well as ensuring that their Parliamentarians, in particular National Parliament committees responsible for gender and children's issues, strengthen their legislative oversight role to effectively monitor the domestication of the Model Law.

Finally, Mr President, I welcome the proposal that the stakeholders' and citizens' experiences which were shared during the public hearing should inform the Forum and Member States what should be done about the plight of child victims of GBV and the human rights violations committed against children who are forced into child marriages and the challenges they face whilst in those marriages, starting with the domestication of the Model Laws.

Mr President, I second the Motion.

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