



45TH SADC PF PLENARY ASSEMBLY

**16TH TO 25TH JULY, 2019
MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE**



1.INTRODUCTION

A parliamentary delegation from the National Assembly of Seychelles attended activities within the scope of the 45th Plenary Assembly of the SADC Parliamentary Forum which was held in Maputo, Mozambique from the 16th to 25th July, 2019.

The fruitful Plenary Assembly which was attended by 13 SADC National Parliaments debuted with the Executive Committee Meetings, followed by a symposium on the climate change theme and Motions.

The Speaker of the National Assembly, Honourable Nicholas Prea led the delegation as a Member of the Executive Committee and also a panelist to discuss the domestication of treaties and the role of parliament as promoters of legislations and overseers of administrative actions to implement the different environmental Protocols.

The Motions tabled before the Assembly by Seychelles challenged the SADC regional parliaments including Seychelles, to be more proactive in their representation, oversight and legislative roles to address the multiple challenges arising on different fronts.

Hon. Wavel Ramkalawan, the Leader of the Opposition who is also the Chairperson of the Regional Parliamentary Model Laws Oversight Committee/the Chairperson of the Democratisation, Governance and Human Rights Committee was deeply concerned over the disturbing and inhuman reports of discrimination, abductions, attacks and killings of people with albinism across several countries in SADC Region and beyond.

Hon. Chantal Ghislain- Member of the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee urged Members parliaments to legislate measures to regulate and eliminate plastics use to protect the environment.

Hon. Egbert Aglae the Chairperson of the Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment Committee – tabled several reports of his Committee before the Assembly whilst Hon. Terence Mondon – an Executive Committee Member/Member of the Human, Social Development and Special Programmes and Hon. Regina Esparon – Member of the Gender Equality, Women’s Advancement and Youth Development Committee seconded Motions by their Committees. The delegation was accompanied by the Deputy Clerk, Mrs. Tania Isaac.

2.THE PROGRAMME

2.1. The Executive Committee Meetings

Seychelles has two Members of the Executive Committee namely, the Speaker Hon. Nicholas Prea and Hon. Terence Mondon. Whilst the Speaker is a Member of the Human Resources sub-committee, Hon. Mondon is a member of the Finance sub-committee. Both members contributed actively in the process of addressing and remediating the SADC PF Secretariat administrative issues and operating procedures for the SADC PF. Two days were set aside for sub-Committee meetings and two more allocated for the Executive Committee Meeting

Some of the issues discussed at the Executive Committee Meetings included:

- Protocol and procedures on interviews for the position of Secretary General of SADC PF
- Appointing Authority
- Visit to SADC PF Headquarters
- Visit to the official residence of the Secretary General
- Participation in the SADC Council Meeting which took place from 11th to 17th March, 2019
- Follow-up to the implementation of the Forum's Strategic Plan -2019 to 2023
- Exco interventions to the President's Report
- Update on transformation of the forum into a SADC Regional Parliament
- Update on the forthcoming SRHR, HIV and AIDS Governance Project with Sweden
- Update on renovations for SGs official residence and sale of SGs personal to holder vehicle
- Funds available from the 'One-off' contribution

2.2. Symposium on the theme 'Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation: The role of parliaments' "Towards implementing the Paris Declaration and the Katowice Roadmap".

The 45th Plenary Assembly decided to focus on climate change and the role of parliaments in addressing its implications which include mitigation and adaptation through progressive measures. The Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles was a Member of the panel and delivered a presentation on the impact of cyclone Fantala before and after passing over the Farquhar Islands.

Hon. Nicholas Prea, Speaker of the National Assembly of Seychelles, a panelist for the Climate Change symposium



Climate change is yet another theme where domestication of treaties lags behind, thus bringing to the fore the role of SADC national parliaments as promoters of legislations and overseers of administrative action to implement the United Nations Framework

Convention on Climate Change which led to global initiatives such as the Kyoto Protocol and more recently, the Paris Agreement (2015) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

It was agreed that national parliaments and governments thus need to collaborate closely to ensure that commitments taken by their respective countries are adhered to and that the SADC region remains steadfastly proactive to climate change.

2.3. Official Opening of the 45th SADC PF Plenary Assembly

It was the Mozambique President, the Guest of Honour, H.E Mr. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, who officially opened the 45th Plenary Assembly Session of the SADC Parliamentary Forum which took place at the Joaquim Chissano International Conference Centre Building in Maputo.

