

**PARLIAMENT OF ZIMBABWE**

*Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.*

*The Senate met at a Half-past Two o'clock p.m.*

**PRAYERS**

(MADAM PRESIDENT *in the Chair*)

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY MADAM PRESIDENT**

**SWITCHING OFF OF CELLPHONES**

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** May I remind hon. senators to put your cellphones on silent or switch them off.

**MOTION**

**BUSINESS OF THE SENATE**

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that Order of the Day, Nos. 1 to 8 be stood over until all the Orders of the Day have been disposed of.

Motion put and agreed to.

## **MOTION**

### **ALLEGED EXISTENCE OF GHOST WORKERS WITHIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

**SENATOR MAKORE:** I move the motion standing in my name  
that this House;

**CONCERNED** at the alleged existence of Ghost Workers within  
the Public Service Payroll;

**DISTURBED** by the potential financial prejudice and the  
continuous drain of funds from the National Fiscus;

**APPALLED** by the lack of an expeditious response to correct the  
situation by eradicating the potential existence of ghost workers and  
bringing to account all those who have been responsible for their illegal  
proliferation;

**DISMAYED** that failure to institute remedial action continues to  
bleed the Economy;

NOW THEREFORE, RESOLVES that the Ministry responsible for the Public Service cleans up Government's Payroll of all Ghost Workers and report to Parliament as a matter of urgency.

**SENATOR HLALO:** I second.

**SENATOR MAKORE:** Madam President, I raise this motion with a deep heart, realising problems bedeviling our economy. It is difficult to imagine that under such hard times where we are struggling to rebuild our economy, we tolerate a day or months or years with a ghost worker. It is barely unreasonable to bleed the economy, eroding it with shadow workers who are not designated to the establishment of Government departments.

Madam President, auditors from Ernest and Young of India said there were 70 000 ghost workers on the Government payroll, a claim which was disputed by the Public Service Commission (PSC). Their report said an estimated 6 000 youths were recruited on May 28, 2008 are among those who were absent from their purported work stations when Ernest and Young conducted its audit. The report shows there are

75 273 ghost workers out of 188 019 employees in various ministries.

There are also 170 088 civil servants whose designations do not appear, about 1 315 civil servants are working without designations, at least 8 723 civil servants qualifications could not be traced, about 188 019 civil servants were covered by the exercise, including 9 571 civil servants who were not in the data base. Out of this 2 191 civil servants could not be enumerated, as their records were not available.

Records also show there were 13 782 civil servants enumerated as absent, or presumed absent as they have either retired, absconded, deceased, transferred or had resigned. About 13 782 workers did not show up for enumeration, raising more questions. The audit indicates 3 593 civil servants appointed on or after January 1, 2007 had no proper documentation, a violation of the law. The result is that the ghost workers are endangering an already weak economy. Finance Minister, Tendai Biti, said Government is splashing US\$960 million per year on civil servants salaries, much of which is going to ghost workers. On the day of the audit, some 13 000 public workers were absent from a total of

180 000. Allegations of ghost workers on the public payroll have been dismissed by Zimbabwe's Public Service Commissioner (PSC). The Commission's ruling overturned the findings of an independent audit conducted by Ernest and Young India. The commission said, only a few irregularities were unearthed in its own investigation and the original allegations of 70 000 ghost workers were wrong.

The report submitted to the House of Assembly pointed out that Government could have been defrauded of about USD50 million by youth militia irregularly employed as youth officers since the dollarisation of the economy 3 years ago. Public Service Minister told the House of Assembly recently that some 5 662 youth officers who were illegally getting a Government salary and allowances since 2008 have been scrapped off the civil service payroll as of last week.

Calculations based on an estimated civil service salary and allowances of USD150 for February 2009 to December 2011 shows that each youth officer received about USD5 250 from Government coffers, giving an aggregate figure of USD29 725 500.

The figure will reach USD50million if calculations are based on the fact that militias who are grade B1s were drawing allowances and had their salaries increased from USD160 to USD253 in July 2011 and USD296 in January 2012.

If this submitted report can account for a 5 662 youth officers out of 75 273 shadow workers, where is the difference; that of 69 611 ghost workers?

The above scenario shows a deliberate bleeding of the economy. Therefore, this august Senate should take this matter seriously for an immediate rectification. Workers who are at work need increases. If that money could be returned in the fiscus, conditions of civil servants could improve for the better.

The created dilemma is self destructive. There is virtually no reason not to accept an audit report conducted on independent basis, hence this House needs to make a scrutiny to completely scrap that system of shadow workers to allow a return to normalcy, creating advantage to our economy. We therefore call for reality, transparency,

accountability and honesty to ourselves for this economy to grow. This Senate should call for a detailed audit report from Ernest and Young India and any other competent auditors who could have done auditing of the Public Service Workers in order to resolve this issue once and for all.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

**MOTION**

FIRST REPORT OF THE THEMATIC COMMITTEE ON GENDER  
AND DEVELOPMENT ON THE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER IN  
MASVINGO AND BULAWAYO.

**SENATOR SIBANDA:** I move the motion standing in my name:

That this House takes note of the First Report of the Thematic Committee on Gender and Development on the Access to Clean Water in Masvingo and Bulawayo.

**SENATOR JACOB:** I second.

**SENATOR SIBANDA:** The Thematic Committee on Gender and Development conducted an inquiry into the delivery of clean water by the local authorities of Masvingo and Bulawayo. The inquiry was necessitated by the Committee's concern about the access to clean water by different sectors of Zimbabwe's urban residents. The need to prevent the outbreak of another cholera epidemic as occurred in 2008 was another compounding factor. In comparison to the situation in Harare, Norton and Chitungwiza, the towns toured by the Committee in 2010, Bulawayo and Masvingo were reported to be providing better services in terms of clean water to their residents. Hence, the Committee sought to verify the adequacy, cleanliness, sustainability and affordability of water in those towns. The Committee intended to find out how the local authorities of Masvingo and Bulawayo were managing their water supply systems and ultimately come up with policy recommendations to address challenges being experienced in the country's urban areas.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The Committee held a meeting with the Masvingo Town Council officials and Councillors at the Council offices and was briefed on its capacity to provide clean water to the residents and the challenges encountered. The Committee conducted a public hearing at the Civic Centre Hall where members of the public had an opportunity to air their views on the accessibility of clean water in Masvingo. Finally, under the guidance of the City Council officials, the Committee toured the Bushmead Water Treatment plant situated at Lake Mutirikwi where it observed the water treatment process. A similar itinerary was followed in Bulawayo. However, the Committee failed to conduct a public hearing in the City due to the low turn out of residents.

## **FINDINGS**

### **Masvingo**

The Committee received oral evidence from the Masvingo Town Council and it made the following observations and findings:

Masvingo's first water treatment plant was constructed in 1940 and was upgraded in 1964. In 1972 the water treatment plant was moved from

Shagashe River to Lake Mutirikwi in response to the growth in population. Thus, upon the commissioning of the 12 mega-litres plant at Bushmead, the Town of Masvingo could cope with the population's water demand. However, the City of Masvingo took a conscious decision to continuously upgrade the plant to its envisaged capacity of 24 mega-litres per day, which was eventually achieved in 1984. By 2005, it was apparent that the growth in the town's water demand had exceeded the water works plant's capacity. The Masvingo Town Council had no option other than water rationing by cutting off supplies overnight, when the water demand is low.

In anticipation of the impending water shortages in the near future, the Council resolved to augment the town's water supply, through a two-phase Water Augmentation Project as recommended by a consultancy in 2005. Phase 1 was split into two: Phase 1A, which involved increasing water treatment capacity by 25 percent to 30 mega-litres per day; and Phase 1B, which involved increasing the conveyancing capacity of the pipelines. Phase 1A was successfully completed through Government

disbursement of Public Sector Investment Programmes funding in 2006. However, due to hyperinflation and economic decline, Phase 1B failed to take off.

After the introduction of the multi-currency system in 2009 the Town Council decided to embark on Phase 1B which had been shelved in 2006. The Council obtained capital for the project from own funds and a contractor was reported to be on site laying pipes at the time of the Committee's visit.

