

REPORT OF THE MULTI-PARTY WOMEN'S CAUCUS ON ITS ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE 6TH PARLIAMENT BETWEEN JUNE 2019 TO MARCH 2024

A STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

In 2019, the Multi-Party Women's Caucus agreed to its focus areas that would inform its work programme for a five – year period. These were Women, Security and Justice, Women in Politics, Women, Health, and Education., and Women and the Economy. Additionally, the Committee also identified gender-based violence and femicide as a principal area of concern and endeavoured to foster impactful relationships with all critical stakeholders. The Committee was allocated one Thursday per month for the full complement of the Multi- Party Women's Caucus to meet and conduct its activities. The Steering Committee would meet more regularly to guide the activities of the Committee.

Whilst the Committee does not have formal oversight responsibilities over any government departments and entities, it is a social activism based structure which held a series of briefings with a range of stakeholders including government departments, relevant to the well-being and service delivery to women. Through these engagements the Committee could positively contribute to how matters affecting women were considered both within the legislature, and government departments responsible for developing public policy, planning and allocation of resources. Through the implementation of its work programme, the Committee was able to draw attention to the interventions required for women to be able to participate meaningfully in the economy, have access to safe and affordable public health care (including reproductive and sanitary healthcare), are not vulnerable to any form of exploitation and violence, and have access to quality education.

Performance against strategic focus areas:

With a focus on *Women, Justice, and Security* the committee:

- Lobbied for a parliamentary oversight framework where various parliamentary committees were expected to report quarterly on GBVF matters dealt with, and the Multi- Party Women's Caucus formed part of the multi- committees that were expected to report quarterly.
- Intensified efforts to ensure implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence and Femicide (NSP), by regularly engaging with various stakeholders tasked with implementation of the various pillars of the NSP.
- Made input on GBVF Bills that were before the Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services.
- Intensified efforts to ensure provision of victim responsive and sensitive services by various stakeholders.
- Engaged with all relevant justice cluster departments to ascertain the state's readiness to effectively implement GBVF-related legislation,
- Developed and adopted a gender- based violence and femicide action plan aimed at empowering communities about GBVF laws, programmes, and resources.
- Women's access and experience of the justice system was also under scrutiny through series of meetings convened to discuss matters relating to police reporting and investigation of crimes/abuse, availability of victim friendly facilities; DNA backlogs; the challenges of the current maintenance system; establishment of Thuthuzela care centres; and the establishment of sexual offences courts.
- It should be noted that the Committee agreed to allow the Department of Justice and Correctional Services to conclude the work it was undertaking recently on sex work, with an aim of submitting a Bill regarding sex work in Parliament, wherein the Committee would be able to input after engaging with various stakeholders on sex work.

Per the work done relating to *Women in Politics*, the committee:

Adopted with amendments on 27 March 2024

- Conducted an introductory workshop on Gender Responsive Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring, Evaluation and Auditing Framework
- and tried to intervene in matters affecting women parliamentarians and the sexual reproductive benefits and services available through the PARMED medical aid scheme
- the absence of legislated quotas was acknowledged to increase number of women participating in politics, hence it constantly encouraged all women members from different political parties to lobby their political parties to adopt programmes to increase the number of women in party lists for legislatures and municipal councils.
- the Committee engaged with the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities about efforts to review and strengthen the national gender machinery.
-

In terms of the *Women, Health, and Education* priority, the Committee:

- engaged with the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities about challenges facing various Provinces in provision of sanitary products to indigent young women;
- engaged with Statistics SA and Department of Health about the state of women's health in South Africa; and
- engaged with various stakeholders including the Department of Education and Department of Health about availability of interventions, support, access to appropriate health care programmes for pregnant children/teenaged learners.

Per the *Women and Economy* focus area, the Committee:

- engaged with the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities about implementation of Gender Responsive Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring, Evaluation and Auditing Framework.
- encouraged the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with disabilities to ensure that producers of sanitary products are women.
- Continuously lobbied for implementation of the 40% set aside in favour of women owned business for all government procurement.
- Engaged with Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities on establishment of a Cooperative banking institution for women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

Challenges

It should be noted that the Committee could not implement either its action plan on gender-based violence and femicide, embark on planned public

awareness campaigns in collaboration with local municipal councils and provincial counter parts, nor able to conduct an international study tour.

