



**REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION TO
THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT**



**SIXTH
PARLIAMENT FIRST
ORDINARY SESSION 24
OCTOBER – 10 NOVEMBER 2022
MIDRAND, SOUTH AFRICA**

INTRODUCTION

The 1st ordinary session of the 6th Pan-African Parliament (PAP) took place from Monday 24 October to Thursday 10 November 2022 in Midrand, South Africa, and was attended by PAP members, guests, and support staff of member state delegations.

The session was held under the African Union theme for 2022, “***Building resilience in nutrition on the African continent***”. *Accelerate the human capital, social and economic development.*”

The delegation of parliamentarians from the National Assembly of The Gambia to the 6th Pan-African Parliament comprised the following National Assembly Members (NAMs):

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- Hon. Alhagie Mbow – NAM for Upper Saloum Constituency – Head of Delegation
 - Hon. Suwaibou Touray – NAM for Wuli East Constituency
 - Hon. Sulayman Saho – NAM for Central Baddibu Constituency
 - Hon. Salifu Jawo – NAM for Jokadu Constituency
 - Hon. Maimuna Ceesay – Nominated NAM
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WEEK 1:

On **Monday 24 October, 2022** the first meeting of the session started with the arrival in the Hon. Dr Idriss Moussa Ndele Hall of the PAP President, H.E. Hon. Senator Chief Fortune Charumbira (Zimbabwe), together with other members of the Bureau of the PAP, except the 1st Vice President.

The PAP is headed by a Bureau, which consists of a President and four Vice Presidents, each of whom represents one of the five regions of the African continent. The current Bureau of the PAP comprises H.E. Hon. Senator Chief Fortune Charumbira (Zimbabwe) as President, Hon. Professor Mrs. Massouda Mohamed Laghdaf (Mauritania) as 1st Vice President, Hon. Dr Ashebiri Woldegiorgis Gayo (Ethiopia) as 2nd Vice President, Hon. Mrs. Lucia Maria Mendes Goncalves dos Passos (Cabo Verde) as 3rd Vice President, and Hon. Francois Ango Ndoutoume (Gabon) as 4th Vice President.

After silent prayers, the PAP President in his opening address said: *“On behalf of the Bureau of the Pan-African Parliament I extend a warm and fraternal welcome to you to the First Ordinary Session of the Pan-African Parliament, which is being held under the African Union theme of the year: Building resilience in nutrition on the African continent. Accelerate the human capital, social and economic development.”*

He stated that this session of the PAP will be crucial in fostering full PAP functionality and that the first week of the session will focus on proposals for amendment of the PAP Rules of Procedure. He emphasised the centrality of the Rules of Procedure to the normal functioning of the PAP; it is a vital tool for the PAP in the performance of its functions. He said: ***“The new roadmap needs to guide us and ensure a more effective execution of the mandate of (the) PAP...I urge all members to impart and share their input and suggestions during this process. In this way, the PAP will play a significant role and become the big brother of parliaments in Africa. “***

The PAP President assigned the regional caucuses of the PAP the duty to consider and critically assess the gaps in the PAP Rules of Procedure and areas of improvement of the Rules, which had been identified by the Permanent Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Discipline, and make proposals for amendments of the Rules. He said: *“Each Regional Caucus representing the five regions of Africa needs to go through all 94 rules, reflect on them, interpret them, and, if necessary, amend them, or even devise new rules, if necessary.”*

The PAP President was hopeful that the intended review of the PAP Rules of Procedure will strengthen the Permanent Committees and their work. He said: *“We want to make our committees stronger through these amendments. For example, we will be unbundling some committees such as Trade in view of the creation of the African Continental Free Trade Area.”*

The PAP members, led by the caucus chairpersons, met in their respective regional caucuses, namely, Central Africa, Eastern Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, and Western Africa, to build consensus on the review of the draft Rules of Procedure before their tabling in the PAP plenary later in the session.

In the conduct of their deliberations the regional caucuses were guided by the PAP Rules of Procedure, the Protocol on the Constitutive Act of the African Union relating to the PAP, the Report of the Consultative Workshop on the Revision of the PAP Rules of Procedure by the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline, and a Report entitled “Gaps Identified in the Rules of Procedure”.