The demand for water in Masvingo continues to grow, and the town currently requires about 48 mega-litres per day, against its 30 mega-litres per day water treatment capacity and 24 mega- litres per day conveyancing capacity of pipes. The Council engaged a Consultant, Stewart Scott Zimbabwe, to explore cost effective ways of undertaking Phase 2 of the Water Augmentation Project, which had been shelved in 2006. Preliminary estimates put the cost of upgrading the system to 60 mega-litres per day at over US\$52 million. In the mean time the Town

Council is considering a first step of increasing the abstraction capacity at the intake tower to meet the projected demand.

### **Masvingo Public Hearing**

The residents of Masvingo reported that the town receives adequate, clean and safe water for drinking at an affordable rate. The average monthly household charges for utilities, including water range between US\$25 -30. The Committee learnt that water cut-offs were minimal and often done in the evenings for operations purposes and due to lack of adequate distribution capacity to supply the town for twenty-four hours a day.

However, the public informed the Committee that the jobless and retired could not afford to pay the water charges. Morningside was also cited as one of the residential areas facing serious water problems, as it was on borehole water. It was explained that most of the boreholes in Morningside were old and malfunctional, and because most of the residents were retired they could neither afford to pay for the repairs or water provided by the Town Council. The residents also called upon

Government to provide water and sewer system services for housing schemes launched under *Garikai / Hlalani khule*, such as, the Victoria Ranch.

## **Bulawayo**

The Committee received oral evidence from the Bulawayo City Council and it made the following observations and findings:

The City of Bulawayo, whose current population is approximately 1.5 million, is supplied by five dams namely: Insiza, Umzingwane, Upper and Lower Ncema, and Inyankuni. All the dams were constructed between 1947 and 1982 and are situated on the southern side of the city. The furthest dam is Insiza which is 70 kilometres away from Bulawayo. As of September 2011 the water levels of these dams were as follows:

- a) Insiza 156 cubic meters (90% full),
- b) Inyankuni 18.8 cubic meters (23% full),
- c) Lower Ncema 9 million cubic meters (60% full),
- d) Upper Ncema 12 million cubic meters (28% full) and
- e) Mzingwane 5 million cubic meters (12% full).

Overall, this adds up to approximately 362 million cubic meters of water, which is about 41.7% of total capacity.

The City Council water supply capacity was 1 500 cubic meters per day, against an estimated 250 000 cubic meters per day normal demand. The city of Bulawayo has two water works, Criterion Water works with a capacity of 100 000 cubic meters, and Ncema Water Works with a capacity of 39 000 cubic meters. The total installed capacity of all the dams is 210 mega-litres, however, the total output is 150 mega-litres per day.

It is estimated that between 30 to 40 percent of clean water is lost through leakages, and the City Council was working hard to reduce leakages to a 20 percent level. To augment water supply, the Council officials reported that there were at least 77 boreholes dotted in residential areas in the city. The Government has established water augmentation programmes, such as, the Nyamandlovu scheme under which 77 boreholes were drilled. In addition, there are at least 280 boreholes in the city. All residential areas and stands have piped water except the houses constructed

under the *Garikai /Hlalanikuhle* Scheme without budgetary support for water and sewer installation. UNICEF was reportedly assisting Bulawayo with US\$75 000 per month for water treatment chemicals.

The main challenge faced by the Council is finding a secure, cheap source of water, the option being the Gwayi- Shangaan Dam.

However, the Council also encounters constraints in undertaking the Gwayi-Shangaan Dam Project in the legal framework which provides that Government should provide the bulk of the water.

The Government's failure to meet its obligations, in terms of paying social grants towards the provision of education and health is another problem the Bulawayo City Council has to deal with. The implication is that revenue collected from water is utilised to provide those services at the expense of upgrading the water distribution system in the city. Moreover, Government owes the City Council money approximately amounting to US\$5 million.

## **OBSERVATIONS**

- The residents of Masvingo unanimously agreed that the town's

water is clean, but inadequate.

- Bulawayo has been under extensive water rationing for a period of more than fifteen years.
- The water treatment equipment of both Masvingo and Bulawayo is old and some of the operations have to be carried out manually therefore, there is need for quick intervention to minimise loss of water.
- There is need for a long term solution to load shedding in Masvingo, so as to stop the release of raw sewage into the Shagashe River, as it affects both urban and rural residents. The Masvingo Town Council has to use additional water treatment chemicals to ensure that the water is safe for domestic consumption, while the rural area residents who use raw water from the Shagashe River are exposed to waterborne diseases.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The Thematic Committee on Gender and Development recommends the following:

- The Masvingo Town Council should upgrade its water extraction and distribution equipment in order to deliver adequate water to the residents at all times.
- The Bulawayo City Council should speed up the completion of the Mtshabezi Dam Water Project.
- The Bulawayo City Council should replace all old pipes that are causing 30 to 40 percent water loss through leakages to reduce it to minimal levels.
- The Clarion Waterworks (Bulawayo) should be refurbished with new equipment and spare parts, since there are a lot of old and missing parts leading to water leakages and as this compromises the water treatment process.
- The Government should honour its obligations of paying social grants towards the provision of health and education services, and debts owed to local authorities.
- There is need for Government and local authorities to raise necessary resources to install new sewer treatment plants and

repair the existing plants, so that local authorities do not spew raw sewer into water reservoirs causing serious water pollution.

- There is need for a long term solution for load shedding in Masvingo, such as, the installation of giant generators to act as backup in case of power outages, so as to stop the release of raw sewage into Shagashe River.

**\*SENATOR JACOB:** Thank you Madam President, for sure Masvingo has clean water. In Masvingo our meeting started with the officials from the council and later on with the residents of Masvingo. When we were offered water to drink in glasses we were hesitant to take it because we thought we were going to be given bottled water and they were really boasting about the safety of their water.

However, the problem is that they cannot meet the demand, so the water is switched off during the night because of the problems of electricity. So they are pleading with ZESA so that

the load shedding becomes minimal for them to have constant supply of water. But there is a place where people were resettled in *Garikai/Hlalani kuhle* which is not yet serviced. So if boreholes are sunk in such areas then people will have access to clean water.

The other challenge which is being faced by the council in Masvingo is that they do not have borrowing powers. Councils should be vested with these powers so that they can borrow money from the banks and other institutions so that they can buy machinery. Because of the laws of this country they do not have such powers; everything is done by the Ministry of Local Government centrally.

From there we went to Bulawayo, where we held a meeting with the council officials only. They took us around where they get their water but their challenge is that their dams are too small to supply the whole city which has got a big population. We could not meet the residents because they were not there at the venue, so we are not very sure whether the council was telling us the truth because there was no

proof of what they were saying because we did not meet the residents to concur whether they were accessing clean adequate water. Thank you.

**\*SENATOR CHIEF CHISUNGA:** Thank you Madam, President; I want to add my voice to this motion raised by Senator Sibanda. I would like to thank her for a job well done concerning this issue of water challenges. I would like to say that this is a challenge to all the councils in our country. This is not affecting our councils only, but it is affecting our Government as well. I was listening at the recommendations where they were saying the Government should do this and that. The challenges that are being met by Councils in trying to provide clean water to the residents of Masvingo and Bulawayo, the machinery that are being used are obsolete and a lot of money is needed for maintenance. What is needed is capital injection and this is where Government comes in. I would like to say that the Government can chip in by providing grants to these councils because council cannot access loans from the banks. This is being caused by the economic hardships we are facing as a nation and also some of the things are caused by the

disagreements in the Unity Government. We were not seeing from the same point of view, where I come from, *Makorekore* we say “*kana muchinyisana nyisiranai mumba kuitira kuti vatorwa varege kunzwa nekuti vakanzwa, varoyi vanobva vawana pekupinda napo, mangwana munenge makuzobata gotsi kuti tafirwa*” So what I am saying as Government, we should work together.

We should all speak with one voice, clamouring for the removal of the illegal sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe. The removal of these sanctions will enable Government to borrow money from international financial institutions such as the IMF and the World Bank so that these funds are channeled as grants for development to municipalities, leading to the improvement on service delivery such as water supplies.

