



# KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE

*AN ACTIVIST PEOPLE-CENTRED LEGISLATURE*



**BUDGET VOTE SPEECH**  
**31 July 2019**



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Speaker

Honourable Nontembeko Nothemba Boyce



# Budget Vote Speech

by the Speaker of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature

**Honourable Ms Nontembeko Boyce**

Honourable Deputy Speaker Mr Mluleki Ndobe

Honourable Premier Mr Sihle Zikalala

Members of the Executive Council

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Secretary to the Legislature

Senior Management of the Legislature

Senior Managers of the Government Departments

Invited Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen





# KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE

AN ACTIVIST PEOPLE-CENTRED LEGISLATURE

Honourable Chairperson, as we celebrate 25 years of our democratic dispensation, we are grateful to our struggle heroes and heroines who endured the worst form of injustices to bring us to where we are. Had it not been for their selfless sacrifice, we would not have been where we are today in this august House which is a true expression of the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

Honourable Members, yesterday marked the birthday of the first Chief Whip of the ANC in this House, the late baba Harry Gwala, the lion of Midlands, uMphephethwa omkhulu, who would have turned 99 years. Like many great leaders such as our first democratic President of the Republic of South Africa, the late Tata Nelson Mandela amongst others, the late Harry Gwala endured the unimaginable injustice at the hand of the apartheid regime.

He was first sent to Robben Island for eight years and released in 1972, only to be sent back to serve life imprisonment, for refusing to succumb to restrictions that were placed on him. During this period, his wife passed away and he was not allowed to attend the funeral. Most painfully, the imprisonment robbed Comrade Gwala of the use of his arms. We were told he suffered from a motor neuron disease, a hard pill to swallow given torture and death of many freedom fighters whilst in custody. Gwala had to endure all this because his great “sin” was mobilising workers to stand for their rights, yet his spirit and conviction to serve the people was never broken.

The memory of umunt'omdala, as Gwala was affectionately known, will forever be etched in our minds. This is the leader who not only survived Robben Island but who, upon his release, was thrust into a politically volatile Natal Midlands in the late eighties and nineties. His deployment to the first Legislature of KwaZulu-Natal offered all of us an opportunity to walk in his footsteps, so that when we say we are standing on shoulders of giants we remember that the Lion of Midlands is amongst them. He personified great commitment to a just cause which we can all emulate as we strive to better the lives of the people of KwaZulu-Natal during the sixth political administration.

Honourable Chairperson, the year 2019/20 is the first year of the sixth Legislature. It is therefore a year of reflecting on what has been achieved by not only the fifth Legislature but also by all other Legislatures since the dawn of our democratic era. It is also a critical year for considering the future to appreciate the long road yet to be travelled as we continue to create better communities in our Province through law-making, oversight and public participation and involvement.

From a performance point of view, this first year of the sixth term is to be used to craft and lay down a solid visionary foundation from which the future of both our children and communities in this province shall be secured. As we focus our eyes into the horizons, we will not ignore the day-to-day and current difficulties facing our people due to the known triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality especially on women, children and youth. This will therefore be a year that will be characterized by thoughts on initiatives aimed at further enhancing effectiveness of our lawmaking, oversight and public involvement processes.

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Honourable Chairperson, "Weak democracies exclude the poor from having a meaningful say in the decisions that affect them; strong democracies welcome and facilitate access." This quote from former Judge of the Constitutional Court Justice Kate O'Regan aptly captures the trajectory that we have adopted as the Legislature during this electoral term.

As an activist people centered Legislature, we remain resolute on deepening democracy in our Province. We are fully aware that in a democracy, government exists to serve the interest of its people and this is a clear call for a close partnership with communities to ensure that, as public representatives, we are always in touch with issues that influence public opinion and interests. Whilst we live in this knowledge it would be also heedless of us to not acknowledge that democracy becomes what you make of it.

We observed in the past, especially during the fifth Legislature, that our democracy has become in a more visible way driven and influenced by a new generation of young men and women who now carry the hopes of a

better future and are working tirelessly to achieve the tomorrow of their dreams. This crop of citizens now forms part of the woke and critical mass of the stakeholders relevant for both the Legislature and service delivery organs of state. Therefore, it will be incautious for this people-centered Legislature to be out of touch with its citizens in this context.