The consultations continued through **Tuesday 25 October**.

On **Wednesday 26 October** there was a meeting of the Bureau of the PAP in the morning which was followed by a joint meeting of all the regional caucuses in the afternoon to consider amendments to the Rules of Procedure. The chairpersons of the regional caucuses then presented the reports of their caucuses on the amendments to the Rules of Procedure as follows:

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- Central Africa – Hon. Jaynet Desirée Kabila (Democratic Republic of Congo)
 - Eastern Africa – Hon. Terrence Mondon (Seychelles)
 - Northern Africa – Hon. Sen. Azzeddine Abdelmajid (Algeria)
 - Southern African Caucus – Hon. Pemmy Castelina Pamela Majodina (South Africa)
 - Western African Caucus – Hon. Alhagie Mbow (The Gambia)
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The presentation of the reports of the regional caucuses was followed by a debate and closing remarks by the PAP President who urged the regional caucuses to strive harder to find common ground on those issues on which consensus was yet to be achieved. He advised the regional caucuses to submit their draft recommendations on the amendment of the Rules of Procedure to the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Discipline.

The issues on which consensus had to be built included but were not limited to:

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- Status, tenure of office and mandate of members (Rule 7)
 - Vacation of seat (Rule 8)
 - Oath or solemn declaration upon coming into office (Rule 9)
 - Privileges and immunities (Rule 10)
 - Application of the principle of rotation to the Bureau of the PAP (Rule 14), including nomination of candidates (Rule 15), election of the members of the Bureau (Rule 16) as well as the regional caucuses (Rule 83)
 - The reporting obligations of the Clerk and the functions of the Clerk in relation to the conduct of elections to the Bureau of the PAP (Rule 21)
 - The composition of committees, including the restructuring of existing committees and the establishment of new committees (Rule 22).
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On **Thursday 27 October and Friday 28 October** there was a meeting of the Permanent Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline to consider amendments to the Rules of Procedure, which was held concurrently with meetings of the Permanent Committees of the PAP.

The Gambian delegates participated in the work of the various committees of which they are members:

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- Hon. Alhagie Mbow – Committee on Transport, Industry, Communications, Energy, Science and Technology
 - Hon. Suwaibou Touray – Committee on Justice and Human Rights
 - Hon. Sulayman Saho – Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources
 - Hon. Salifu Jawo – Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs
 - Hon. Maimuna Ceesay – Committee on Gender, Family, Youth and People with Disability
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On **Friday 28 October** the Permanent Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline also considered the credentials of the new PAP members who were to be sworn in on Monday 31 October.

On **Saturday 29 October** there was an orientation meeting of new PAP members which was held concurrently with a meeting of the Permanent Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline to consider amendments to the Rules of Procedure.

WEEK 2:

On **Monday 31 October** the 6th Parliament was officially opened.

After silent prayers and a rendition of the African Union anthem, the PAP President invited the special guests of the PAP to take their seats in the Chamber, namely, Hon. Sidie Mohammed Tunis, Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament, Hon. Rawhi Fattouh, Speaker of the Palestinian National Council, and Baroness Patricia Scotland KC, Commonwealth Secretary General.

Following an opening address by the PAP President, new PAP members from Morocco, Mozambique, Somalia, and Tanzania, were then sworn in. The new members are:

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- Hon. Bernadette Nduwamana – Burundi
 - Hon. Hannaa Aboulkhir – Morocco
 - Hon. Sarfina Filipe Franco Chindaculema – Mozambique
 - Hon. Sen. Prof. Abdi Ismael Samatar – Somalia
 - Hon. Mohamed Jama Mursal – Somalia
 - Hon. Abdurahman Mohamed Hussein – Somalia
 - Hon. Zamzam Mohamed Omar – Somalia
 - Hon. Toufiq Salim Turkey – Tanzania
 - Hon. Ng’wasi Damas Kamani – Tanzania
 - Hon. Anatropia Theonest – Tanzania
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After the swearing in ceremony of the new PAP members the PAP President adjourned the session for thirty minutes.

