



MEMORANDUM

TO: Speaker of the National Assembly
Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces

FROM: Secretary to Parliament

DATE: 18 March 2011

**SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ASSESSMENT OF
PARLIAMENT**

Background

1. The Joint Rules Committee met on 22 April 2010 and took the following decision in respect of the Independent Panel Assessment of Parliament:
 - a) the Report of the Independent Panel Assessment of Parliament, together with the document containing a breakdown of the recommendations and their proposed allocation to the POA and the JRC, dated April 2010, would be sent to parties for consideration;
 - b) the Secretary to Parliament would prepare a document on the estimated costing of the substantive financial implications of the recommendations contained in the report for submission to parties during their engagement with the reports; and
 - c) the item would serve as the main item on the agenda of the next JRC meeting.
2. The document containing recommendations and their proposed allocation to the POA and the JRC is still with parties.
3. The recommendations contained in the report were categorized into three components namely, those:
 - requiring further political policy direction;
 - for which projects were identified; and
 - which formed part of the line functions of the divisions and could be catered for within the respective divisions.
4. The process in respect of projects is outlined below and detailed in the attached table.



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Panel Recommendation	Project (as listed for implementation in the Strategic Plan)
Establishment of a scrutiny mechanism to oversee delegated legislation. Must include a monitoring and evaluation schedule to ensure effectiveness of the scrutiny mechanism.	Project to implement Delegated Legislation processes
Review impact of legislation, including:	Project to assess impact of legislation and pass outstanding legislation
Address outstanding legislation (required by the Constitution)	Project to assess impact of legislation and pass outstanding legislation
Reinvigorate and finalise development of an attendance policy for Members of Parliament	Project to develop Members' leave and attendance system
Establish extensive monitoring schedule to ensure implementation of Oversight Model	Project to develop joint planning, monitoring, co-ordination and evaluation mechanism
Improve process through which Parliament monitors Executive compliance with recommendations of Parliament	Project to develop oversight monitoring and evaluation system
Assess and revise mechanism through which the Speaker of the National Assembly follows up on Executive compliance regarding questions	Project to develop oversight monitoring and evaluation system