Prior to the sanctions, we had lots of friends and allies who are now shunning us, but they will come back following the removal of sanctions. Consequently, if we speak with one voice in Government, our people will have enough supply of clean water because of the adequate supply of water treatment chemicals.

Madam President, there is no country that can be self-sufficient without the support of other countries. No city can be self-sufficient without support from central Government. We need the services of other countries, we also need the assistance and services derived from the system of twining of cities for development. It is my fervent wish that if these illegal sanctions are removed, our cities stand to benefit from the arrangement of twining of cities.

The benefits accrued from such twining arrangements will cascade to potential foreign investors who will want to come in and assist in the development of our countries. Our country, Zimbabwe, as labeled by the index, is a safe destination for development – we are at the bottom of the log and as a result, no serious and sane investor would want to invest in a country with such unconducive financial environment – they feel their investment will be at risk. We need to rebuild the image of our country back to its yesteryear stance where it was the bread-basket of the region and investment destination of choice. We need this image, I thank you Madam President.

**\*SENATOR CHIEF CHIDUKU:** Thank you Madam President. I would like to debate on the Masvingo version – the Bulawayo version was misunderstood because we did not meet with the public as per our arrangement, but when we got to Masvingo, we were gladly welcomed and even offered water in glasses. When we asked for bottled water, we were told that we could not get it in Masvingo because their water was cleaner than bottled water. The water in Masvingo is of the highest quality in the country, followed by Mutare and hence we were encouraged to drink the water without fear of any contamination by water borne diseases.

We found that Masvingo was managing its water according to expectations. We visited their dams which supply water to the town and examined their water treatment plants – they are doing a good job. The City of Masvingo requested for assistance in accessing funds for the development and service delivery for the benefit of the citizens. If they are granted this assistance, they will lead by example and be the envy of other cities who will want to emulate them. When this happens, water

borne diseases will be a thing of the past because of good supply of clean water.

If they cannot access funds for development, the water piping system will degenerate together with the dams. One of their dams has water which is so clean that you can drink it straight from the dam without any fear of contamination by water borne diseases. Masvingo City is performing better than Bulawayo City in terms of water supply. Residents of Bulawayo were forbidden from attending our Outreach Programmes, hence we only managed to get information from a few individuals.

I plead with the ministry responsible for water supplies to give preference in funds allocation to Masvingo so that they may set an example for other cities to emulate.

**\*SENATOR MTINGWENDE:** Thank you Madam President. I would like to thank Hon. Senator Sibanda, the Chairperson for the Gender Committee for moving this motion and Hon. Senator Jacob who seconded.

Madam President, during our fact finding, we found that our biggest problem was the supply of water in cities. We would find that if the water was taken from the taps and put in a container – some particles of dirt would be observed circling at the bottom of the container. Even if you are not a water expert, you would simply tell yourself that the water was not fit for human consumption. As stated by my colleague, Masvingo had the best water quality compared to other visited areas. Their biggest problem is on the erratic electricity power supply which disturbed the water reticulation services. The water purification plant has advanced technological machines which need to be run on electricity. The deficiency of electricity supply led to the compromise of the water quality.

Although the Bulawayo City Council official proclaimed the good quality of their water, this was not confirmed by members of the public who were supposed to attend the Public Hearing. Bulawayo told us that they got some of their water supplies from boreholes. Regarding this form of supply, our previous experiences in Harare where boreholes

were sunk, one water expert did not give us a 100% quality assurance on water from the boreholes – there is some form of contamination. The main reason being that some of the water pipes are damaged in the process of installation or operation resulting in contaminants and impurities such as sewerage seeping into the borehole water, leading to the compromise on quality.

I plead with the Government to financially support water supply systems and I also appeal to UNICEF to rethink on its planned withdrawal from supplying water treatment chemicals. Madam President, there are problems faced by councils in particular, in Masvingo and Bulawayo, that of non-payment of water usage by Government institutions. They have since lost hope of ever recouping their loses from these institutions and yet they cannot cut them off. The resultant non-payment leads to the over-burdening of loyal residents and other water users because the amount so acquired supplies water to defaulting institutions and individuals.

Masvingo residents were very grateful to their Council because of the low rates charged on water supply. I also plead with the Government, through relevant ministries, to assist local authorities in repairing damaged water pipes which lead to a very big loss on their fiscus. A thirsty man is hurt when he sees water being carelessly wasted through these damaged pipes.

Where there is no water, there is no life, water helps us a lot. You cannot do anything without water, it might be cooking, bathing *et cetera*. So, I think the Government should look into this issue of water so that machinery should be serviced and chemicals be availed and electricity is there all the time so that their work becomes easy.

**\*SENATOR HUNGWE:** Thank you Madam President. I also want to add my voice to this motion. I wanted to ask why did you go there and I heard Senator Mtingwende saying that it was brought to our attention that people there are not accessing clean water in some areas.

Madam President, I do not understand this because I started sitting in Parliament in 1985, what used to happen those days in Parliament and

what is happening these days is so different. If they say we are a Portfolio Committee in this Parliament there are two, the other one is portfolio and the other one is thematic. What I know is portfolio is for the Minister for example water or education, that is what it is supposed to be. When people who represent the people like us have noticed that things are not working well in certain areas, then they go to Parliament which is the highest board which looks into people's issues then people will debate in Parliament. That *Hansard* is produced here, *Hansard* is not taken to whatever rallies. *Hansard* is produced in Parliament by the people who represent the people. I have never seen Madam President, a Minister coming into this House to address concerns which were raised by Senators. I have never seen that. So, you say portfolio for what when the custodian does not come to hear what the representatives are saying, what are we doing?

Now you write -I can see that there is question and answer without notice and with notice, to ask who? Are we really serious about what we are doing? Because what is supposed to be debated, it is not about clean

water, that is not serious, the problem is that of water itself. I do not know the doctor that they referred to who said borehole is not that clean, bring him here so that we can talk to him. We know that even if the water is not clean, it can cook *sadza*, then the *sadza* will kill what is there which is not clean. What I am saying is that, here we are debating about the problems of water, there are certain areas where there is no water at all. We went somewhere where we saw water being sold to teachers, that is a problem but whom do you tell when the owner of that portfolio does not come here so that we tell him what is happening and ask him what he has done. Are we serious about these things? We go about saying portfolio committee, portfolio committee, which cannot even do anything. Our job here is to talk about things that are not right to the person who was given that portfolio, not you.

I see other Deputy Ministers coming here, those are the people whom we are supposed to submit our findings to, it might be in agriculture, education and so forth. People are dying out there of hunger, but I have not seen anyone coming here, saying they have done a,b,c. ...

**\*THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:** Order, order, I plead with you that you stick to the motion.

**\*SENATOR HUNGWE:** Madam President, if the issue is parochial in the first place, you cannot expect us to expand, we expand in the way I am doing now. What is serious is that we cannot just say we went there and there when the substantive portfolio man who is a Minister of Government does not come here I am saying, we are wasting our time, if you think I am not doing the right thing, Madam, I beg your pardon. This is what I am saying, let us not allow things that do not help people to take place in this House. We should talk about clear things that people understand, to come here and talk about the water not being clean, that is wasting our time. Shortage of water, boreholes, should be sunk, dams should be build, not only dams but irrigation taking place there, that is what we are talking about. We are not here to make a follow up, if someone decides that this issue is parochial, it does not help people, we tell them through you, that is nonsense.

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** Order, can you please withdraw that particular word ‘nonsense’.

**SENATOR HUNGWE:** I withdraw.

**MADAM PRESIDENT:** Hon. senators, I just wish to bring to your attention the fact that in the Senate we do not have Portfolio Committees, we have Thematic Committees. Portfolio Committees are in the House of Assembly.

I also wish to bring to your attention the fact that after a motion is moved, whatever will have been debated in this House is brought to the attention of that particular Minister. The Minister is supposed to come in this House and respond to your concerns, like the concerns that the Hon. Senator Hungwe has just raised.

So, yes, we are not just wasting time debating, we are debating issues that concern Zimbabweans and Ministers will be given a chance to come and respond to those motions.