This is due to frequent changes in the parliamentary calendar and unsuccessful attempts to secure approval for such activities. Furthermore, poor attendance of activities of the Multi-Party Women's Caucus had a negative impact on the Committee's image, programmes, and impact within Parliament and amongst women parliamentarians.

Matters that require follow-up in the 7th Parliament

- The 7th MPWC should consider lobbying Parliament to adopt a gender responsive oversight model to be implemented by all parliamentary committees. This is to ensure that gender mainstreaming programmes are implemented by all government departments and entities.
- The implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide remains critical, and continuous oversight over its implementation is recommended so that intervention and implementation challenges are timeously resolved. The decriminalisation of

sex work remains outstanding, and the Committee should monitor the progress made with the development of legislation aimed at the decriminalisation of sex work.

- The revival and strengthening of the national gender machinery should also be prioritised.
- Greater effort to foster closer working relationships and collaboration with provincial legislature and local municipal councils' women's caucuses, and to assist with the establishment of provincial legislature and local municipal councils' caucuses.
- To consider lobbying and advocating for gender sensitive Parliament, as well as ensuring availability of family friendly facilities within Parliament, such as day care centres, as well as gender sensitivity in scheduling of Parliamentary programmes in terms of times of sitting of the Houses and committee meetings to ensure safety of women Members.
- To lobby and advocate for policies that are both gender and youth responsive, to cater for needs of young/youth members of parliament especially in terms of taxation and provision of medical aids.
- The next MPWC to take the issue of taxation burden on surviving spouse /widows by engaging with widows to understand their lived experiences with regards to taxation burden, and, to consider influencing relevant committees for the amendment of taxation laws to ease taxation burden on widows.
- To address poor attendance of activities and meetings of the Multi- Party Women's Caucus by engaging in awareness raising and garnering support of all represented political parties.
- To address the issue of international study tours and engage the 7th term House Chairpersons as early as possible about the importance of undertaking study tours by the MPWC to learn and share best practises.
- To consider reviewing Joint Rule 137 about the minimum number of women members attendees required for MPWC meetings to quorate.

1. Introduction

This document is prepared in compliance with parliamentary requirements and details the work of the committee performed over a five-year period, from 2019 to 2024. The final adopted version will be published in the parliamentary papers for formal and public record.

2. Objectives of the report

2.1 The LegacyReport of the Multi-Party Women's Caucus for the period 2019-2024, has the following overarching objectives:

- 2.1.1 it is a hand-over report which may assist the next Committee and support team with their initial planning and programming:An outline of major outcomes and challenges, as well as all matters and decisions that require follow-up action by the next committee is provided;
- 2.1.2 it provides the best practices and lessons learnt from the current session,
- 2.1.3 aims to further strengthen the institutional memory of both Parliament and the Committee, since it provides an important account of the functioning and work of the women's caucus over the current five-year period. and
- 2.1.4 may contribute to a seamless transition from one parliamentary term to the next.

3. Committee mandate and functions

- 3.1 The Multi-Party Women's Caucus comprises all women parliamentarians, and is considered a joint committee, i.e. membership comprises women parliamentarians from both National Assembly (NA) and the National Council of Provinces (NCOP). Its mandate and work are governed by the Joint Rules of Parliament, specifically JR 137 G-L.
- 3.2 The Committee's principal mandate is to function as an advisory and consultative body with specific powers, i.e.:
- it must represent the specific interests and concerns of women parliamentarians.
 - it must promote discussion on women's issues in Parliament.
 - it makes submissions to portfolio and select committees charged with oversight of women's issues either at request of those committees or on its own initiative;
 - contributes to the deepening of parliamentary work and activities through introducing a gender perspective to parliamentary work;
 - engages on development and empowerment issues with women in similar political structures beyond Parliament and female members from other Parliaments, both continentally and internationally, and
 - considers any matter referred to it by either House.

4. Departments and entities falling within the committee's portfolio.

- 4.1 The Multi-Party Women's Caucus is primarily an advisory and influencing body and has no oversight responsibilities over any government department. However, the Committee as a social activism-based structure, established working relationships with government departments, entities, and other non-governmental structures. Through a series of engagements with these stakeholders, the Committee was able to influence policies, legislation and interventions developed to positively impact the well-being, safety, and empowerment of the most vulnerable South Africans.
- 4.2 Women's caucus members participate actively in all other oversight committees of parliament (portfolio, select and joint committees), and intended to raise greater parliamentary awareness of matters affecting women. Whilst such participation has to a limited degree provided a gendered perspective and oversight of government activities, parliament must review its Oversight and Accountability model to ensure that parliamentary committees follow clear standards to conduct parliamentary oversight in a more gender-sensitive manner. Such a significant intervention would ultimately ensure that the delivery of services have a meaningful and transformative impact on society.