We therefore appreciate that there is a growing and urgent need to accelerate the reviewing of our public participation strategy to ensure that the Legislature remains strategically relevant and appropriate especially to this new generation. Our interaction with our communities should be of benefit to both the Legislature and the communities themselves.

It is for the above reason that one of our Annual Performance Plan targets for this year include discussing quarterly outcomes-based reports on stakeholder participation in both Committee business and House sittings. This will be a process that seeks to both draw public inputs into our Legislative processes as well as to identify need for public/civic education required by our communities.

Linked to the above, Honourable Chairperson, the Legislature will need to attend to the implication of a growing population especially on the increased demand for delivery of basic services. There is a need to develop new initiatives to enhance our engagements with communities particularly to address service delivery protests in the Province. In some instances, these protests are a cry for better consultation, empowerment and feedback but also in some instances elements of politics and criminality are involved. It therefore remains in our interest to allocate adequate resources for public participation especially on civic education. Our Annual Performance Plan for the year has retained a target on public education workshops to be run across the Province. An empowered citizen is a strategic ally and partner in enhancing positive and peaceful exercise of the democratic right to



participate and demonstrate.

The type of civic education required going forward will focus on helping citizens to appreciate that government does not have adequate resources to meet all service delivery demands and as such the need to exercise patience will always be required. This should, however, be done in a manner that at the very least, demonstrates: -

- (i) government's commitment to improved and accelerated service delivery;
- (ii) that public inputs into government's processes and decisions are seriously considered and feedback is timeously provided;
- (iii) government's commitment to sharing its development plans (NDP/PGDP/IDP etc) with its citizens, especially at a community level to invite communities to do their part in the implementation of such plans.

One of the outcomes we need to focus on in the area of public involvement is an improved voter turnout in the Province. Many lives were lost or permanently scarred in the fight for the right to vote and as such it is a right that should not lie fallow. Voter education should not be a mere pre-election once off event, but a

systematic and ongoing programme of the Legislature.

This calls for strategic partnerships with a wider range of different sectors in our communities. We need, as a Province, to create platforms to effectively engage all citizens especial the vulnerable groups including but not limited to victims of gender-based violence, sex workers, the LGBTQ+ communities, street vendors etc. We need to strategize around these issues if we are to positively contribute to the South Africa that Oliver Tambo dreamt of when he said ...." It is our responsibility to break down barriers of division and create a country where there will be neither whites nor Blacks, just South Africans, free and united in diversity" . It is that diversity that we must strive for as this House beyond race and culture. All that divides us as a people is an enemy of progress and we need to free our people from that and other forms of stereotypes that pervades our society.

We will be working very closely with Non-Governmental Organizations to eradicate the scourge of gender-based violence, and all other forms of atrocities inflicted on the vulnerable groups in our society. Among the guests present today is Ms Mandisa Khanyile, a gender activist whom we intend to partner with in our onslaught against gender based violence. We will also be partnering with the Human Rights Commission in our quest to promote the human rights culture within the Province of KZN. This, we do because we want to live and breathe our mission of being an activist Legislature.

Honourable Members will recall that towards the end of the fifth term, some communities began to create own community parliaments after attending public education workshops by the Legislature. Such positive initiatives by our communities will continue to be supported and a more formalized partnership with such structures will be of benefit.



*Virtual State : Sweetwaters Community Parliament Sitting*

The Standing Committee on Petitions and Public Participation is therefore to be given space and capacity to champion the task of implementing public participation and provide for discussing outcomes-based reports on stakeholder involvement in Committee and House Sittings. These outcomes-based reports are meant to at least help us to review and better implement our public participation strategies as we enhance our utilization of communications and applicable social media platforms. The visits to the Legislature by our stakeholders, whether schools or bodies, need to have an educative role beyond just the touring of the building.

## Constituency Offices

To further enhance public involvement there is need to appreciate that constituency offices are offices of the Legislature though run by elected members of political parties. It is through these offices that the Legislature presence in communities is to be felt and engaged. It is in this context that the functionality of constituency offices needs to be a critical oversight area for the Legislature.