**\*SENATOR MAKUYANA:** Thank you Madam President. I would like to add a few issues. Masvingo problems have been highlighted and so, I want to talk about Bulawayo. The problem in Bulawayo is not shortage of water as such. They have dams but the problem is water pumps. The water can be accessed from a distant dam which is along Gwanda road. So water from that dam can not reach Bulawayo direct through the pumps. It is pumped going into another dam, that other dam which feeds into another dam so that water can be accessed. The other problem which they highlighted was on water purification using chemicals such as aluminum sulphate, carbon purifiers and so forth which pose problems in purchasing them because of financial challenges. Councils prefer accessing these chemicals through credit to individual councils rather than parent ministry.

Local authorities also have problems with tender boards for supply of their needs. These suppliers should deliver the chemicals in time. These are some of the problems faced by the Bulawayo City Council. We plead with the government to take corrective measures to rectify this

operative anomaly. Senator Hungwe queried the way we operate and the point is, we deliberate on these issues on certain specified days and this gives us a chance to interrogate Ministers on set down dates through question times whereby we exchange our experiences *vis-a-vis* their mandate.

**SENATOR HLALO:** Thank you Madam President, my contribution to this issue about water, is on Bulawayo's cost of pumping water to the city, that the House should be aware that the most cost in getting water to Bulawayo is the cost of electricity which the Bulawayo City Council has to pay US\$1.7 million per month. So, Bulawayo has that problem, the cost of ZESA in the tune of US\$1.7 million per month which the residents think it is too much for them to pay. I thank you.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

## **MOTION**

### **REPORT OF THE DELEGATION TO THE 5<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND TECHNOLOGY, HELD IN BANGALORE INDIA**

**SENATOR CHIMBUDZI:** I move the motion standing in my name that this House takes note of the Report of the Delegation to the 5<sup>th</sup> International Women's Conference on Women and Technology, held in Bangalore India from 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

**SENATOR MUCHIHWA:** I second.

**SENATOR CHIMBUDZI:**

#### **Introduction**

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Women's Conference was held in Bangalore, India from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February 2012. There were 500 delegates from 55 countries and from all walks of life who attended this conference. From Southern Africa, there were parliamentary delegations from South Africa and Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe delegation which was led by Hon. Edna Madzongwe, President of the Senate consisted of the following Senators

and staff of Parliament:

Hon. Rorana Muchihwa

Hon. Alice Chimbudzi

Mrs Roselyn Dadirayi Makoni, Director in President of the Senate's

Office

Mr. Gift Chinyemba, Security Aide to President of Senate

### **Conference Theme**

“Women and Technology, Back to the future and Return to the Source”, was the theme of the conference. It was noted that in today's world we live in a world where technology is prevalent and relevant in most areas of our lives. Consequently, women's lives, across all social structures, have been redefined by the incredible technological developments taking place. Communication, social interactions and lifestyles have all been impacted.

The conference objectives sought to explore and discuss:

- The impact of technology on society in general and in the lives of women in particular.

- The connection between Spirituality and Technology.
- To bring awareness to women, whose lives and careers had reached demanding high levels, about the need to go back to the source by relaxing and recharging their energies through spiritual practices.
- Ways to empower women in developing parts of the world through technology and to facilitate technological education.
- Creation of an information bridge between women from different parts of society.

### **Inaugural Session**

The conference, was opened by an address by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar leader of the Art of living foundation. He opened his address by reminding delegates of the importance of continually evaluating one self in terms of one's focus, one's vision and one's purpose in life. Ravi Shankar instructed that there are questions that each one of us needs to answer truthfully to ourselves, questions such as;

- whether one is doing the right thing,
- is one being just and fair?

- is one's society being just?
- are the rules and regulations that we have formulated just?
- is there gender equality?
- are children being given the right education and right care?

Spirituality, he said, is about thinking deeply about such questions and revisiting the truth about one self in relation to how we are solving these issues.

In his address he also focused on the importance of living, healthy lifestyles that comprise of healthy food, good exercise and healthy thoughts. He also talked of the wisdom and techniques of yoga that are renowned for eliminating stress and giving peace through simple breathing techniques. He emphasised that regular physical exercise and yoga are especially important in these busy times when stress has come to be a leading killer disease. Through deliberate introspection during yoga and meditation busy women and men in demanding leadership positions can bring one back to oneself.

The last aspect he touched on in his address was the issue of corruption, which he said has to be rid of from all spheres of life in all

countries. He pointed out that corruption negates development since “corruption begins where the sense of belongingness ends.” He called upon women to task themselves with coming up with programmes that can counter the malice of corruption.

The inaugural session ended with Ravi Shankar presenting awards to women who were voted by the Art of Living Foundation as having worked selflessly to make a difference in their communities.

### **Women as leaders of technology**

Day one’s session had 12 women speakers, being among others, Ministers from Republic of South Africa, People’s Republic of Bangladesh, India, a representative of the Kurdish Government of Iraq, the Consul General of Israel based in Mumbai, a Member of Parliament from Israel, and high ranking women in business.

The Speakers focused on the need to increase the numbers of women in decision making positions. Delegates were encouraged to be committed to the push for the 50% representation of women.

In this session it was also highlighted that women leaders had a role to be mentors of the next generation. Today's woman had to use technology responsibly in ensuring that technology is getting to be used in the more deprived areas of our countries as well as ensuring that girls were being given a chance to pursue professions in technological fields.

### **Women as users of technology**

Through the plenary sessions of the second day, the conference came up with the conclusion that women as users of technology have been greatly empowered. It was agreed that technology's purpose is to bring comfort, ease and progress to society. This has been brought through use of for example the internet, the mobile phone and social networks. We have had the social media transforming individual relationships, business, social trends and even affecting governments as happened in the Jasmine Revolution in the Middle East.

On a more responsible level, the social media can be used to bring improvement and create a harmonious world. These technologies can be used, for instance to ensure the availability of education in remote areas through distance education mode. The emphasis was on finding ways to

move ahead technologically without losing the human touch.

## **Spirituality and Technology**

This last theme on the third day of the conference helped delegates realise that a woman's circle of influence is large and generally women exhibit a passion for life and well being, sharing and caring. As a result of such influence, it is important to use technology from an informed position, especially informed by one's spirituality.

The conference also focused on how the interface with technology is in the mind. The mind is then managed by spirituality. Women leaders were encouraged to acquire techniques of one's own mind management.

## **Conference Outcomes**

The conference participants committed themselves to reaching out to others in their communities and countries. The delegates agreed that the way forward rested in;

- Supporting education
- Sending more girl children to schools,

- developing rural areas by creating employment opportunities in villages. This would entail:
- Identifying natural resources unique to each community and engaging women and youth in projects that harness those resources
- Partnering with IT companies to give youth an exposure and technological edge.

**SENATOR MUCHIHWA:** Thank you for affording me this opportunity to make my contribution on this debate. Unfortunately, I am not feeling well but I would like to congratulate members who represented this country at the Women's International Conference in India, Bangalore. This conference was attended by 500 delegates from 55 countries. We had a great time through exchange of ideas from people from different countries and experiences. You have some ideas which are constructive while some are interesting, constructive and yet at the same time some are destructive.

When we got to India, I was hurt by the following experiences; the first of my painful experiences was on the use of pepper which was spiced in tea which resulted in me falling sick because I do not partake in such delicacies for health reasons. I learnt a lot of lessons from women who came from all over the world who were talking about their lives in their countries, in particular reference to rural women who were supported through technological advancement. Some of the benefits these rural women had were associations which were led by ministries responsible for their operations.

Technology is so easily accessed that even young children can access computers. Our conference was held at a church university where most of the programmes had religious inclinations and this pleased me very much because I found that in whatever these people were doing, they asked for guidance from the Lord above and this shows us technology cannot exist in a vacuum without the presence of the Lord. I also learnt that technology exists in every individual. The only problem is that we may not be aware that whatever we are doing is technological

advancement. We believe that technological advancement is gained through educational advancement, which is not very true.

