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**NAMIBIA'S COUNTRY REPORT TO THE 57<sup>TH</sup>  
PLENARY ASSEMBLY SESSION OF THE  
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT  
COMMUNITY (SADC-PF)  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 56<sup>TH</sup> SADC- PF  
PLENARY ASSEMBLY, HELD IN LIVINGSTONE,  
ZAMBIA, 6<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

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NAMIBIA**

**REPORT NO. 1 OF 2025**

**THE 56<sup>TH</sup> SADC-PF FORUM HAS RESOLVED TO THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:**

**1. TRANSFORMATION OF THE SADC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM TO A SADC REGIONAL PARLIAMENT.**

**1.1 Review of the Draft Protocol on the Establishment of the SADC Parliament**

The Republic of Namibia as the proud host of the SADC Parliamentary Forum since its establishment on 8<sup>th</sup> of September 1997 is committed to supporting the ultimate transformation of the SADC Parliamentary Forum into a SADC Regional Parliament.

The Draft Protocol is currently being reviewed by the Ministry of International Relations and Trade (MIRT). The eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) National Assembly, which has recently assumed duty, will continue and conclude this important process in due course.

**2. UPDATE ON THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT TO AMEND THE SADC TREATY TO ESTABLISH THE SADC PARLIAMENT.**

Namibia signed the Agreement to amend the SADC Treaty to establish the SADC Regional Parliament on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**3. SECONDMENT OF SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY STAFF TO THE SADC-PF**

The Namibian Parliament is currently not in a position to second a Senior Parliamentary staff. Namibia as the host Parliament, nevertheless confirms its commitment to render any short to medium-term human resource support that the SADC-PF may require.

#### **4. SADC-PF ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSIONS (EOMS) (*MALAWI, SEYCHELLES AND TANZANIA*)**

The Namibian Parliament has set aside financial resources in the current National Budget to support and participate in the upcoming election observation missions to the member states of Malawi, Seychelles, and Tanzania.

#### **5. DESIGNATION OF A FOCAL PERSON ON MODEL LAW DOMESTICATION**

The Namibian Parliament has designated a focal person and will ensure the full participation of both the National Assembly and National Council.

Namibia is currently at an advance stage of finalizing the Public Finance Management Bill and this was preceded by extensive public hearings. The Ministry of Finance has confirmed that the draft bill is indeed aligned to the SADC-PF Model Law on Public Financial Management. Parliament through the Standing Committee on Budget and Finance will also ensure that the ultimate legislation conforms the principles contained in the Model Law.

Namibia through the Ministry of Health has also adopted Policies and Legal provisions that have been influenced by regional standards including the SADC-PF Model Law on HIV and AIDS. These polies include the National Policy on HIV and AIDS, 2007 and National Strategic Framework for HIV and AIDS (2023-2026).

Additionally, the Namibian Parliament will accelerate the popularization of SADC Model Laws among the Members of Parliament as well as the stakeholder ministries and agencies. This will include a process of recording and tracking the domestication of the SADC Model Laws and monitoring the same.

Budgetary provisions for the domestication of the Model laws is the responsibility of the relevant line ministries and agencies and Parliament will engage the concerned entities in this regard. Parliament will however, as part of its oversight and parliamentary diplomacy, endeavor to set aside resources to monitor and report on the domestication and implementation of the Model laws. This will be done within the spirit of respecting and preserving Namibia's state sovereignty.

## **6. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2023-2026 SRHR AND GOVERNANCE PROJECT**

The Parliament of Namibia signed the Agreement to implement the Sexual, Reproductive and Health Rights (SRHR) Project for the period 2023 to 2026 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2024. The Namibian Parliament wishes to affirm its commitment to implement the SRHR Project but, however, within the context of the country's national priorities and values

Following the end of contract of the staff members who were implementing the SRHR, the National Assembly is finalizing the recruitment of a new dedicated staff for the project and will report on the same in due course.

To date, N\$24,000.00 of the project funds have been spent. The project has so far undertaken the following activities:

- a. Orientation of newly appointed Researchers (*September 2024*).
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> National Working Group meeting (*8<sup>th</sup> October 2024*).
- c. Three (3) day planning workshop for Members of the National Working Group (*6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024*).
- d. Virtual working session (*21<sup>st</sup> November 2024*).

Beneficiaries of the SRHR Project includes the following:

- Chairperson (MP) of the National Working Group (NWG)
- 8 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and
- 5 staff members.

In conclusion, the implementation of SRHR Project will no longer be in the Office of the Speaker but will revert to the directorates within the Secretariat of the National Assembly for enhanced mainstreaming across the National Assembly. The implementation of the project will purposefully extend the participation to the National Council as part of the One Namibian Parliament.

                    **The End**