To effectively move in this direction, the leadership of the Legislature, through the Office of the Chief Whip, will during the year, enter into appropriate consultation with political parties represented in this House. This will entail considering what the Legislature expects from constituency officers whilst not eroding the central role of the party that the office belongs to.

## OVERSIGHT AGENDA

Without departing from pursuing the National Development Plan (NDP) through the Provincial Growth Development Plans (PGDP), the province has through the Premier's State of the Province Address prioritized service delivery in the following seven areas: -

- (i) Economic transformation and job creation
- (ii) Education, skills and health
- (iii) Consolidating the social wage through reliable and quality basic services
- (iv) Spatial integration, human settlements and local government
- (v) Social cohesion and safe communities
- (vi) A capable, ethical and developmental state
- (vii) A better Africa and World

This is a clear indication of what our Committee Oversight priorities will seek to include as we move forward. To achieve effective oversight on these priorities: -

- (i) Committee researchers, Budget & Economic Analysts will focus on providing quarterly analysis feedback reports on departmental performance based on these priorities as well as commenting on the alignment between Departmental APPs/Budgets with the NDP/PGDP initiatives. This will entail looking at gender budgeting as well as issues of youth, disability and children.
- (ii) The effectiveness of the Provincial Executive's Action Working Groups that were created to drive the implementation of PGDP and priorities will be put under the oversight radar led by the Office of the Chairperson of Committees. At least bi-annual status reports on NDP/PGDP implementation will be produced for discussion as indicated in our Annual Performance Plan.
- (iii) Legal Advisors will now model their legal opinions and advice in a manner that ensures that law-making facilitates the implementation of these priorities as we pursue NDP/PGDP implementation.
- (iv) Partnerships between the Legislature and Provincial Planning Commission, STASSA, academic and other research institutions to ensure provision of

adequate and updated service delivery baseline information will be strengthened.

## Submission of Quarterly Reports by Departments

In terms of the Sector Oversight Model (SOM), Departmental Quarterly and Annual Reports are critical to the work of Committees. The fifth Legislature began on a negative note in this respect as late submissions by Departments meant our Committee researchers and budget analysts were always providing outdated briefing reports to Committees as well as feedbacks to Departments. It is pleasing to note that this situation has improved, however, there are still Departments that need to improve.

Honourable Members will recall that at some point, my predecessor, former Speaker Johnson, indicated that to ensure timeous submissions, a quarterly report on faltering Departments will be tabled in the House. Honourable Members, that future is here. This matter will be a standing agenda item in all quarterly meetings of the Committee of Chairpersons.

Effective oversight is directly influenced, amongst other factors, by the frequency of Committee meetings. It is therefore important to appreciate that cancelation and postponements of scheduled meetings should strictly be due to uncontrollable circumstances. The Legislature Programme for the year is very tight and once a meeting is postponed, it might as well be as good as cancelled as alternative dates may prove hard to secure. Again, the Office of the Chairperson of Committees will be closely monitoring this aspect. We may as well consider the possibility of amending the Rules of the House to help address this matter.



*Members of Provincial Legislature conducting oversight : Manguzi*

## Oversight Visits

In terms of SOM, the oversight visits mechanism is an important activity that helps in verifying and validating reported performance by Departments. While this mechanism has indeed proven to be helpful, it also needs to be executed bearing in mind AOP targets and the cost thereof. A mechanism to manage and approve conducting additional oversight visits beyond those stated in a Committee AOP will be implemented to achieve cost effectiveness. The Committee of Chairpersons will discuss quarterly reports on how this oversight mechanism is being implemented by Committees.

## Tracking and Implementation of Resolutions

Without an effective process of tracking the implementation of resolutions taken by both Committees and the House, oversight will be weakened. It is for this reason that at least quarterly, a report on resolution tracking and implemented will be developed and discussed at least at the Committee of Chairpersons as indicated in our Annual Performance Plan.

Closely related to the above, the attendance of MECs and Accounting Officers at Committee meetings is very important as it is them that are required by law to appear before Committees of the Legislature. This helps to quickly track progress on implementation of resolutions.

## Functionality Oversight Programme

The effectiveness of the Functionality Programme, that has in the past covered Schools, War-Rooms, Health Institutions, Community Policing Forums will be extended into other areas such as Places of Safety.