The session resumed with the entry of H.E. Ronald Lamola, Minister of Justice and Correctional Services of the Republic of South Africa representing the guest of honour of the PAP, H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa, the President of the Republic of South Africa. This was followed by renditions of the African Union anthem and the Republic of South Africa national anthem.

After the welcome remarks by the PAP President the special guests of the PAP were invited to deliver statements and messages of solidarity.

In delivering the first message of solidarity to the PAP the Speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament, Hon. Sidie Mohamed Tunis emphasised the importance of agriculture and the role that climate change and the African Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) will play in ensuring food security on the continent. He said: *“Africa has huge agricultural potential, but we must invest in the entire food chain and intercontinental trade through the AfCFTA. This is key if we want to end hunger on the continent.”* He also said: *“Granted, we are in an interdependent world but the level of dependence in Africa should be brought to its barest minimum.”*

In delivering the second message of solidarity to the PAP, the Speaker of the Palestine National Council Hon. Rawhi Fattouh thanked the people of Africa for their support in the struggle against genocide and deprivation of rights by the people of Palestine. He extolled the virtues of the late Nelson Mandela as a freedom fighter. He reminded the PAP that African countries had played a key role in ending colonialism, whilst highlighting the fight was not yet over. He said: *“Remember, you are the voice of Africa and Africa needs to speak with one voice. We are under the same sky.”*

In delivering the third message of solidarity to the PAP the Commonwealth Secretary General Baroness Patricia Scotland KC expressed her pride in being the first Commonwealth Secretary General to address the PAP. She stated that she is a lawyer and that, *“lawyers, like parliamentarians are considered a dangerous breed. We stand in the gap. We fight not with arms but with words”*. She identified four challenges in the push for a pan-African renaissance, viz. governance (public sector management), corruption, trade, and justice (no peace without justice, no justice without peace) and emphasised: *“The role of the PAP is now more important than ever, and its members will have to lead us into a better, brighter future, despite glaring challenges.”*

In delivering his own statement, the PAP President emphasised the rebranding of the PAP and the ongoing process to reform the PAP to promote efficiency and relevance to tackle contemporary continental as well as global challenges. He questioned: *“What is going to be our place in history? What will define the sixth Parliament from its predecessors?”* He also pointed out: *“Clearly the PAP has a critical role to play in ensuring that the subjects of themes past, and present do not fall off the radar when our people, our member states and our continent are still struggling with those issues. It is clearly within our remit as the continental oversight organ to continue following up on the effective implementation of the policies and programmes of the Union notwithstanding the fact that a particular theme has passed.”*

In delivering the keynote address and officially opening the 1st ordinary session of the 6th Pan-African Parliament, Hon. Ronald Lamola commended the PAP for holding the session under the African Union theme for 2022. He urged the PAP member states to ratify the Malabo Protocol and strive for continental economic integration to foster socio-economic development. He also reaffirmed the strategic importance of the PAP and assured the PAP of the continued support of the South African Government for its operations. He said:

“The current geo-political context characterised by uncertainty, nationalism, and polarisation, and compounded by the impacts of climate change, among which our

continent is the hardest hit, continues to present challenges for food security and nutrition. As you well know, healthy and well-nourished citizens and modern agriculture for increased productivity and production are some of the key goals included in the African Union Agenda 2063, the Africa We Want...I believe that the Model Law on Food and Nutrition Security in Africa discussed during the committee sittings held August 2022 provides guidance on how best to align these functions of food security and nutrition which tend to be located in the Ministries of Agriculture and Health respectively...

“Furthermore, in order to strengthen the mandate of the PAP such that it becomes a legislative organ of the African Union as envisaged in the 2014 Malabo Protocol, I would like to appeal to all parliamentarians to continue the advocacy work for the ratification of the aforementioned 2014 Malabo Protocol so that it may enter into force as soon as possible. South Africa is seized with the process of ratification of the Malabo Protocol, and we hope to report good news in this regard, in the near future.

“The African Continental Free Trade Area is also one of the tools at our disposal to contribute to greater integration, but it would require the finalisation of harmonisation of standards across the continent and the streamlining of our supply chains, among others. Much depends on the progress that we make at the national level to adopt the relevant legislation that will allow the commencement of preferential trade, for instance, on trade in goods. Encouraging progress is being registered on the agreed five priority areas, being finance, transport, tourism, communications, and professional sectors...