Group Photo of delegates to the 45th Plenary Assembly of SADC PF



This 45th Plenary Assembly was represented by 13 SADC-PF Member Parliaments of which 8 were Speakers as head of delegation.

For the opening Ceremony, speeches were also delivered by the following dignitaries:

- ✚ H.E Iolanda Maria Perdo Ampos Cintura, Governor of Maputo City
- ✚ Mrs. Boemo Segkoma, Acting Secretary General of SADC PF
- ✚ Hon. Chief Fortune Charumbira, 4th Vice President of PAP
- ✚ Hon. Mats'sepo Molise-Ramakoae, Chairperson of Regional Parliamentary Caucus of SADC PF
- ✚ Hon. Veronica Nataniel Macamo Dlhovo – Speaker of the Mozambican Parliament
- ✚ Hon. Speaker Fernando da Piedade dos Santos of the National Assembly of Angola

2.4. The Plenary Assembly

The Plenary Assembly took place over three days from 22nd to 24th July and concluded with a tree planting session on the 25th of July.

Seychelles Parliament was represented at the Plenary by the following Members and Secretariat Staff:

- Honourable Nicholas Prea – Speaker of the National Assembly and Head of Delegation
- Honourable Wavel Ramkalawan – SADC PF Member
- Honourable Terence Mondon – SADC PF Member
- Honourable Regina Esparon – SADC PF Member
- Honourable Egbert Aglae – SADC PF Member
- Honourable Chantal Ghislain – SADC PF Member
- Mrs. Tania Isaac – Deputy Clerk

The Speaker of the Mozambique Parliament, Hon. Veronica Nataniel Macamo Dlhovo kicked off the work of the plenary by presenting the new members following the recent elections in Malawi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe and Lesotho.

Thereafter, the sessions continued with the Members of Parliament presenting and debating on a number of key motions affecting the SADC Region.

Hon. Ramkalawan moving a Motion before the Plenary



A total of 21 Motions comprising of Committee Reports and issues of regional interests were tabled at the 45th Plenary Assembly of which 7 were moved by Members of the delegation of Seychelles. Below is an overview of the Motions moved or seconded by the delegation of Seychelles.

Hon. Aglae moving a Motion before the Plenary



Name of the Mover of Motion	Title of the Motions moved	Title of the Motions Seconded/Supported
Hon. Wavel Ramkalawan	<p>Adoption of the Report of the Regional Parliamentary Model Laws Oversight Committee</p> <p>Adoption of the Report of the Standing Committee on democratization, Governance and Human Rights</p> <p>Condemning attacks, abduction, killings and discrimination against people with albinism in the SADC Region</p> <p>The Need for a lasting solution regarding funding for SADC PF Election Observation missions</p>	
Hon. Egbert Aglae	<p>Adoption of the Report of the Joint Session of Standing Committees</p> <p>Adoption of the Report of the Standing Committee on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment</p>	<p>Promotion of the African Continental Free Trade Area</p> <p>Beneficiation of the Extractive Sector in the SADC Region</p>
Hon. Chantal Ghislain	<p>The negative effects of plastic on the environment</p>	<p>Adoption of the Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources</p>
Hon. Regina Esparon		<p>Condemning attacks, abduction, killings and discrimination against people with albinism in the SADC Region</p> <p>Adoption of the Report of the Standing Committee on Gender Equality, Women's Advancement and Youth Development</p>

Hon. Terence Mondon		Adoption of the Report of the Standing Committee on Human and Social Development and Special Programmes
Hon. Nicholas Prea		<p>The negative effects of plastic on the environment</p> <p>Promotion of Renewable Energy in the SADC Region</p> <p>Appointment of Ms. Boemo Segkoma as the new Secretary General of SADC PF</p>

3. CONCLUSION

The delegation of Seychelles would like to congratulate the parliament of Mozambique for successfully hosting the 45th Plenary Assembly of SADC PF. The delegates had fruitful deliberations and challenged each other to improve on the lives of people in the region. The variety of motions moved by Members showed the diversity and complexity of issues affecting the SADC region, which require legislative interventions.

National Parliaments are also being encouraged to ratify the various SADC conventions or protocols which have already been signed by their Head of States.

Photo Gallery

Excursion Day: Tree Planting by SADC PF Members



Members of the delegation meeting with a Group of Women from a local NGO