*2018 School Functionality Programme: MPLs Assessing School Readiness on the opening day of school*

## Provincial Speakers' Forum

In the spirit of cooperative governance and improved oversight at a provincial level, the Speaker's Office will revive the Provincial

Speakers' Forum. The plan is to engage SALGA and develop a framework and terms of reference for the Forum. It is through such a Forum that the Legislature may effectively contribute in improving the state of service delivery at municipality levels.

## Provision of Support Staff to Committees

The call for more Committee Researchers has been constant throughout the fifth term but resources could not allow for a positive response. I am however, happy to inform this House that we are in a process of implementing a positive response to this call as we have started to fill budgeted for vacant posts.

## LAW-MAKING

### Impact of Bills Passed

As we enter the sixth term our legal, research and evaluation units will start developing an instrument for monitoring the impact of Bills passed, especially Provincial ones. This is to be done in the context of outcomes envisaged in NDP/PGDP and other related public policy decisions. With such an instrument, the Legislature should be able to facilitate: -

- (i) the scrapping of unconstitutional prescripts from the apartheid era,
- (ii) updating of outdated laws,
- (iii) initiation of new Bills without necessarily being always reactive to the executive.

### Legislation pertaining to political party funding

Honourable Chairperson, the issue of the Political Party Funding Act of the province i.e. the KwaZulu-Natal Funding of Represented Political Parties Act 07 of 2008, vis-a-vis the National Political Party Funding Act (Public Funding of Represented Political Parties Act, |Act No. 103 of 1997 as amended urgently

needs to be regularized through transforming the Provincial Act into policy so that there is no room for interpretation in relation to these two pieces of legislation. This is one of the primary tasks we will be seized with during this current term working closely with the MEC for Finance.

## **Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act**

Honourable Members will know that the Legislature is regulated by at least the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, the Financial Management of Parliament and Legislatures Act (FMPLA) and the Standing Rules of KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature. There are other pieces of Legislation that influence the work of the Legislature such as the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) and the Municipality Financial Management Act (MFMA). There is a need to conduct a legal research on how these prescripts complement, overlap and or identify gaps. This is meant to help the Legislature in developing effective policies and procedures to enhance overall compliance, oversight and law-making as we deepen democracy.

This is a process that will obviously need sector participation. The Legislature is therefore considering sponsoring such research and championing discussions at relevant sector level platforms such as SALSA and National Speakers' Forum.

What is more critical about this project is that it should at least lead to a better drafted and amended FMPLA that truly addresses the unique nature and the political context in which the legislative sector operates in. This may be a long-term process; however, nothing holds us back from initiating this research during this ensuing year.

# **INSTITUTIONAL EFFICIENCIES & INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

## **Fourth Industrial Revolution**

With the fourth industrial revolution already upon us, the Legislature will, during the year, take stock of ICT infrastructure and applications currently in place with a view to assess the level of utilisation. When carefully planned, maximum utilisation of available ICT applications should reduce costs and improve efficiencies. As already demonstrated by at least House sittings in the Chamber and, Whips Forum and Stacov meetings, the dream of a fully paperless Legislature is now within reach.

With minimum additional costs if any, this House is set to operate without official documents being circulated within the Chamber. The Legislature has provided laptops and smart phones for Honourable Members with adequate functionality to electronically receive and distribute documents. The ICT environment is now ready, we have therefore no reason to be left behind. We call on parties to ensure that their Members make themselves available for training and we call on parties to hold their members accountable for embracing the upskilling.

We will therefore urgently consult with all parties in the House through the Office of the Chief Whip to facilitate an official adoption and implementation of electronic tabling with effect from January 2020. This would mean even at Committee level, Departments will have to send electronic documents unless circumstances do not allow. It will therefore be advisable that we all begin to reset our attitude towards paper as we as we embrace the era of

paperless offices as a big contribution towards cleaner cities and environments.

To ensure that this is achieved, the Committee of Chairpersons will quarterly monitor progress made by Committees in becoming as paperless as possible.