“Finally, I wish to reiterate on behalf of the Government of South Africa, our commitment to provide all the necessary support to facilitate the work of the Pan-African Parliament. In this respect, the South African government remains resolute that the permanent precinct of the Pan-African Parliament is finalised, and my government has made good progress in resolving the issues that have been obstacles. Our goal is to ensure that the African Union organs hosted in South Africa are housed under one roof.”

On **Tuesday 1 November** the business of the PAP revolved around several thematic presentations and ensuing debates:

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1. Presentation and debate on the performance review report of the Pan-African Parliament activities, by the PAP President
 2. Presentation and debate on the African Union theme for 2022 “Building resilience in nutrition on the African continent: Accelerate the human capital, social and economic

development” by Dr. Chimimba David Phiri, FAO subregional coordinator for Eastern Africa and FAO Representative to the AU and UNECA and Hon. Didier Molisho Said, chairperson of the Committee on Rural Economy and Agriculture (Democratic Republic of Congo)

3. Presentation and debate on the status of peace and security in Africa, by Hon. Dr. Sherif Mostafa El Gabally, chairperson of the Permanent Committee on Cooperation, International Relations, and Conflict Resolution (Egypt) and Ambassador Emilia Ndinelaio Mkusa, chairperson of the AU Peace and Security Council (virtual)
 4. Presentation on the model law on statelessness and debate on the report of the roundtable on advancing democratic governance through the implementation of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) and enhanced citizen engagement, by Hon. Dr. Sherif Mostafa El Gabally, chairperson of the Permanent Committee on Cooperation, International Relations, and Conflict Resolution (Egypt)
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In his presentation the PAP President emphasised that the performance review report is intended to present to the plenary the activities undertaken by the PAP since the elective session in June 2022, the results achieved, and the challenges faced by the PAP in the discharge of its duties. He pointed out that the results were anchored on the four thematic objectives of the PAP 2019 – 2023 strategic plan, which include, viz. strengthening parliamentary functions, strengthening partnerships, coordination, outreach, and institutional capacity, promoting the support of the human rights and social inclusion goals of the AU, and strengthening learning and sharing, knowledge management, communication, and advocacy of the PAP.

The report was unanimously adopted by the plenary and PAP members mostly lauded the achievements of the President and the Bureau in the relatively short period of less than six months since their election.

Dr. Chimimba David Phiri provided an overview of the report of the PAP workshop on the AU theme of the year. He noted amongst other things: “*The African Union theme of the year 2022 is well aligned with FAO’s work on nutrition and could not have come at a better time. Africa is grappling with climate extremes, conflict, and an undaunted economic slowdown. Spotlight has been brought to hunger and malnutrition through this theme and African Union member states have to closely interrogate their obligations to be achieved by the year 2025 in the Malabo Commitments and the African Union Agenda 2063*”.

Hon. Didier Molisho Said (Democratic Republic of Congo) led the presentation and debate on the AU theme of the year. In his presentation, Hon. Said bemoaned Africa's overdependence on import of foreign agricultural products. He said: *"If Africa was self-sufficient, the funds used to import agricultural products could be used for development. Therefore, it is imperative that African parliamentarians play a critical role in advocating and lobbying for enabling laws and policies that promote the agenda of food and nutrition security at the national, regional, and continental levels"*. He exhorted: *"African Union member states should endeavour to develop and prioritise strong country strategies to fight hunger and malnutrition in all its forms on the continent"*.

Hon. Said's presentation was followed by presentations and debate on the status of peace and security in Africa in which, notably, H.E. Ambassador Emilia Ndimelao Mkusa briefed PAP Members on the security situation on the continent via video conference link.

In his contribution to the debate on the status of peace and security in Africa Hon. Suwaibou Touray (The Gambia) expressed concern about the root causes of conflict, including armed insurrections and coups, and foreign interference in African affairs. He also questioned the steps the African Union is taking to ensure Africa has a seat on the United Nations Security Council.

Hon. Sulayman Saho (The Gambia) identified bad governance and corruption as causes of conflict in Africa.