Technology includes these gadgets which we are using in this House when debating and phones we use in our daily lives. We also want to thank our leadership on this trip. Of course this does not mean that all was rosy, we had a few hiccups. On our way to India, the leader of the group was the Leader of the Senate, Madam President. When we arrived, our leader was not given the due recognition often given to invited delegates of her stature. We, that is Hon. Chimbudzi and myself, had to intervene for her to be recognised. We threatened to boycott the proceedings unless they complied and indeed they did comply.

They complied through acknowledging her presence publicly and decorating her with befitting attire. This acknowledgement cascaded also to us as delegates. We were also decorated and given the face painting of recognition. As a Zimbabwean delegation, this recognition meant a lot to us because we had been invited to come and make a contribution and we

responded positively. Hence, we deserved this recognition and the accolades accorded us as other delegates.

As women leaders, we were encouraged to work hand in hand with other women and children at grassroots levels. During this conference, there were some women who were given due recognition for their contribution to the development of their region, despite their low education. Some of these women could not afford to go to school because of poverty and over population of the country. But despite these handicaps, these women received training through institutions such as the women's clubs we have in this country, where women are taught the basic means of living cookery and handiwork.

I learnt that such basic skills should be imparted, not only to women and girls, but also boys because they may not be academically gifted but may survive on the expertise so gained. These people were shown to the gathering and their works explained and also how they had developed their areas. We were told that they were thousands of these youngsters who were embarking on developmental projects for the

benefit of individuals and regions. Some of these youngsters have also managed to attend schools because they can afford the fees charged through their handiwork. We also need to introduce such developmental projects in our country but these have to be tailor-made to suit our environment.

I would like to thank Hon. Senator Chimbudzi for raising this motion. I also plead with honourable members to diligently read this report and make contributions and corrections because it will be of great use to us when we go for the feedback meeting in India in December 2012. We were also advised to take with us more women on this December trip to India so that they will be trained in various tasks. The women should be invited from both rural and urban constituencies because these people have different wants and needs, hence the training in relevant issues.

The aim of this training is to empower these women so that they may train the people in their relevant countries. A country does not develop through business people or men alone but a country will

develop through the collaboration of men and women. We realised that we import goods from countries such as India and we admire these goods which are made by ordinary men and women and this can be done by Zimbabweans if given a chance. A family which has hard working members becomes an asset in the constituency and the country. I thank you.

**\*SENATOR MANYERUKE:** Thank you Madam President. I would like to thank the women who travelled on our behalf by bringing this motion to the House. Senator Chimbudzi and Senator Muchihwa, we would like to thank you for travelling together with the President of the Senate. You are so lucky that you went to India. We would like to say congratulations. I would like to thank you for raising the Zimbabwean flag. I would like to thank you for participating in whatever was happening there concerning the issues affecting women, especially in the developing countries like ours.

As they pointed out, a revisit is supposed to take place. We just pray that with the help of God, many of us will be able to attend. I

think this technology was launched recently here but not targeting women. We hope that next time it will target women. With the few that we have, let us strive on so that our 50/50 including the other countries that were there, who were many, we really did well there. We want to encourage each other so that we do not look down on each other. With the elections that are coming, many of us will participate and women will be more in this House as compared to men. This is my desire that we should work hard as women and not be afraid because if you are afraid, you do not do anything. Thank you Madam President

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

**MOTION**

REPORT OF THE 59<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE AND THE 34<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN  
PARLIAMENTARY UNION (APU) HELD IN  
KHARTOUM (SUDAN)

**SENATOR K. DUBE:** I move the motion in my name that this House takes note of the Report of the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), which was held in Khartoum (Sudan) on 27<sup>th</sup> November, to 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.

**SENATOR MUMVURI:** I second.

**SENATOR K. DUBE:** Thank you Madam President. We seem to be sidelined but nevertheless, we are going to move the motion. Madam President the motion in my name is the report on the African Parliamentary Union (APU).

## **INTRODUCTION**

The APU had its 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the African Parliamentary Union in Khartoum Sudan on the 27<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2011. Parliamentary delegates from 27 countries out of the 40 APU member states participated in the deliberations. These included Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Libya (as an observer), Liberia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan (as an observer), Sudan, Chad, Togo and Zimbabwe. The themes for the deliberations were:

- *Participation of population, particularly the youth in national development with a view to combating poverty, putting an end to exclusion and promoting equity.*
- *The roll of Parliamentary institutions in strengthening cooperation and solidarity among the African countries with a view to promote security, stability and prosperity of people.*

There was also a session of the Committee of African Women Parliamentarians. This APU meeting came against a backdrop of a similar meeting – the APU 33<sup>rd</sup> Conference held from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2010, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. To deliberate on *“Promoting employment generating investments as a basis for sustainable growth and development”*. This report provides a summary of highlights of the proceedings, the Zimbabwe delegation participation and the highlights of resolutions made.

## **ZIMBABWE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION**

The Zimbabwe delegation to the Conference of APU 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference consisted of the following members and staff of Parliament:-

1. Hon. Edna Mudzongwe, The President of the Senate
2. Hon. D. D. Mumvuri
3. Hon. B. Chebundo
4. Hon. K. Dube
5. Dr. G. Chipare

6. Mrs. R. D. Makoni
7. Mr. E. Tivakudze, and
8. Mr. M. Mugova, Principal Research Officer, and Secretary to the delegation.

## **OPENING OF THE 59<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Present during the opening Session were Hon. Angel Serafin Seriche Doungan Malabo, Speaker of the House of People's Representatives of Equatorial Guinea, Chairperson of the Executive Committee, His Excellence. Mr. Ahmend Ibrahim Al Tahir, Speaker of the Sudan National Assembly and Honourable Edna Madzongwe, President of the Zimbabwe Senate and Mr. N'ZI Koffi, Secretary General of the APU

In his remarks Hon. A.I.E.L Tahir expressed sincere gratitude to delegates for attending the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the APU, and welcomed in particular, delegates from Libya National Transitional Council (NTC) and South Sudan who

were attending for the first time as observers. He noted that APU needed to enhance relations between Parliaments in Africa and the overall development of the continent, as well as networking with Arab and other international regions. He noted that the meeting was held at a critical time in Africa considering the uprisings that were taking place in parts of North Africa and in the Arab region, hence the need for APU to expand its membership by encouraging more Parliaments in Africa to join the institution.

The Secretary General emphasised the need for APU to implement previous resolutions, before he outlined the programme for the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference.

Presenting the US\$1 327 940 APU budget, he informed the delegates that APU had a budget deficit due to members who were not paying their contributions in time, and that this had been worsened by the 27% US dollar depreciation against other currencies. The Secretary General was encouraged by delegates to look for supplementary sources of funds to boost APU revenue base. In respect of Admission and Readmission,

the Secretary General advised delegates that South Sudan had applied for APU membership and that in accordance with Article 10 of the Statute of APU, the application would be submitted to the conference of Speakers to consider its admission. The budget, the draft agenda and the Secretary General Report were adopted after deliberations and the Executive Committee divided itself into two committees, to deliberate on *“The role of parliamentary institutions in Strengthening cooperation and solidarity among the African countries with view to promote security, stability and prosperity of people”*, and on the *“participation of population, particularly the youth, in national development with a view to combating poverty, putting an end to exclusion and promoting equity”* and made resolutions highlighted below in this report.

## **OFFICIAL OPENING**

His Excellency Hon. A. Bashir presided over the official opening ceremony. He opened his remarks by welcoming all delegates to Sudan, highlighting that Sudan was the centre of great civilisation, multicultural with variegated ethnic groups. He also noted that Sudan had assisted

many African countries to fight for the liberation struggle, including South Africa's N. Mandela. He further pointed that APU was an incarnation of African hope, justice, freedom, citizen dignity and represents the need for necessary legislation for Africa to achieve sustainable peace and security. He also reminded that as a continent, Africa was facing many challenges of conflicts and instability but that through unity of purpose and solidarity, eternal peace and security would be attained on its own without the involvement of foreign forces.