5. Standard work practices and methods

- 5.1 The Committee's work is guided by an elected steering committee, comprising of five members in addition to the chairperson and deputy chairperson. The steering committee ensures that the committee programmes reflect the decisions, concerns, and voice of the greater women's caucus.
- 5.2 The Committee performs its tasks in accordance with an oversight programme which is broadly aligned to the parliamentary programme, parliamentary committees' focus areas for each term, and adopted committee documents (plans, minutes, and reports).
- 5.3 The Committee's activities were based on the following agreed upon broad thematic areas with specified areas of focus:
- *Women, Security, and Justice*: Gender Based Violence and Femicide, decriminalisation of sex work.
 - *Women in Politics*: Capacity building initiatives for women members of parliament; lobbying for increase in number of women participating and representation in politics and strengthening of national gender machinery.
 - *Women, Health, and Education*: Sanitary dignity programme and raising awareness about health of women.

- *Women and Economy*: Gender responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring, evaluation and auditing framework, and women empowerment initiatives.
- 5.4 In addition to the above, the Committee identified gender-based violence and femicide as an urgent priority area and adopted a specific action plan in this regard. The GBVF Action Plan was intended to intensify and support parliamentary oversight over the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide, as well as to conduct public awareness campaigns about legislation and services available to victims. In addition to the above, the Committee made input, comments, and recommendations on GBVF draft legislation to combat and protect women against abuse and sexual exploitation. processed by Parliament.

6. Key statistics

6.1 The table below provides an overview of the number of meetings held, legislation and international agreements processed, and the number of oversight trips and study tours undertaken by the Committee, as well as any statutory appointments the Committee made, during the 6th Parliament:

6.1.1 Committee meetings

Meeting held by	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Steering Committee of the MPWC	05	09	03	03	05	02	27
Full Sessions of the Multi-Party Women's Caucus	07	10	09	08	06	02	42
							69

6.1.2 Other committee activities

Activity	2019	2020	2021/	2022	2023	2024	Total

Legislation -related interactions	01	01	0	02	01	0	05
Oversight trips undertaken.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Study tours undertaken.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
International agreements processed	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Statutory appointments made.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Interventions considered.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Petitions considered	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

7. Stakeholders:

The Committee considers government departments, state agencies, provincial legislatures, local municipal councils, civil society organisations, women formations, and research institutions as important stakeholders. Regrettably, interactions with particularly local and provincial counterparts, civil society organisations and research institutions had not been actively involved in programmed activities and interaction had been limited.

8. Briefings and/or public hearings.

8.1 The Committee engaged with relevant stakeholders regarding the following:

8.1.1 The implementation of NSP on GBVF; and the state interventions relating to gender-based violence and femicide, and the state's readiness to effectively implement GBVF-related legislation. Women's access and experience of the justice system was also under scrutiny through series of meetings convened to discuss matters relating to police reporting and investigation of crimes/abuse, court and DNA backlogs, the challenges of the current maintenance system, establishment of Thuthuzelacare centres, and the establishment of sexual offences courts.

8.1.2 Implementation of gender responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring, evaluation and auditing framework towards the establishment of gender responsive planning and budgeting and processes.

8.1.3 The well-being and development of women are compromised without access to reliable and safe healthcare and related support services. In this regard, the Committee held series of interactions with relevant stakeholders on matters relating to sanitary dignity, support, and access to appropriate healthcare for pregnant learners as well medical support for victims of sexual violence.

9. Legislation

9.1 None. The Committee does not process legislation but made input offour (04) GBVF Bills processed by the justice and correctional services portfolio committee.

10. Oversight trips undertaken

10.1 None. The Committee's attempt to undertake oversight visits had been unsuccessful.

11. International Study Tours undertaken

11.1 None. The Committee's attempt to undertake an international study tour had been turned down. A key reason for this decision was that the women's caucus was not an oversight committee and that its members are members of various parliamentary committees that may undertake study tours. The Committee asserts that women's caucus members would benefit from conducting a study tour specific to its mandate and responsibilities, particularly interacting with women parliamentarians and international stakeholders from different countries and legislative contexts who are also tasked with running and participating in parliamentary women's caucuses.