Linked to the above, business process mapping needs to be prioritized. This will ensure that applicability and relevance of ICT applications to be procured are adequately tailored to talk to actual business operational needs of the Legislature. Furthermore, a well thought-through business process architecture will create a conducive environment for documenting clear standard operating procedures and applicable business policies. With such an environment,

## Efficiency Oversight

To maintain optimum utilisation of resources and thereby improve efficiencies of the Provincial Government, we should be considering developing and implementing an Efficiency and Operations Management Oversight framework. In the face of a slow economic growth and therefore dwindling of public resources, a clear focus on improved government efficiencies should help to bring down cost of service delivery.

- (i) Business process management and work systems,
- (ii) Optimum utilisation of institutional resources (assets, personnel, tools of trade, office space, etc)
- (iii) Developing, implementing and maintaining service standards (Institutional Service Charter and Batho Pele)

Linked to such a framework would be the development of an efficient oversight tool for use by oversight Committees of the



Legislature. Such an approach is meant to ensure that as a Province, principles of effective, economic and efficient use of state resources as well as enhancing quality of services rendered are not taken for granted, especially under the prevailing difficult economic climate.

## LEGISLATIVE SECTOR MATTERS

The Legislature remains an active member of the National Speakers' Forum of South Africa which provides strategic direction to the Legislative Sector. During the fifth term, the sector through the Speaker's Forum focused, among other matters, on: -

- (i) The need to formalise the sector through legislative instruments;
- (ii) Creation and implementation of a mechanism to oversee implementation of the NDP, SDGs and African Union's Agenda 2063; and
- (iii) Capacity building.

## Legislative Sector Bill

Honourable Members, I must report that the sector spent considerable time developing a Legislative Sector Bill to replace the current voluntary Sector Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The process of final consultation and approvals were carried over to the new leadership of the National Speaker's Forum of the sixth term.

Parallel to the task of developing the Legislative Sector Bill, was the development of the Regulations for FMPLA. This process identified areas where some aspects of FMPLA proved to be a challenge for Legislatures and, as such, required amendments. While a lot of work was done in this regard, the task was not completed. This project has also been brought forward for completion by this sixth term.

## Collective Bargaining

Although the Legislative Sector Bill was not enacted, the collective bargaining initiative was concluded to the effect that as from 2020/21 financial year going forward, all bargaining matters will be handled at a central level. This has set the ball rolling towards standardizing conditions of service within the sector.

Linked to this is our quest to develop a capable developmental state. To this end, professionalism of our workforce will be central. Therefore, all Human Resource

projects should and must be geared towards building a capable state.

## Administrative Frameworks

Linked to the above, KZN Legislature went on to play leading roles in sector task teams charged with the development of a draft strategic management framework for the sector. This draft seeks to standardize and align sector: -

- (i) performance: strategy and annual performance planning
- (ii) finance: budget development and implementation including supply chain management
- (iii) governance: audit and risk management

The process of final adoption and rolling out the said framework is now the task at hand.

## Sector NDP Oversight Mechanism



Drawing from the work that KZN had done in developing an oversight methodology on the implementation of NDP, the KZN Legislature led the reference group of the National Speakers' Forum responsible for, amongst other issues, the establishment of a sector NDP Oversight Tool. Modelled around the KZN Legislature's approach and SOM mechanisms, a sector Committee Oversight Reporting template was produced for implementation in this sixth term. We are expecting Committees to report according to this template.

## Inter-legislature games



*Some Members of the 2018 KZN Legislature Team*

Honourable Members, in a quest to promote healthy lifestyle, the legislative sector holds annual inter-legislature games where Members and staff of Legislatures participates in various sporting codes.

These tournaments have proven to be very useful in promoting, not only healthier lifestyles, but also inculcating unity and cohesion of the legislative sector.

I am happy to report that the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature will host the 2019 inter-legislature games towards the end of November. We encourage Members to fully embrace these games as they go a long way in ensuring that we are physically fit to tackle our constitutional roles.

Honourable Chairperson, still on healthy lifestyle, we will be organizing a wellness day for all members of the Legislature. During this day, Honourable Members will be able to do free health screening and get valuable advice on how to keep themselves fit. We will do all these

interventions, whilst mindful of the limited funding that we have as the KZN Legislature.

## Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

KZN Legislature is a signatory and continues to play an active role in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and its structures. It is highlighted that issues of gender mainstreaming and rule of law featured strongly on the agenda of the CPA during the fifth term. These issues remain relevant to the Province and the entire Africa region.

