



KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE

AN ACTIVIST PEOPLE-CENTRED LEGISLATURE

[No. 11/2021] THIRD SESSION, SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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PROCEDURE

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THURSDAY, 20 MAY 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING: 11H15

VIRTUAL LINK B

INTRODUCTION (*at start of Budget debate*)

Presiding Officer

Prayer

Hon. Members, before we start can we please have a moment for silent prayer or meditation.

..... silence for a few moments ...

Thank you honourable Members.

Rules

Hon. Members, this is a Budget debate of the Legislature that we are conducting through virtual means. You are reminded that this budget debate will be conducted in terms of the Rules for virtual meetings, (which is applicable to all virtual meetings), read with our existing Standing Rules.

Quorum

The Rules for virtual meetings also define “present” as follows-

“present” means the attendance of a Member in a virtual meeting by electronic means in a manner that allows the Member to join and participate in the meeting.

Our Standing Rules further provide that a majority of the Members of a committee constitute a quorum. The Table staff have confirmed that we have the required number of Members present, in order to commence the session. The meeting is therefore properly constituted and may formally continue.

Connectivity

Members, before we proceed with the budget debate I must reiterate the ruling of the Speaker relating to addressing connectivity problems. The Speaker has ruled that the following measures will be adopted to try and assist Members who may not be able to participate due to connectivity issues.

1. If a Member has connectivity problems the presiding officer will continue with other speakers on the Speakers list for the debate. If the Member regains connectivity before the response to the debate has commenced, the presiding officer will be flexible in applying the Speakers list, and the Member will be allowed to continue and finalise his/her speech (as long as the Member reconnects prior to the commencement of the response to the debate).
2. Secondly, we also ask Members who are debating to allocate a fellow Party Member who will be able to take over the Member's speech and read the Member's speech into the record. Presiding officers will then allow the fellow Party Member to take over the Member's speech.

3. If all else fails and the Member is unable to present his/ her speech or to get another Party Member to take over, it is directed that the Member may submit his/her speech to the Secretary of the legislature and the speech will be included in the record of the debate.

If a Member does have connectivity problems we will follow the above guidance to try and assist Members. I hope that this is in order.

Members not debating are reminded at all times to mute their microphones and switch off their cameras. Also, Members are requested to take care of any noise in the background that interferes with the broadcast of proceedings.

Honourable Members I further wish to confirm that the Budget Report 2021/2022 of the Education Culture Portfolio Committee has been tabled in terms of the virtual rules.

We will now proceed with the matters on the agenda being the debate on Vote 5.

Presiding officer then proceeds with the debate on the Vote

At the end of the debate

Presiding officer

Thank you, Honourable Members, we have now come to the end of the debate on Vote 5.