11.2 A study tour is a valuable tool a parliamentary committee can use to build on and improve its understanding of its portfolio, and to better its capacity to executeits mandate effectively. International benchmarking assists a committee in comparing and setting its oversight standards and objectives.

11.3 The Committee's efforts to undertake study tours had been frustrated by factors ranging from frequent changes to the parliamentary programme, funding challenges, and declined applications. The Committee has thus not undertaken any study tour between 2019 and 2024 despite applying to undertake such activities and intervention by the Committee Chairperson.

12. International Agreements

12.1 None.

13. Statutory appointments

13.1 None

14. Interventions

14.1 None

15. Petitions

15.1 None

16. Obligations conferred on Committee by legislation:

16.1 None.

17. Summary of outstanding issues.

The following key issues are outstanding from the Committee's activities during the 6th Parliament:

Issue	Recommendation
Gender mainstreaming	<p>Parliament must adopt standards and requirements for parliamentary committees to exercise their oversight responsibilities in a more gender-sensitive manner. Gender mainstreaming is critical to ensure the effective exercise and evaluation of the impact government policies, planning and spending have on all South Africans without the exclusion of women.</p> <p>In line with the above, the Multi-Party Women's Caucus should consider following an agreed upon strategy to guide women's caucus members' participation in parliamentary committees, to actively pursue a gendered approach to the interrogation of government planning, spending and delivery of public services.</p>
Implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence and Femicide	Parliament must ensure the continuous monitoring of the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence's by parliamentary committees to ensure the timeous intervention to resolve any challenges in this regard
Decriminalisation of sex work	Policy and legislative reforms to ensure legal protection of sex workers and unlimited access to justice and critical health services, are overdue and the women's caucus should consider monitoring the progress made towards the development of legislation pertaining to sex work, whilst addressing the challenges thoseworking in this industry.
National Gender Machinery	The establishment and functioning of a strong and well-resourced gender-machinery is critical to ensure progress made towards advancing the empowerment of all women. Significant work is required to ensure that government, civil society and parliamentary structures are well capacitated to lead efforts to combat

Issue	Recommendation
	<p>gender discrimination as well as to productively work towards gender equality.</p> <p>The draft legislation on the promotion of women's rights, empowerment and gender equality is a long overdue matter and its finalisation, processing and implementation must be prioritised.</p>
<p>Greater alignment between national women's caucus, SALGA Women's Commission, provincial and local women's caucuses</p>	<p>Greater effort must be made to foster closer working relationships and collaboration with provincial and local women's caucuses, and to assist with the establishment of provincial and local caucuses.</p>
<p>The National Multi-Party Women's Caucus must play leading role in developing parliamentary programme.</p>	<p>The women's caucus must play an active role in developing parliamentary programme and should play a lead role in the programming and planning of women focussed parliamentary activities such as the Women's Parliament and any other related matters.</p>
<p>Violence and Sexual Exploitation of women and young girls in religious and cultural institutions</p>	<p>Religious and cultural institutions often fail to protect women and young girls from horrific violence and exploitation perpetrated by predators active in religious and cultural contexts. This requires further investigation, intervention and regulation by relevant government departments and agencies.</p>
<p>Establishing a cooperative bank for women, youth and persons with disabilities</p>	<p>The Multi-Party Women's Caucus supports the Department of Women, Youth and Persons's with Disabilities' efforts in establishing a cooperative bank that would benefit women, youth and persons with disabilities. It is recommended that the incoming committee deliberates more with key stakeholders on the membership/investment requirements of such a financial institution, particularly the requirement that an investor must be a member of a recognized association. This may limit participation by individuals wishing to join the cooperative.</p>
<p>Parmed Medical Aid Scheme benefits structure requires review.</p>	<p>The incoming committee should seek intervention to ensure that the medical aid scheme amends its benefits structure to ensure that women members have greater access to sexual and reproductive health benefits and services. The benefits structure requires reform to limit current unfairness/discrimination, whilst the high membership fees should also be reconsidered. Despite the Committee's attempts to seek resolution on the above matters, Parmed was unwilling to appear before the Committee and to provide at the very least written responses to matters raised.</p>