The KZN Legislature sent delegations to attend three CPA conferences in Bangladesh, Nigeria and United Kingdom in 2017. In this regard, women were elected into leadership positions in both the CPA and CWP. Among those elected into CPA leadership were two South African women, namely, Hon. Lindiwe Maseko and Hon. Thoko Didiza who occupied the positions of Chairperson of the Africa Region and Chairperson CWP Africa Region respectively. It is worth noting that following the appointment of Minister Didiza into the cabinet of the Republic this post is now vacant.

As part of the CPA Africa Region programme, the KZN Legislature successfully hosted a two-day regional CWP workshop in January 2018 in the KwaDukuza Municipality. In pursuit of the objectives of CWP, the KZN Legislature went on to convene a successful International Women's Day celebration. The said celebration presented a platform for women in different sectors to share ideas and progress made in improving the quality of lives of women in their communities.

## High Level Panel Report

During the fifth Legislature, the National Speaker's Forum appointed an independent advisory body (High-Level Panel - HLP) to assess the effectiveness and rate of acceleration of change and transformation based on legislation passed by Parliament since 1994 with a primary focus on the following: -

- (i) The triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality;
- (ii) Creation of and equitable distribution of wealth;
- (iii) Land reform, restitution and security of tenure; and
- (iv) Nation building and social cohesion.

Chaired by former President, Kgalema Montlanthe and constituted by eminent South Africans, the HLP produced a report towards the end of the term that provided recommendations on cross-cutting issues to be considered by the sector going forward. The recommendations entailed the following issues: -

- (i) Education and income inequality for racial groups;
- (ii) The link between poor education and the high levels of unemployment;
- (iii) Continuing to place emphasis on Early Childhood Development (ECD) initiatives;
- (iv) Enhancing police and justice systems to deal with violence related to farm workers;
- (v) Improving rural enterprise development and sustainability of cooperatives, including possibly facilitating the amendment of the Cooperative Act to better address the needs of rural-based women. This will entail influencing the banking sector's business model to better fund cooperatives and township-based small business;
- (vi) Investigating the high concentration of Expanded Public Workers' (EPW)

Programmes in and around eThekweni/Durban area;

- (vii) The need to review the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act to enhance better realisation of the rights of people with disabilities; and
- (viii) Facilitating the means to enhance access to land for women and improve enforcement of laws enacted to defend security of tenure in communal areas.

Going into the sixth Legislature, the HLP report and its recommendations will be considered to inform oversight priorities and Committee targets.

## Capacity Building for Members

Through the sector, Members of KZN Legislature were in the past term, assisted to register and study with universities to enhance competencies in delivering on their mandate. Through this programme, Members obtained qualifications ranging from Continuous Education Programme certificates to Masters graduate certificates in courses that included African Studies, Governance and Public Leadership.

This programme will again be available to Members in this sixth term as regulated by the sector. I will therefore encourage all of us to take full advantage of this to enhance our capacity to deliver on our mandate. Further to this, in-house training workshops have been planned on Committee specific topics, including but not limited to SOM.

The Legislature will also be engaging with local academic tertiary institutions to explore further support in relation to capacity building for Members. Perhaps, it is opportune that I acknowledge the presence of Dr Sybert Mutereko from the School of Governance at UKZN who is one of the Speaker's guests today. This is the kind of partnership that we intend forging with academic institutions during this electoral term. We look forward to working

with you and other academic institutions as we take our Legislature to even greater heights.

## International Study Tours

As part of capacity building, the international study tour programme presents Members with opportunities to share best practices with counterparts in the Africa region and internationally, particularly on governance, law/policymaking and oversight practices.

During the fifth Legislature, an assessment report on the implementation of the study tour policy was made and tabled before Stacov. While the assessment report indicated that the intension of the programme remained relevant, it however identified areas of improvement including the need to amend the policy to:-

- (i) Create a special Committee to oversee the process of identifying and approving trip objectives, study tour visit programmes and relevant countries to be visited.
- (ii) Ensure early planning for study tours to be executed within the first two years of a term to ensure that Members still have time to utilise gained information before they leave the Legislature.

The draft study tour policy will therefore be processed for approval early this year to ensure that approved trips are executed before the third year of this term.

