



COMMITTEES

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THIRD TERM QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS AND EXECUTIVE UNDERTAKINGS FROM 21 JULY TO 23 SEPTEMBER 2015

The purpose of this quarterly report is to provide an account of the committee's work during the third term.

The report further seeks to provide an overview of all the activities the committee undertook during the Third Term of the Fifth Parliament, the outcome of key activities, as well as challenges that emerged during the period under review.

Lastly, the report attempts to summarise the key issues for follow-up and concludes with recommendations to strengthen the operational and procedural processes aimed at assisting the Committee to execute its dual mandate of considering petitions and overseeing the implementation of executive undertakings.

1. CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

The Committee faced a number of challenges in the Term under a review and these included the following:

- The backlog of inherited petitions from the Fourth Parliament;
- Executing its executive undertakings mandate in the absence of guidelines and rules pertaining to the mandate;
- The limited time allocated to the Committee for hearings on the petitions referred to it;

- The Committee currently shares its membership with two other considerably busy Committees in the NCoP (namely the Select Committee on Security and Constitutional Development and Select Committee on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs); and Departments and Municipalities.
 - The failure to attend petitions hearings by some relevant stakeholders, in particular Government entities such as Provincial and National
 - The introduction of the National Petitions Bill in Parliament
 - The adoption of the Petitions Guidelines (developed by the Committee) by the NCoP Sub-Committee on the Review of Rules.
 - The development and adoption of Executive Undertakings Guidelines by the Committee.
 - The Committee to undertake study tours to other relevant Parliaments in an effort to learn more about how best to carry out its executive undertakings mandate;
 - Committee to be allocated more time, in the NCoP Programme, to enable it to have more hearings on the inherited petitions and the petitions referred to it in the current Parliament.
- 3. Resource Required by the Committee**
- The Committee be allocated a Committee Assistance ;
 - The Committee be allocated a dedicated Committee Researcher;

- The Committee be given increased institutional support; and
- A Petitions Office be established in Parliament.

4. Progress

On 5 August the Committee adopted the set of Petition Guidelines it developed and subsequently referred the said Guidelines to the Sub-Committee on the Review of Rules in the NCOP for consideration and adoption.

The Committee has also developed (with the assistance of Parliament's Legal Drafting Unit) a draft National Petitions Bill and has also been advised on the legislative process the Bill is to follow if it is to be ultimately passed in the House.

In the quarter under review, the Committee has held a total of four hearings on petitions and is in the process of adopting 4 reports in relation to these hearings.

Date	Agenda	Adopted date
5 August 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuation of Hearing on Multi-A-Phofungi Petition (Petition from Mr Selelo B Gatobe and Mr Mokonea, Free State Province regarding the alleged illegal eviction by the Multi-A-Phofungi Municipality) 	21 August 2015
20 August 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearing on Bafokeeng Petition (Petition on the alleged gross human rights violations committed by the Bafokeeng Tribal Authority) 	02 September 2015
21 August 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tabling of the Fuzane report. Consideration and adoption of the following draft minutes of the: 13 May; 20 May; 26 May; 27 May and 03 June ; and 17 June 2015 	2015 2 September
2 September 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of draft Petitions Bill (legislative process presentation by Ms Swartz) Consideration and adoption of draft minutes of the:20 August and 21 August 2015 	2015 2015 2015
11 September 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tabling of Executive Undertakings from the following Ministers: Minister of Justice and Correctional Services; Minister of Higher Education and Training; Tabling of Multi-A-Phofungi Petition Report Hearing on Kona Petition (Petition calling for the NCOPs intervention on the upgrading of gravel roads to tar roads and construction of bridges in the Eastern Cape) Hearing on Transkei Road Transport Corporation (TRTC) (TRTC) Petition (Petition on upgrading of gravel roads to tar roads and construction of bridges in the Eastern Cape) 	2015

Total Number: 6

5. MEETINGS HELD BY THE COMMITTEE

	the alleged failure by the TRTC to pay pension monies and severance packages to former employees subsequent to its liquidation)	
23 September 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of Guidelines Pertaining to Executive Undertakings • Consideration of the fourth term Committee Programme • Consideration of the third term quartile report • Consideration and adoption of minutes and report 	

6. POSTPONED MEETINGS:

Date of meeting	Agenda	Reason for postponement
12 August 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing on Provincial House of Traditional Leaders Petition(Petition on the alleged failure by the provincial and national government to recognize the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders in the Western Cape • Consideration and adoption of draft outstanding reports and minutes of 05 August 2015 	The SC on COGTA requested the Committee to postpone it meeting because of an oversight visit to Makana local municipality in Eastern Cape Province.

Title of Executive Undertakings	Consideration date by the House	Adoption date	Referral date	Consideration date	19 June 2015	During the sitting of 04 June 2015, the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services undertook to follow up on the expansion on the mediation services to additional courts and this will happen as soon as the department has built sufficient capacity at courts to carry out the mediation.
Consideration date by the House	Adoption date	Referral date	Consideration date	19 June 2015	During the sitting of 09 June 2015, the Minister of Higher Education and Training undertook to follow up to establish a fully-fledged branch on adult education and community college headed by the deputy director-general. And to expand Higher Certificate targeting students who have not made it in matric to be able to bridge and go to university or colleges.	
Consideration date by the House	Adoption date	Referral date	Consideration date	19 June 2015	During the sitting of 26 May 2015, the Minister of Small Business Development made the following undertakings: The 30 day payments delay for SMEs and co-operative will be looked at in partnership with the Minister of Monitoring and Evaluation. The department also undertook to expedite the implementation of the National Informal Business Upliftment Strategy called Nibus.	
						During the sitting of 26 May 2015, the Minister of Social Development made the following undertakings: The department this year will continue to extend Early

13. Executive Undertakings referred for consideration and report

childhood development (ECD) services to children in the zero to five years age cohort and increase the number of registered ECD facilities. And will establish additional 81 projects and train more than 2000 child and youth care workers.

awaiting
Executive
Undertakings
Guidelines