Issue	Recommendation
Review of current taxation laws that may harm the financial well-being of widows/surviving spouses.	The incoming committee, together with the relevant finance committees, should consider the review of current taxation laws that govern the taxation of spousal pensions to ensure that survivors are not financially adversely affected by tax requirements. Greater public education on relevant taxation laws must be considered to ensure public access to, and awareness of, appropriate information in this regard.
Review of parliamentary rules relating to the functioning of the women's caucus	The incoming committee should consider whether JR 137 requires review to increase the threshold required for the committee to both make decisions and meet. It is recommended that the standard quorum be set in accordance with formula applied to other parliamentary committees (50 percent plus 1).
Parliament's participation in regional bodies, and its impact on Parliament's legislative and oversight responsibilities.	Parliament participates in various regional and international bodies. The incoming Committee should advocate for an improved parliamentary mechanism to determine how international agreements and commitments impact on policies and legislation, as well as parliament's oversight and accountability responsibilities. Whilst the SADC Parliamentary Forum has developed a Model Law on Gender-based Violence and Femicide a formal mechanism through which parliamentary committees may consider both the implications of the model law on domestic policies and legislation, as well as make formal proposals for report-back to the forum by our Parliament, is not in place.
Greater access to quality mental health services and support	The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines mental health as " <i>a state of well-being in which the individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.</i> " Both men and women face varied societal expectations and pressures and coupled with the gendered impact and lived experiences of poverty, exploitation, and abuse, it is expected that the mental health of both women and men would suffer. Interventions to ensure free access to quality mental healthcare services and support merit further investigation.
The development of the boy child, and the development of healthy masculinity	Whilst the Multi-Party Women's Caucus should focus on issues affecting women, it has a broader focus of influencing policies, legislation, and spending towards the achievement of greater gender equality. In this context, the incoming committee should advocate for interventions that support the positive development of boys and their masculinity.
The private sector as a partner in the development and empowerment of women	The private sector is an important source of expertise and resources to be harnessed for the greater public good. The 7th administration should forge practical and solid social compact, through public-private partnerships, for the funding and sponsorship of programs and projects aimed at the empowerment of women, those living with disabilities and young girls. Given the above, it is critical that Parliament extends its oversight to the private sector.

18. Other matters referred by the Speaker/Chairperson

No referral for the current MPWC, but a notion that was referred by the National Assembly to the fifth Parliament MPWC, and, recommended to the 6th MPWC, has not been implemented. The referral was aimed at the development and implementation of programmes to address abuse and exploitation of women in religious and cultural institutions.

19. Recommendations

The below recommendations relate to matters impacting on the work, and functioning of the MPWC:

19.1 General recommendations

19.1.1 Parliamentary Committees must be appropriately resourced.

Although mindful of budgetary constraints, it is recommended that committees are allocated budgets according to their planned oversight activities, including oversight visits, study tours and public education initiatives. Parliament should improve the management of funds allocated to undertake study tours. Funding such activities through a common consolidated fund has had many challenges. Greater transparency in the allocation of resources and accountability of spending would greatly improve planning and would avoid unnecessary tension between committees and particularly the office(s) of the House Chairperson(s).

19.1.2 Parliament should review its oversight and accountability model to ensure standards for parliamentary committee to conduct oversight in a gender-sensitive manner.

Parliament must adopt standards and requirements for parliamentary committees to exercise their oversight responsibilities in a more gender-sensitive manner. Gender mainstreaming is critical to ensure the effective exercise and evaluation of the impact government policies, planning and spending have on all South Africans without the exclusion of women.

19.1.3 The implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender based violence requires well- coordinated parliamentary oversight.

Parliament must ensure the continuous monitoring of the implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-based Violence's by parliamentary committees to ensure the timeous intervention to resolve any challenges in this regard. Parliamentary committees must adopt and implement a coordinated oversight strategy to monitor the NSP's implementation and combat gender-based violence and femicide.

19.1.4 Greater transparency in the standards and criteria set for international study tours.

The House Chairpersons of Committees should at the start of the 7th Parliament confirm the standards and criteria to be used to consider a parliamentary committee's study tour application. These standards and criteria should be confirmed in writing to all parliamentary committees and tabled for consideration, or at the very least, shared with all committee chairpersons.

It is further recommended that Parliament mends its relationship with DIRCO (Department of International Relations and Cooperation), particularly as it relates to support given to committees in the planning and logistical support provided prior to an international study tour. Greater effort must be made to ensure that Parliament settles all financial obligations through DIRCO timeously, without delaying the reimbursements for costs incurred.