## Africa Day Celebrations

While on study tours, Honourable Members let me talk to our annual Africa Day Celebrations. This leadership of the sixth Legislature is resolute on ensuring that Africa Day Celebrations be used to conscientize our citizens that South Africa as a country belongs with the rest of African countries. The plight of women, children, youths and elderly in war-torn and economically broken sister African



countries should be a burden for us all. The success of our sister African countries needs to be seen as beneficial to us all as a continent.

Through these celebrations, our people should be given an opportunity to engage with their fellow brothers and sisters from sister African countries. It is at such fora that implications of regional and continental treaties may be discussed and fathomed by our people at a community levels. The opportunities that come with such treaties need to be shared with locals in an effort help them partner with government in executing our roles at a continental and regional level.

The ECOWAS countries are set to introduce a regional currency as part of implementing long term goals of the African Union (AU) on continental economic development. The dream of an African Continental Free Trade Area is fast becoming a reality with more and more major African countries signing in on this AU objective. The implications of these developments on the common citizen needs to be communicated to them so that they too can prepare to be part of the dream.

Honourable Members will know and recall

instances where bad spats of violence on foreign nationals threatened to taint our international image. As part of this Province's contribution in the implementation of our country's international relations policy, we will organise a symposium where continental, specialist and academic presenters will be invited to facilitate and share on matters of continental value.

## GOVERNANCE, AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

### Implementation of Financial Management of Parliament and Legislatures Act (FMPLA)

To entrench and protect the independence and autonomy of National Parliament and the Legislatures from the instruments of the Executive, the Financial Management of Parliament Act (FMPLA) was amended during the fifth Legislature to include all nine Legislatures in the country. This meant that the fifth term was an era of phasing in the implementation of the amended FMPLA and, as such, some of its clauses were not applicable. However, as we enter the sixth term, FMPLA is to be fully implemented.

While we will do our best in complying and implementing FMPLA and other prescripts, the Legislature commits to constructive engagements with the Standing Committee of Oversight (Stacov) in our quest for a clean administration. We will also enhance where required, our system on:-

- (i) Performance planning, monitoring and reporting
- (ii) Budgetary development and implementation particularly engagements between the Speaker and MEC for Finance on Legislature budget provisioning.

- (iii) Institutional policy reviews and implementation especially on Conditions of Service and other Human Resource policies.
- (iv) Risk and Internal audit processes including the Risk and Internal Audit Committee.

### Auditing of Committee Work and the Auditor-General

Honourable Members, I must at this juncture indicate to the House that the Legislature has always been getting positive audit outcomes particularly on reported performance information on our Budget Programme 2, which is Parliamentary Business. This is the Budget Programme that funds House business and Committee work as informed by mainly Committee Annual Oversight Plans (AOPs). As prescribed by Chapter 3, Sections 13, 14, and 15 of FMPLA, the audit of performance information has been done from an administration point of view.

What this means is that audits have been on what the administration wing does to provide support to the House and its Committees. However, this approach is swiftly changing in a manner that will now include auditing of direct performance against Committee AOPs. This change is motivated by the fact that the core business of the Legislature is better captured by Committee AOPs.

The implications of this are essentially that Committee Chairpersons will soon play an active and direct role during Committee performance information audits. It is therefore critical that with the support given by Committee Cluster Managers, Committee Chairpersons should ensure that:-

- (i) Committee performance is at least in terms of everything stated in the Committee AOP.
- (ii) Before signing off their monthly Committee performance information reports, required supporting documentation is properly recorded and

- filed.
- (iii) All Committee performance and expenditure reports due for tabling at Committee of Chairpersons are tabled religiously.
  - (iv) In terms of SOM, a record of Committee briefing meetings is kept with evidence of tablings made during such briefings.

To further enhance our pursuit of clean administration, we will in this sixth Legislature, amongst other issues, focus on the following: -

- (i) Errors, delays and inefficiencies in SAP implementation.
- (ii) Filling of critical vacant positions.
- (iii) Asset management: Safeguarding of assets.
- (iv) Compliance with all applicable legislation and policy prescripts.
- (v) Improving institutional culture through enforcing compliance with core values of the Legislature.
- (vi) Knowledge management: Implementing an adequate handover process when staff with critical skills leave the institution.
- (vii) Improve the process of information dissemination into the public domain,

- and
- (viii) Improve budget management: effectiveness of the Budget Committee.