Hon. A. Bashir reminded the delegates that Sudan had made arrangements with South Sudan through assistance of other African countries, and that Sudan was the first country to recognise the new state of South Sudan. He also informed the delegates that Sudan was committed to pursue the route of negotiations to resolve the Darfur conflict, reiterating the need for powerful countries to respect the principle of non-interference, state sovereignty and territorial integrity. He also noted that Sudan was under sanctions and isolation imposed by Western powers, and noted that the country was however enjoying

support from Latin America and other African countries. He emphasised that such problems were also faced by other African countries, so there was need for African countries to unite.

## **THE ZIMBABWE DELEGATION CONTRIBUTION TO THE DELIBERATIONS.**

### **SESSION OF THE 59<sup>TH</sup> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Zimbabwe delegation made several contributions during deliberations that set the tone and focus of debates on critical issues during the Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee of the APU. During the plenary after official opening, the delegation made an intervention highlighting the need for APU to be more pro-active and effective in the implementation of its programmes, projects and activities. The Zimbabwe delegates noted that since the previous meeting in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, there had been apparently, limited tangible deliverables that the APU had achieved on programme implementation. Formed in 1976, the delegation added, the APU was expected to be capable of utilising its institutional capacity and strategic position as a

locomotive force coordinating and facilitating regional integration, cooperation and intra-regional trade in the continent's major sub-regions that include Southern Africa, West Africa, Central and East Africa, as well as the northern Maghreb region. This is vital since the APU membership is supposed to cover the entirety of the continent of Africa.

On the APU 2012 programme, the Zimbabwe delegation welcomed the proposed programme. The delegation, however, noted that in addition to attending regional and international events at the invitation of other organizations, there was need for APU to make efforts to increase the internal profile of its own activities, including inviting sister international bodies to its own meetings. It was emphasised that such international engagements are vital in boosting the credibility and visibility of APU.

During the discussions of the APU Secretary General Report to the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee, the Zimbabwe delegation highlighted the need for the APU and AU to harmonise their functions. The delegation made a reminder to the members of the APU Executive

Committee, that the APU was formed in 1976 during the time of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) whose principles and objectives as stated in the Charter were, among other things; to promote the unity and solidarity of the African states; and to defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its members. Similarly, African Union (AU)'s objectives, as provided for by the Constitutive Act, include; to promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels, integration of African economies and to defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its member states. Thus, the Zimbabwean delegation indicated that to achieve sustainable peace and security in Africa, it was necessary that the APU membership cover the whole continent and operate hand-in-glove with AU sister institutions such as Pan-African Parliament (PAP). The APU Secretary General was encouraged to engage non-state members to become members of the APU.

**Zimbabwe Delegation Participation in the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference in the Second Committee (*Participation of population, particularly the***

*youth in national development with a view to combating poverty, putting an end to exclusion and promoting equity.*

Sharing country experiences on involving youths in national developments, the Zimbabwe delegation informed the committee that since independence in 1980, the government of Zimbabwe has been promoting and involving the youths in national development programmes and activities. In particular, specific national programmes highlighted were the over 20 Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) dotted in all the 10 provinces, which offer an opportunity for youths who could not get enrolled in formal tertiary education to access technical and vocational education and skills for a self-employment generation. The Child Parliament was also cited as another programme that the government of Zimbabwe has been running in order to afford children and youths an opportunity to debate and participate in public affairs and national development, in the same vein, informing the committee that that Zimbabwe has a Ministry of Youth Development and Indigenisation

and Empowerment and also a National Youth Council to coordinate and implement youth programmes.

The Zimbabwe delegates also further noted that, according to the African Charter, Africa's greatest resource is its youthful population, majority of which is affected by unequal access to wealth and power, unemployment, infected and affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and living in situations of poverty and hunger. The Zimbabwe delegation added that, through youths' active and full participation, Africa could alleviate its chronic poverty. Further to that, the Zimbabwe delegates highlighted that, in line with the African Youth Charter, Zimbabwe has a National Youth Policy, which outlines eight poverty alleviation strategies in areas of;

- i) Education and Vocational Skills Training,
- ii) Youth Employment and Access to Resources,
- iii) Youth Empowerment and Participation
- iv) Health, Population and Environment,

- v) Gender Equality and Equity,
- vi) Culture, Sports and Recreation,
- vii) Data and Research and,
- viii) National Youth Service.

The Zimbabwe delegation noted the need for rapporteurs to use standard and professional English Language without grammatical errors to ensure that adequate contents, relevance and consistence of the subject matter in all the documents are maintained. Thus, Zimbabwe delegation was as a result, co-opted into the team of rapporteurs, together with other delegates from Kenya and Sudan.

The Secretary General, encouraged APU member states to improve their communication with APU secretariat in order to expedite the movement of documents in preparations for conferences and summits, especially through the use of electronic media. He noted that electronic communication improves the efficiency of APU interactions and activities. On that note, Parliament of Zimbabwe was hailed by the

Secretary General for having effectively communicated with APU and surrendered all the required documents in preparation for the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the African Parliamentary Union.

### **The Session of Committee of African Women**

#### **Parliamentarians.**

In the proceedings of the Session of the Committee of African Women Parliamentarians, the members of the Zimbabwe delegation made prominent contributions. Sharing Zimbabwe's experience on legal provisions of the Global Political Agreement (GPA) and in line with the mandate of the Inclusive Government, the nation was in the process of making a new constitution. It was noted that the process is marked by active women participation right from the time of outreach consultations to the current drafting phase with a view to produce a gender-sensitive new constitution. In addition, it was pointed out that the Zimbabwean women were pushing for the legislation of Proportional Representation (PR) electoral system in which candidates would not compete on their

own but through their political parties and that, the political parties would be required, under the new system, to submit electoral candidates for election with 50 percent women representation.

Another ground-breaking intervention by the Zimbabwe delegation was on the need for the APU to adopt a Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) as its effective tool of planning and programming. This would be in order to enhance the institution's advancement of gender equality and the fulfillment of women's rights. The strengths of GRB were said to include the fact that, it entails identifying and reflecting needed interventions to address gender gaps in critical areas of policies and plans in sectors such as health and education, and that, it was a good monitoring instrument of the impact of programmes done during each respective APU fiscal year. This intervention by Zimbabwe culminated in the invitation of the Secretary General in the afternoon session to address African Women Parliament on the issue of GRB.

**Zimbabwe Delegations Press Conference to meet Zimbabwe Soccer Star Based in Sudan, Edward Sadomba.**

On December 1, 2011, at 1900 hours local time, the Zimbabwe delegation conducted a Press Conference at Friendship Hotel, Khartoum, with the Zimbabwean footballer, Edward Sadomba based in Sudan, as well as Sudan Government officials and members of the press. The event, which Hon. Madzongwe could not attend due to other commitments, was initially meant to be a low and informal affair. However, it turned out to be a significant occasion during which the Zimbabwe delegation made further milestones in its diplomatic relations with Sudan, the host country, not only for Sadomba but also Zimbabwe delegation.

The representatives of the Sudan Government and the members of the local press expressed their gratitude and satisfaction with the work and performance that Edward Sadomba was doing to the benefit of sporting fraternity, particularly soccer in Sudan. The clear message was that, Edward Sadomba was flying the Zimbabwean flag high as an ‘ambassador’ of the country in Sudan and also that he was a unifying force not only in sport for the different people of Sudan, but that he had

actually further strengthened the relations of the two countries. The Zimbabwe delegation took the opportunity to thank the people and the Government of Sudan for the hospitality and VIP treatment that they received right from the day of arrival until the end of their stay. The Zimbabwe delegation mentioned that wherever they had gone in the city of Khartoum, they had been received with friendliness and a ‘Saa Saa Sadomba’ song in honour of the good sportsmanship and stardom that Sadomba has established in Sudan.

**Summary of the 59<sup>TH</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the African Parliamentary Union Proceedings**

***Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee***

After the opening session and adoption of the African Parliamentary Union, 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee, the Secretary General made an announcement that on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011, it had received correspondence from the South Sudan National Assembly applying for a membership at the African Parliamentary Union. The Executive Committee welcomed the

application and decided, in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of the Statutes recommend and submit to the Conference of the Speakers in order to decide on the submission of the South Sudan National Assembly to the African Parliamentary Union.