19.2 The Committee mandate and functioning

19.2.1 A common understanding of the women's caucus mandate should be established.

The incoming committee should develop and lobby for a common understanding of its mandate, scope and role both amongst committee members and particularly within Parliament. This lack of common understanding often resulted in committee activities (such as international study tours and other local activities) not being approved. It is advisable that the women's caucus is involved in the development of the parliamentary programme, and that party caucuses consider the meeting times and women's caucus activities when planning their parliamentary calendar.

19.2.2 Committee Strategic and Annual Plans should be developed and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

It is recommended that the incoming committee agrees to the five-year overarching strategic oversight priorities and guiding principles within the first three months of its work. It is further recommended that, based on its strategic document, annual plans are adopted and reviewed on a quarterly basis to assess the degree to which strategic objectives are implemented. Such an evaluation would be helpful in timeously addressing any challenges which may be detrimental to achieving committee goals.

In line with the above, the Multi-Party Women's Caucus should consider following an agreed upon strategy to guide women's caucus members' participation in parliamentary committees, to actively pursue a gendered approach to the interrogation of government planning, spending and delivery of public services.

19.2.3 International study tours

The incoming Committees should identify and agree on the focus areas and countries to which a study tour would be undertaken no later than the second year of its term. This will allow enough time to pursue and implement recommendations emanating from this activity by the Committee, National Assembly, government departments and relevant entities/agencies.

19.2.4 Interventions required to address poor attendance and lack of interest in the work of the Multi- Party Women's Caucus

Chronic poor attendance and lack of interest in the work of the Multi-Party Women's Caucus have had a detrimental impact on the Committee's support and impact within Parliament and amongst women parliamentarians. The incoming committee may consider embarking on awareness raising campaign within Parliament to garner support for the work and create common understanding of how the women's caucus work relates and compliments the overall parliamentary oversight function.

Whilst the steering committee attempted to meet, poor attendance, owing to members varied parliamentary responsibilities, had resulted in the postponement and cancellation of critical meetings. The incoming committee should consider best possible method of work that would ensure that the steering committee functions optimally for it to effectively guide and plan the work of the greater caucus.

19.2.5 Review of the joint rules relating to the functioning of the multi-party women's caucus

The incoming committee should consider whether JR 137 requires review to increase the threshold required for the committee to both make decisions and meet. It is recommended that the standard quorum be set in accordance with formula applied to other parliamentary committees (50 percent plus 1).

19.2.6 The Multi-Party Women's Caucus must play a leading role in developing parliamentary programme.

The women's caucus must play an active role in developing parliamentary programme and should play a lead role in the programming and planning of women focussed parliamentary activities such as the Women's Parliament and any other related matters.

19.2.7 Committee focus areas.

It is also recommended that the incoming Committee to consider including the following focus areas as part of the activities to be embarked on:

- Lobby Parliament to adopt a gender responsive oversight model to be implemented by all parliamentary Committees.
- Ensure continuous oversight over implementation of the National Strategic Plan on Gender Based violence and femicide as well as effective implementation of GBVF legislation.
- Address the issue pertaining to sex workers and monitor the development of legislation protecting the rights, safety and well-being of sex workers
- Lobby for a gender sensitive Parliament that caters for needs women in terms of facilities, policies adopted, scheduling of parliamentary program, as well as support and capacity building for all women members of parliament.
- Address the plight of widows pertaining to taxation burden caused by spouse annuity.

End.

MEMBERSHIP**1. Steering Committee members**

NAME	DESIGNATION
Ms NK Bilankulu	Chairperson
Ms MD Hkengwa	Deputy Chairperson
Ms MR Semanya	Member
Ms G Tseke	Member
Mr KB Tlhomelang	Member
Ms N Sharif	Member
Dr S Thembekwayo	Member
Ms Z Nkomo	Committee Whip (majority party)
Ms NC Ndaba	Chairperson: Portfolio Committee on Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities
Ms F Masiko	Committee Whip (Majority Party) for PC Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

SURNAME	NAMES
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	
ABRAHAM	PHOEBE NOXOLO
ADAMS	RACHEL CECILIA
ADOONS	NOMBUYISELO GLADYS
BEUKES ¹⁷	ALEXANDRA JENNIFER
BILANKULU	NKHENSANI KATE
BOROTO	MMATLALA GRACE
CAPA	ROSEMARY NOKUZOLA
CHIKUNGA	LYDIA SINDISIWE
CREECY	BARBARA DALLAS
DIDIZA	ANGELA THOKOZILE
DIREKO	DIKELEDI ROSEMARY