Hon. Maimuna Ceesay (The Gambia) emphasised the need for the Malabo Protocol to be ratified by all the members of the African Union so that any unconstitutional change of power can be dealt with effectively by the African Union. She posited that economic deprivation is a contributing factor to conflicts in Africa and argued that security of countries on the continent is essential.

Hon. Dr. Sheriff Mostafa El-Gabally (Egypt) called for reactivation of the Sub-Committee on Sanctions and the need to identify or recognise the role of foreign players (powers) in conflict in Africa. He also argued for more resources and facilities to be devoted to tackling conflicts in Africa, including carrying out fact-finding missions.

Other contributions covered various conflict situations that need to be resolved, viz. Morocco and Western Sahara (Sahrawi Republic), Ethiopia and its Tigray region, the Cabo Delgado region of Mozambique, Chad, and Democratic Republic of Congo.

The next presentation was done by Hon. Dr. Sheriff Mostafa El-Gabally (Egypt) on the model law on statelessness, and he also led the debate on the report of the roundtable on advancing democratic governance through the implementation of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) and enhanced citizen engagement. In particular, Hon. El-Gabally pointed out that statelessness stems from gaps in the nationality laws of countries. This in turn leads to denial of educational, employment, and other rights, of those affected by statelessness. In effect, statelessness is a serious human rights problem.

On **Wednesday 2 November** there was a high-level parliamentary dialogue on democracy, human rights, and governance in Africa under the theme: “Unconstitutional changes in government and political transitions in Africa”. There was an opening ceremony which consisted of addresses by various speakers. This was followed by two thematic sessions, namely:

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1. Interrogating the relevance and effectiveness of regional legal, political, and institutional frameworks relating to unconstitutional changes of government and political transitions.
 2. Unpacking the resurging phenomenon of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa: State of affairs, causes, drivers, and consequences.
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In his address to the PAP members, Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace, and Security of the African Union (remote participation) pointed out: *“Democracy cannot solve all our problems overnight, but it is the best pathway decided by your leaders. Your Parliament is a central component of ensuring that democracy thrives”*.

Mr. Gram Matenga, Thematic Lead on Political Participation and Representative for Africa and Western Asia, International IDEA, explored the socio-economic causes and drivers of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa.

Professor Charles Fombad, professor of comparative constitutional law at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, described unconstitutional changes of government as a threat to the entrenchment of constitutionalism in Africa.

Mr. Ethan Mudavanhu, Legal Adviser of the Internet Society and United Nations IGF Global Youth Ambassador spoke about the use of the Internet to engage with citizens, as well as its role in unconstitutional changes of government.

Ms. Qhawekazi Mene, Head of Peace and Security Cluster, Southern African Development Community Youth Forum said that young people expect their member states to empower them and foster their inclusion in democratic processes. She also highlighted the crucial nexus between citizens and unconstitutional changes of government.

Hon. Professor Jacques Dioli, author and professor of constitutional law, and PAP member spoke about the relevance and deployment of PAP members for the prevention and combatting of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa, and the obstacles and challenges to achieving that goal.

After the presentations, the PAP members discussed the various issues highlighted by the speakers. They emphasised amongst other issues the relevance of sound legal, political, and institutional frameworks to unconstitutional changes of government and political transitions. They argued that whilst Article 4 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union condemns and prohibits unconstitutional changes of government, multilateral corporations, mercenaries, and rogue states were eroding democratic principles in Africa. They also urged support for democratic institutions in Africa.

After the discussions, Hon. Felix Okot Ogong (Uganda) presented the draft recommendations for the 2022 high-level parliamentary dialogue on democracy, human rights, and governance in Africa under the theme: “Unconstitutional changes in government and political transitions in Africa”.

In his closing remarks, the PAP President stated: *“The resurgence of unconstitutional changes of government, acts of terrorism, increase in the number of coups d’états across the continent is a concern and a serious issue. Free and fair elections is the only vehicle to achieve peace and stability”*.

On **Thursday 3 November** business commenced with the presentation and debate on the amendments of the PAP Rules of Procedure. The amendments were presented by Hon. Thembekile Richard Majola (South Africa), chairperson of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Discipline of the PAP who concluded by stating: *“The Rules Committee is pleased to report that most of the errors in the current Rules have been corrected”*.