The Executive Committee welcomed efforts made by the Secretary General in implementing the Conference's decisions and recommendations and the annual work programme. Of particular significance was, the Secretary General's efforts to increase the international visibility and credibility of the African Parliamentary Union. However, it was noted that in addition to statutory activities related to APU sessions, a large part of the annual work programme was devoted to inter parliamentary and international relations. In that regard, delegates called upon African Parliamentary Union to embark more on its own activities in a manner that directly involves its members through participation in thematic conferences and/or elections observer missions. During discussions it was noted that it was necessary for the Secretary General to craft a medium-term strategic plan of African Parliamentary

Union activities. Delegates noted that such activities should also target Parliaments not yet members of APU, most of which are in southern and eastern Africa who should be encouraged to apply for membership.

6.3 Following the presentation of US\$1 327 940.00 budget for the fiscal year 2012 by the Secretary General, delegates noted that the overall budget estimates slightly varied from that of 2011. Delegates encouraged Secretary General to intensify efforts aimed at ensuring that all member states make their contributions to APU and that all outstanding arrears are cleared in order to boost the institution's revenue base and enable it to finance its core activities.

6.4 The Secretary General also submitted the proposed agenda of the 60<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee, to be held in Rwanda in May 2012, with the following features:

- admissions and readmissions
- review of the implementation of the decisions and the recommendations of the Conference

- Review of the audited account management for the fiscal year 2011.
- Preparation of the agenda of the 35<sup>th</sup> conference
- Draft agenda of the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the Executive Committee.

The 59<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee then broke into two committees, the first committee was on *“Participation of population, particularly the youth, in national development with a view to combating poverty, putting an end to exclusion and promoting equity”* and the second committee was on *“The role of parliamentary institutions in strengthening cooperation and solidarity among the African countries with view to promote security, stability and prosperity of people”*.

### **Session of the committee of African Women Parliamentarians**

6.5 The session began with adoption of agenda, which was amended to include a point related to report activities for 2011. It was noted during the deliberations that violence against women, especially in conflict situations was still rampant, hence the need to encourage all member countries to address it at national, regional and international level. The

APU implement gender budgeting starting 2012. The Secretary General informed delegates that the budget for APU for the fiscal year 2012 had already been adopted by the Executive Committee and that it had provisions for the activities of the committee of women Parliamentarians of the APU during the year 2012. The major resolutions made include, among other things, that the member states to implement strategies that promote women participation in political life; and also that member states should initiate programmes that mobilise and facilitate rural women and young women, in particular, to participate in public and political affairs.

#### 6.6 Programme of activity for 2012

- representation of the APU Committee of Women Parliamentarians at inter Parliamentary and international meetings to which APU is invited.
- meetings between women parliamentarians at national sub-regional levels with partners of their choice including the United Nations.

- participation at seminars on gender and literacy, gender equality and gender and trade etc.
- training in public speaking, budget analysis, internet etc.
- production of a report on the current APU women member of Parliament.

## **Highlights of the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive committee and the 34<sup>th</sup>**

### **conference of the APU Resolutions**

6.7 The following were some of the resolutions adopted after deliberations by the committee on *Participation of population, particularly the youth, in national development with a view to combating poverty, putting an end to exclusion and promoting equity*

1. to promote, respect and protect all the instruments and conventions on human rights and fundamental liberties, good governance and

the rule of law and give priority to education and youth employment to promote their empowerment.

2. to protect the people, especially the most vulnerable, against social risks and disasters, reduce the disparities and eradicate all forms of exclusion in particular by establishing gender equality;
3. to accelerate the signature, ratification and implementation process of the African Youth Charter;
4. to give the youth the material resources, the competences and the intergenerational synergies which will help them contribute fully in the democratic development of the continent, based on the absence of gender discrimination, peace and the respect of human rights;
5. to incorporate a gender perspective commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of all national development strategies;

6.8 The following were some of the resolutions adopted after deliberations by the committee on *the role of parliamentary*

*institutions in strengthening cooperation and solidarity among the African countries with view to promote security, stability and prosperity of people:*

- to adopt and harmonize policies, strategies and initiatives ensuring human security, in accordance with the objectives of African Union (AU) protocol establishing the Peace and Security Council adopted by the First Ordinary Sessions of AU Heads of State Conference in Durban 9 July 2002;
- reiterates its adhesion and support to Africa's integration and urges national parliaments to harmonise and implement legislations enhancing infrastructure, free movement of persons, goods, services and capital;
- calls upon national parliaments and the parliamentary institutions of the continent to prioritise acquisition of knowledge and skills badly needed in Africa;
- calls for the development of concerted inter-African collaboration for conflict prevention, management and resolution;

- calls on the national parliaments of the African countries to ensure that their countries mobilise the necessary resources for development and good governance;

## 7.0 **Conclusion**

7.1 The 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the African Parliamentary Union was a success not only for APU in general, but for the Zimbabwe delegation in particular. Zimbabwe's participation in this institution was highly appreciated and acknowledged considering the contributions that the delegations made, and the roles and responsibilities that were given to the members of the delegation.

7.2 The next session of the APU, the 60<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Committee and the 35<sup>th</sup> conference of the APU resolutions will be held this year in Rwanda.

**SENATOR MUMVURI:** Thank you Madam Chair. I want to second the motion which was moved by Senator Dube. Yes we did go to Sudan for the purposes of that foreign delegation, just like the other

delegation which went to India, they had their lighter moments. We learnt a lot; it is actually the platform on which the African countries share their concerns on government, environmental sustainability and all other issues. From time to time I think we urge ourselves to go there and seriously take part in such conferences.

I just want to add to what Senator Dube said. As I said, these are now lighter moments, like what my earlier speaker Senator Muchihwa has also done. When you are there you meet so many experiences. When we went to Sudan, our delegation at the airport was treated exceptionally well. We did not expect the red carpet treatment which we received, considering that we landed at the airport at 2a.m in the morning in Khartoum. There was a full guard of honor to receive the Madam President and us. We have received such treatment in other countries we least expected it and we were not even in our suits anyway, but even in our casual, we were given a red carpet treatment.

I want to interpret this as Sudan being aware of our very cordial relations with the Southern part, their rivals, the Sudan government

wanted to take advantage of the hosting of the APU to court favours from the government of Zimbabwe, to help them engage their rival in the south in order to solve their conflict which is ongoing there. As we are aware by the time which we went, Sudan had separated into two states, there was now Southern Sudan, which is very fond of Zimbabweans because we helped them in their fight. However, the Zimbabwean Government according to me should therefore play an honest mediatory role taking advantage of the respect which it is accorded by both sides. For example, we should give both states and the nations here in Zimbabwe equal status of their diplomatic representation. We have an office of Southern Sudan; we have also diplomatic representation of the Sudan itself so that we maintain our good relations with both countries and help them resolve their conflict. We do not want to fuel the conflict by siding with one side. That way we should be credited for playing a fair role in resolving the dispute between the two rivals.

Another point which I want to mention is on the third day of our stay in Sudan, we had an opportunity to meet one of our nationals who has made a big name in that country through playing soccer and this is Edward Sadomba. Our own export is doing very well, he is so popular that wherever we went, if they knew that we were Zimbabweans, they thanked us for allowing Sadomba to play soccer in their country and they would praise us and shout a slogan *Sa-Sa-Sadomba*, he is so popular there. At other places we got free entry and credits because we were Zimbabweans and because of Sadomba who is playing soccer there. So he is playing a true ambassador's role in that country, I think we should praise that one.

A press conference was arranged for us to meet our national, Sadomba and his wife. The event which Hon. President of Senate Cde. Madzongwe could not attend due to earlier commitment was initially meant to be a low and informal affair, but later on it turned out to be a significant occasion during which the Zimbabwe delegation made further milestones in diplomatic relations with the Sudan, the host

country of the APU. What is important about this occasion let me explain; the fact is that the press conference which we attended was arranged by a rival club for which Sadomba plays. It was arranged by the L. Mereki Executive Club and our son plays for L Hilawu, just like Highlanders and Dynamos or highlanders and CAPS United. The L. Mereki were the champions who had won the league there, but they are the ones who arranged this for Sadomba to come and meet us and they paid everything that is good unity and we should emulate the same here when Dynamos are the Champions. An occasion can be arranged by CAPS United or Highlanders for the people to meet. It is a uniting factor, actually soccer is a uniting factor in Sudan.