SURNAME	NAMES
DLAKUDE	DORRIES EUNICE
DLAMINI-ZUMA	NKOSAZANA CLARICE (Dr)
DLULANE	BEAUTY NOMVUZO
DUNJWA	MARY-ANN LINDELWA
GANTSHO	NQABISA
GELA	ANNAH
GINA	NOMALUNGELO
GOMBA	MATSHIDISO MELINA
HAVARD ⁴³	XIAOMEI
HERMANS ¹³	JUDY
HLONGO	ALTIA STHEMBILE
KEKANA	PINKY SHARON
KHUMALO ²	FIKILE EUNICE
KIBI	MIRRIAM THENJIWE
KIVIET	NOXOLO
KOTA-MPEKO	ZOLISWA ALBERTINA
KUBAYI	MMAMOLOKO TRYPHOSA
KUBHEKA	NOMSA JOSEPHINA
LEGWASE	TIDIMALO INNOCENTIA
LESOMA	REGINA MINA MPONTSENG
LUBENGO	MARUBINI LOURANE
MABE	BERTHA PEACE
MABILETSA	MAIDI DOROTHY
MAFU	NOCAWE NONCEDO

SURNAME	NAMES
MAHAMBEHLALA	TANDI
MAHLO	NHLAGONGWE PATRICIA
MAJODINA	PEMMY CASTELINA PAMELA
MAKHUBELA-MASHELE	LUSIZO SHARON
MAKHUBELE-MARILELE ^{10,h}	PONANI PETUNIA
MALINGA	VALENTIA THOKOZILE
MALOMANE	VUYISILE PROMISE
MANANISO	JANE SEBOLETSWE
MANELI	SINDISWA THELMONIA
MANGANYE	JANE
MAPISA-NQAKULA	NOSIVIWE NOLUTHANDO
MAREKWA	GOBONAMANG PRUDENCE
MASEKO-JELE	NOMATHEMBA HENDRIETTA
MASHEGO-DLAMINI	KWATI CANDITH
MASIKO ¹⁴	FIKILE ANDISWA
MASONDO	THABILE SYLVIA
MATUBA	MOOKGO MARIA
MBATHA	SIMPHIWE GCWELE NOMVULA
MBINQO-GIGABA	BONGIWE PRICILLA
MCHUNU	THEMBEKA VUYISILE BUYISILE
MGWEBA	TELISWA
MHAULE	MAKGABO REGINAH (Dr)
MJOBO ¹²	LINDIWE NTOMBIKAYISE
MKHATSHWA	NOMPENDULO THOBILE
MKHWANAZI	JABULILE CYNTHIA NIGHTINGALE
MOATSHE	RAESIBE MARTHA

SURNAME	NAMES
MODISE	MOLEBOHENG
MODISE	THANDI RUTH
MOLEKWA	MATHEDI ASNATH
MOLOI	BOITUMELO ELIZABETH
MOROANE	MATLANATSO LYDIA
MOTAUNG	NOMASONTO EVELYN
MOTHAPO	MADIPOANE REFILOE MOREMADI
MOTSHEKGA	MATSIE ANGELINA
MPUSHE	PHUMEZA THEODORA
MTHEMBU	ALICE HLEBANI
MVANA	NONKOSI QUEENIE
NDABA	CLAUDIA NONHLANHLA
NDABENI-ABRAHAMS	STELLA TEMBISA
NEWHOUDT-DRUCHEN	WILMA SUSAN
NKABANE	NOBUHLE PAMELA (Dr)
NKOMO	ZANELE
NOTHNAGEL	JEANINE (Dr)
NTOBONGWANA	NOLITHA
NTSHAVHENI	KHUMBUDZO PHOPHI SILENCE
NTULI	MAKHONI MARIA
NTWANE	JOHLINE CHRISTINE (Dr)
PANDOR	GRACE NALEDI MANDISA (Dr)
PATREIN	SIPHOKUHLE
PEACOCK	NTAOLENG PATRICIA
PETERS	ELIZABETH DIPUO