## NEW GOVERNMENT PRECINCT

Honourable Chairperson, the Premier during the State of the Province address announced that plans were afoot for the building of a government precinct. Honourable Members would recall that the Legislature had to shelve its own plans of building a new legislature precinct due to the economic crunch which befell the world, and indeed our country, in 2010. When the plans were shelved, the Legislature was at the tail-end of awarding the building project to a successful bidder.

We are therefore very excited that the matter of building a government precinct is back on the table. Our space needs as the Legislature remain very dire because we currently operate in a National Heritage site which provides for no room for any major alterations. As the leadership of the Legislature we will make sure that we do not miss the boat in the plans that



the Premier announced. To this end, we will engage the Provincial Treasury and the Department of Public Works to ensure that our space and accommodation needs are considered and prioritised.

## SPEAKER'S SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMME

This programme is, by design, a partnership between the Speaker's Office and private sector donors wherein the Legislature intervenes to alleviate a needy situation in a community where it is morally justifiable to do so. In the fifth term, this programme: -

- (i) Provided school uniforms and sanitary towels to learners from needy families.
- (ii) Provided temporary relief food hampers to needy families.
- (iii) Assisted students from needy families in accessing NSFAS funding to attend universities.
- (iv) Assisted a homeless family in building a house
- (v) Assisted disabled persons with wheel chairs, refurbished computers and donated them to needy schools.

While the above approach will be followed, especially looking at e-learning in the context of the fourth industrial revolution, in this term, this programme will also focus on empowering new and upcoming community based organizations especially those dealing with our targeted stakeholders as mentioned earlier.



*Handing over School Uniforms*

# 2019/ 20 LEGISLATURE BUDGET

Chairperson, I now present the 2019/20 budget of the Legislature which is as follows: -

a)	Administration	R 211 088 Million
b)	Parliamentary Business	R 295 988 Million
c)	Direction Charge	R 91 680 Million
d)	Total Budget	R 598 756 Million

## Allocation by Economic Classification

For the 2019/20 Budget, the allocation by economic classification is as follows: -

a)	Compensation of employees	R 229 745 Million
b)	Members' Remuneration	R91 680 million
c)	Goods and Services	R156 448 Million
d)	Transfer and subsidies	R110 064 Million
e)	Payment for capital assets	R10 819 million
f)	Total Budget	R598 756 million

Honourable Chairperson, as can be seen from the above, the Legislature has a very limited budget to perform its constitutional mandate. We are therefore constantly exploring innovative interventions to ensure that our rand goes an extra mile. To this end, we will be looking at various interventions to ensure that our programmes are cost-effective. These interventions will invariably include a relook at all our outreach programmes such as Taking Legislature to the People, Sectoral Parliaments including the Official Opening of the Legislature to ensure that they are cost effective.

Honourable Members, if we are to be known for anything at all, we should be known for having put first our role as Public Representatives before any other interest. This we will achieve through exercising honest and dedicated oversight over government departments service delivery and breaking down the remaining yokes of segregation that manifest themselves through exclusion and stereotypes. These and other commitments including law making and enhanced public participation must take central seat in our work.

Chairperson, as I conclude, allow me to register my deepest appreciation to the Deputy Speaker Hon Ndobe, Legislature Secretary, Ms Naidoo, Management, entire administration and the leadership of the Legislature who came before us as they laid a solid foundation for this Legislature to march forth to that real activist, people-centred Legislature. To the people's movement, the ANC, thank you for having afforded me an opportunity to serve. Thank you, to the leaders of all parties in our House for your support and cooperation - the road we are on is better walked by all of us. Thank you, to the leadership of ANCWL, COSATU and SACP for having contributed to the building of the person I am today. To the leadership of the ANCYL and YCL I say, if I am found in any way to be short of the required task, know that your preparation of me was not complemented. To my siblings and kids niyayazi boMarubela and inakhaya xa ningekhoyo nina. We recommit ourselves to do even more during this term to make this Legislature and, indeed this august House to be a centre for democracy which posterity will be proud of.

I thank you.



# KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE

*AN ACTIVIST PEOPLE-CENTRED LEGISLATURE*

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