Then on the last day of our stay, we had a working dinner at the Ambassador's official residence where we were availed the opportunity to meet Zimbabweans who are working in the Sudan and can you believe it they are employed in various fields there. The Ambassador, Her Excellency Elder Mafudze, arranged this for us to go and see her. There are our youngsters who are employed as teachers in the Sudan and

there also other technical personnel who are employed in the field where hitherto there was conflict in the South. They are helping in the recovery and re-construction of the country and Zimbabweans are at the fore front of doing that, taking advantage of that. So we are very grateful for that and they were very pleased to see us and giving them support to continue working there most of them are used.

Lastly I want to urge the Government of Zimbabwe, if possible to offer to host such a conference sometime here so that we can also benefit from the inflow of forex and the tourism can be boosted by such an occasion. Thank you.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

**MOTION**

FIRST REPORT OF THE THEMATIC COMMITTEE ON  
INDIGENISATION AND EMPOWERMENT ON THE STATUS OF  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIGENISATION POLICY

Twelfth Order read: Adjourned debate on motion on the First  
Report of the Thematic Committee on Indigenisation and Empowerment  
on the Status of Implementation of the Indigenisation and Empowerment  
Policy.

Question again proposed.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL  
AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

**MOTION**

SIGNING OF THE AFRICAN CHARTER ON DEMOCRACY,  
ELECTIONS AND GOVERNANCE

Thirteenth Order read: Adjourned debate on motion on the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

Question again proposed.

**\*SENATOR MAKAMURE:** Thank you Hon. President for giving me this opportunity to make my contribution on the motion raised by Hon. Senator Marava. I also thank the Hon. Senator who seconded the motion, Hon. Senator Hlalo, Hon. Senator Makore and Hon. Senator Rugara.

This motion enlightened me after contributions made by Hon. Senator Makunde who advised us that you debate after reading through the report. Yes, we read the report and discovered that this is an important motion regarding the development of our country Zimbabwe. The importance attached to this is shown by its implementation by fifteen other countries in Africa. We also discussed the operations of the African Union which created the African Charter on the important issues for the continent of Africa. If that had been followed, there would have been no need for establishing institutions such as the National Healing

organ or JOMIC because this was introduced by the African Union (AU) in 2008.

I plead with this House to implement and enact a law on peaceful co-existence in the country and development in Zimbabwe. I thank you.

**+SENATOR K. DUBE:** Thank you Madam President. I want to add my voice to the motion that was brought by Hon. Senator Marava. If we are to stand for the truth following the African Charter, I was saying Madam President, if we are to stand for the truth following what is written here about the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;

I cannot remember if Hon. Senators Marava and Hlalo mentioned if we signed it. However, I believe Hon. Senator Hlalo said that it has not been signed and it is now five years. If I am not mistaken, it is clear that if we did not sign it, we recognised that we do not qualify. What is contained here points that if we have democracy and have love for our people and if we have love for our country's governance, then we should

have signed it. What is here is the same as what is in the GPA that we have to meet some standards that show that the country has democracy.

With us, there are so many things that reveal that we do not have democracy. At this time, so many people fear that we are going for elections. When we speak of elections, many of them say that we would rather remain in the situation that we are in because now we can buy everything we want from the shops and if we go for elections, it is obvious that there will be violence. Others also mention that there are people who have started creating bases. One wonders if there is democracy in such a country.

Hon. Senator Khumalo was in Lesotho observing elections; we go around so many countries as Observers and have seen so many things that happen in other countries. At times you would find that at a particular place, different parties meet to chant slogans and sing their songs which does not happen in this country. As we go for the elections, many nations are watching us, as a country we have shown that on our own, we cannot unite and we do not have peace and that is why other

nations have intervened to such an extent that they tell us how to conduct our own elections. This reveals that we have failed to unite and be truthful. As I speak, tomorrow, I will not be around because I received a phone call that one of my grandchildren passed on in South Africa. We have so many children in the diaspora; they want to return home, however, now they prefer to die in the diaspora because they fear us.

**+SENATOR DUBE:** In Zimbabwe, we are far behind. We are the Upper House and we should stand for the truth. Many people speak secretly that things are not well and we are the ones causing it. Some of us are in this House because we violated other people's rights; we beat them up and found our way into this House. We should stand for the truth and lead our nation in the correct way such that you are either in the House of Assembly or you are in the Senate because you campaigned and managed to convince people to vote for you, in the way a boy manages to court a girl without using any violence. Let us do that and free our country.

## **THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate to now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

### **MOTION**

#### **FIRST REPORT OF THE THEMATIC COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE STATE OF PRISONS AND PRISONERS IN ZIMBABWE**

Fourteenth Order read: Adjourned debate on motion on the First Report of the Thematic Committee on Human Rights on the State of Prisons and Prisoners in Zimbabwe.

Question again proposed.

**SENATOR NCUBE:** I would like to thank you for giving me this time to add my voice on the report that was tabled in this House by Honourable Senator Marava, also the Chairperson of the Human Rights Thematic Committee. I think our prisons were built during the colonial

era. As a country, there are a lot of things which we have inherited which are not right. Those prisons were built during the colonial regime. If you look at all the prisons in the country, they were meant to accommodate a black person. I think the Government should consider that we are now independent, we are no longer colonised, we have to take another step so that we try to improve our prisons.

Madam President, yes, people go there in different ways, some are thieves, some are murders and some are rapists. Let me start talking about the cells that we have in the country. I will try to refer to Bulawayo Central Police Station, where I was once detained. Those cells are very small but if you look at the number of people who are put in those cells, the cells were not meant to accommodate such a number of people. I do not think that during the colonial era the cells were accommodating the number of people that are being accommodated now. Those cells are meant, maybe for 10 people but they can put more than 40 in a cell.

The question is, why did the Government inherit such a bad thing because in the cells there is a toilet? For those who have not been there, the situation there is very bad. I urge the Government to come up with a new system of cells because the current system was not built for people to stay for more than a week, it was built for people who will be staying for 3 days. But there are people who now stay in cells for more than a month, two months or a year. The Government should look into that.

I just want to commend again the Seventh Day Adventist Women's Dorcas for going around the country, collecting socks, old clothes to give to the prisoners. They also talk to them trying to come to understand, so that they do not do the bad things that will have taken them to the prisons again.

There is also a program shown on ZTV on Tuesdays. Yesterday I was watching that programme, there was a girl who was confessing. Really, it was bad, but it was interesting again because she said a lot of things. So, I think people now know that if you do bad things, you will be sentenced for so many years, you go and stay in prison for 10 or more

years. That girl was confessing, she says her name was Sakhile Mangena, she was saying she used to commit robberies, she said a lot of things. Yesterday, she was confessing, it touched me very much, that is the reason why I said I have to debate on this motion. We want people in the prisons not to feel neglected because if you look here at Parliament, prisoners always come here to clean and to do many other things. So, people should be punished but they should also be catered for because their health is also most important. So, I urge the Government to please try and consider the prisons that were built in the colonial era. Let us try to improve our prisons so that even if people go there they do not feel that bad. There must be health facilities so that they take care of them. I just want to thank the Committee that tabled this report in the House. I thank you.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

## **MOTION**

### **MEASURES TO CURB DROUGHT.**

Fifteenth Order read: Adjourned debate on motion on harsh climatic conditions in Region V.

Question again proposed.

### **THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

## **MOTION**

### **FIRST REPORT OF THE THEMATIC COMMITTEE ON MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS ON THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION IN RESETTLED AREAS.**

Sixteenth Order read: Adjourned debate on motion on the First Report of the Thematic Committee on Millenium development Goals on the Provision of Education in Resettled Areas.

Question again proposed.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL**

**AFFAIRS:** I move that the debate do now adjourn.

Motion put and agreed to.

Debate to resume: Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2012.

*On the motion of* **THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**, *the Senate adjourned at Five Minutes to Five o'clock p.m.*