SURNAME	NAMES
PHETLHE	PHORI ANGELINE
PHIRI	CAROL MOKGADI
PIETERSEN	MAGDALENE LOUISA
PILANE-MAJAKE	MAKGATHATSO CHARLOTTE CHANA
RAMADWA	MATODZI MIRRIAM
RAMOKGOPA	MAROPENE LYDIA
RAMOLOBENG	ANTHEA
SEMENYA	MACHWENE ROSINA
SHABALALA	LIZZIE FIKELEPHI
SIBIYA	DUDUZILE PATRICIA
SIHLWAYI	NOMADEWUKA NANCY
SIWEYA	RHULANI THEMBI
SOTYU	MAKHOTSO MAGDELINE
SWARTS	BERNICE
TLHOMELANG	KEITUMETSE BRIDGETTE
TLHAPE ¹¹	MANKETSI MAMOABI EMILY
TOBIAS	THANDI VIVIAN
TOLASHE	NOKUZOLA GLADYS
TSEKE	GRACE KEKULU
TSHABALALA	JUDITH
TSHWETE	BUSISIWE
TSHWETE	PAMELA
TYOBEKA-MAKEKE	NOZIPHO PAULINA
VAN SCHALKWYK	SHAROME RENAY
XABA-NTSHABA	PHINDISILE PRETTY

SURNAME	NAMES
XEGO	SHEILLA TEMBALAM
ZIBULA	BEAUTY THULANI
ZULU	LINDIWE DAPHNE
ZUMA	AUDREY SBONGILE
ZUNGU	THANDIWE ROSE MARRY
DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE	
ABRAHAMS	
ALEXANDER	WENDY ROBYN
BODLANI	TSHOLOFELO
BREYTENBACH	GLYNNIS (Adv)
CLARKE	MICHÉLE ODETTE
GONDWE	MIMMY MARTHA
GRAHAM	SAMANTHA JANE
GWARUBE	SIVIWE
HICKLIN	MADELEINE BERTINE
ISMAIL	HASEENABANU
KHAKHAU	KARABO LERATO
KHANYILE	THEMBISILE ANGEL
KHUMALO	NTOMBI VALENCIA (Dr)
KING	CHANTEL VALENCIA
KOHLER	DIANNE
LOTRIET	ANNELIE (Dr)
MASANGO	BRIDGET STAFF
MAZZONE	NATASHA WENDY ANITA

SURNAME	NAMES
MBABAMA	THANDEKA MOLOKO
OPPERMAN	GIZELLA
PHILLIPS	CHERYL
POWELL	EMMA LOUISE
SHARIF	NAZLEY KHAN
SPIES	ELEANORE ROCHELLE JACQUELENE
TARABELLA MARCHESI	NOMSA INNOCENCIA
VAN DYK	VERONICA
VAN MINNEN	BENEDICTA MARIA
VAN ZYL	ANNA MARIA
WEBER	ANNERIE MARIA MAGDALENA
WILSON	EVELYN RAYNE
WINKLER	HANNAH SHAMEEMA
ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS	
ARRIES	LAETITIA HELOISE
CHIRWA	NALEDI NOKUKHANYA
HLONYANA	KHONZIWE NTOKOZO FORTUNATE
KHAWULA	MAKOTI SIBONGILE
KOMANE	ROSINA NTSHETSANA
MADOKWE	PHIWABA
MAKESINI	MANDISA
MAOTWE	OMPHILE MANKOBA CONFIDENCE
MARAI	PAULNITA
MASHABELA	NGWANAMAKWETLE RENEILOE

SURNAME	NAMES
MATHULELWA	BABALWA
MENTE	NTOMBOVUYO VERONICA
MKHALIPHI	HLENGIWE OCTAVIA
MKHONTO	CONSTANCE NONHLANHLA
MOHLALA	MATHIBE REBECCA
MOKGOTHO	SHIRLEY MOTSHEGOANE
MOTSEPE	CILIESTA CATHERINE SHOANA
MSANE	THEMBI PORTIA
NOLUTSHUNGU	NONTANDO JUDITH
NTLANGWINI	ELSABE NATASHA
SIWISA	ANNACLETA MATHAPELO
SONTI	NOKULUNGA PRIMROSE
TAFENI	NOLUVUYO
THEMBEKWAYO	SUZAN SOPHIE (Dr)
TITO	LORATO FLORENCE
YAKO	YOLISWA NOMAMPONDOMISE
INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY	
BUTHELEZI	SBUYISELWE ANGELA
HLENGWA	MAGDALENA DUDUZILE
MAJOZI	ZANDILE
VAN DER MERWE	LIEZL LINDA
FREEDOM FRONT PLUS	
BREEDT	TAMARIN

SURNAME	NAMES
DENNER	HELOISE
AFRICAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY	
SUKERS	MARIE ELIZABETH
AFRICAN TRANSFORMATION MOVEMENT	
MARAWU	THANDISWA LINNEN
GOOD	
DE LILLE	PATRICIA