The PAP President then opened the floor for debate. However, following a proposal from Hon. Mohammed Muntaka Mubarak (Ghana), the PAP President invited the chairpersons of the five regional caucuses to confirm the submission of Hon. Majola on the points agreed on during the joint meeting of the regional caucuses with the Rules Committee.

In his confirmation the chairperson of the Western Africa regional caucus Hon. Alhagie Mbow stated: *“The Report presented by the President of the Rules Committee is factual and the caucus agrees with the proposed amendments”*.

The chairpersons of the regional caucuses confirmed that the amended Rules provided for the principles of equal opportunity and equal participation. They also confirmed that it took a collaborative effort of the regional caucus leaders to arrive at a consensus on most issues, but differences about the composition and mandates of the Permanent Committees of the PAP remain unresolved.

There are currently eleven Permanent Committees of the PAP as follows:

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1. Rural Economy, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environment
 2. Education, Culture, Tourism, and Human Resources
 3. Monetary and Financial Affairs
 4. Trade, Customs, and Immigration Matters
 5. Health, Labour, and Social Affairs
 6. Gender, Family, Youth, and People with Disability
 7. Justice and Human Rights
 8. Rules, Privileges, and Discipline
 9. Transport, Industry, Communication, Energy, Science, and Technology
 10. Cooperation, International Relations, and Conflict Resolution
 11. Audit and Public Accounts
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After the confirmation by the chairpersons of the five regional caucuses Hon. Mohammed Muntaka Mubarak (Ghana) moved a motion for adoption of the amended Rules. The motion was seconded by Hon. Dr. Mathole Serofu Motshekga (South Africa) who urged the PAP to abandon the Western notion of taking decisions by voting in favour of deciding by consensus. The chairperson of the Women’s Caucus, Hon. Amina Tidjani Yaya (Chad) and the chairperson of the Youth Caucus, Hon. Mrs. Dali Laila (Morocco) also supported the amendments.

The chairperson of the Rules Committee then rose to move a motion for the amendment of the PAP Rules of Procedure and that the Rules should enter into force immediately upon adoption by the PAP plenary. Hon. Mohammed Muntaka Mubarak (Ghana) seconded the motion, followed by a PAP member from Benin who also requested for the PAP plenary to adopt the Report of the Rules Committee. The motion on amendment of the PAP Rules of Procedure was adopted, and the PAP President adjourned the session.

The 13th PAP Conference on Women's Rights under the theme: "Women's empowerment and inclusion in governance" started later in the afternoon. The Conference gathered various stakeholders to tackle issues affecting women in Africa and afford a platform to assess the role of women in governance.

In her welcome remarks, Hon. Amina Tidjani Yaya (Chad), chairperson of the Women's Caucus, underscored the importance of the platform in bringing the plight of African women to the fore.

In her opening address, the PAP 3rd Vice President Hon. Mrs. Lucia Maria Mendes Goncalves dos Passos (Cabo Verde) paid tribute to women parliamentarians across the continent who have played a key role in the promotion of women's issues and highlighted their contribution to strengthening democratic processes in Africa.

Ms. Estherine Fotabong, representing Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Chief Executive Officer of the Africa Union Development Agency – New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) commended the PAP for organising the Women's Conference for 13 consecutive years. She added that women are the backbone of African societies, and the vision of Agenda 2063 cannot be achieved without inclusion and equal participation of women.

Ms. Maureen Shonge of the United Nations Women East and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) said that the Women's Conference delivers programmes, policies, and standards to uphold women's human rights and ensure that women and girls fulfil their full potential.

Ms. Chinwe Ogonna of the United Nations Population Fund East and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) stated: "*We recognise that progress achieved for women and*

youth stems from the fact that you provide oversight, advisory functions and consultative spaces, such as the one today that has been convened to discuss the women's rights".

For his part, the PAP President said that women's equal participation and leadership in political and public life are essential to strengthening governance and achieving sustainable development, peace, and security.

On **Friday 4 November** the Conference on Women's Rights continued with various other invited guests addressing the PAP members, including Rt. Hon. Nosiviwe Nolutando Mapisa-Nqakula, Speaker of the National Assembly of South Africa, who said: "*Over the years since the establishment of the African Union, our continent has shown commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women*".

Dr. Tapiwa Uchizi Nyasulu-Rweyemamu, Head of Policy and Development of the African Union Women, Gender, and Youth Directorate (AU-WGYD) highlighted the international and continental commitments pledged by African Union member states to address gender inequality and implement women's empowerment schemes.

Ms. Dorothy Otieno of the African Women's Development and Communication Network discussed the importance of legislation in addressing the existing gaps between policy framework on women's rights and actual realities of African women.

Ms. Dora Prevost, a South African sculptor and life coach appealed to the PAP members as she presented her work: "*Today I stand before you so that together we can speak out, share, and raise our voices for women in the fight against gender-based violence. My work has focused on denouncing sexual violence against women*".

WEEK 3:

On **Monday 7 November** the business of the PAP included:

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1. Presentations and debate on the report on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement
 2. Presentation and debate on the report of the seminar on the theme: "Bridging the gaps in the protection of migrant workers in Africa through advocacy for the use of

legal instruments: the role of the Pan-African Parliament and the African Union Labour Advisory Committee”

3. Presentations and debates on the reports, recommendations, and resolutions on the model law on cooperatives and the model law on factoring, respectively
 4. Presentation of the PAP budget for 2023
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Hon. Sen. John Bonds Bideri (Rwanda), chairperson of the Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration Matters presented two reports, viz. a report on the AfCFTA and the report of a seminar entitled “Bridging the gaps in the protection of migrant workers in Africa through advocacy for the use of legal instruments: the role of the Pan-African Parliament and the African Union Labour Migration Committee”.

Hon. Sen. Bideri said that current geopolitics and global events following the COVID-19 pandemic make it imperative to expedite the ratification and implementation of the AfCFTA. He said: *“Countries need to accelerate inter-African trade to stimulate economic growth and reduce their reliance on Europe, Asia, and America. Those states that have not yet ratified the AfCFTA should be pushed by their members present at PAP today to do so in their own countries”*.

Reacting to the myriad obstacles to the implementation of the AfCFTA identified by PAP members, viz. lack of sufficient infrastructure, sluggish democratic change, corruption, and funding constraints, Mr. Mohammed Ali, Director of Trade in Goods and Competition of the AfCFTA Secretariat said: *“Regardless of the many obstacles we are making great progress. We are not focusing only on the challenges. If we did, the AfCFTA would never move forward”*.

Mr Ali advocated for harmonisation of standards on the continent and branding of goods as **MADE IN AFRICA** with a certificate of quality issued by the AfCFTA Secretariat. He also advocated for each country or region to have a AfCFTA Bureau to collect products from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for export, which could alleviate transport and infrastructure challenges. He urged the popularisation of the Pan-African payment system which is already in place and urged African central banks to cooperate to make it work. He also informed PAP members that the first payment using this system has been effected between Ghana and Nigeria.

Mr. Ali pointed out that intra-African trade creates a trade diversion away from imports from Asia, Europe, etc. and could ease the foreign exchange burden (use of the United States

Dollar or Euro) in favour of use of freely convertible African currencies. He also lauded the role of the African Export-Import (Afrexim) Bank in trade finance through its provision of affordable finance with good interest rates. He informed the PAP members that the AfCFTA Secretariat is developing a Protocol on Women and Youth in Trade and invited the PAP to participate in the negotiations.

During the debates on the AfCFTA and Joint PAP-AU labour migration seminar there were calls for the continent to develop its own language to improve trade, economic and social integration.

In his contribution to the debate, Hon. Alhagie Mbow (The Gambia) argued that a trader from an anglophone country will need a translator before he or she can do meaningful business in a francophone country in the same region of the continent. Hon Mbow urged his fellow members of the need to promote African languages so as to enable us have a common language across the continent instead of depending on foreign languages that can hamper trade. He also opined: “*Health could have a direct correlation with the food Africa imports*” and this also promote their pharmaceutical industry and that’s a double whammy in that, we import the food and then import the medicine to cure us. Hon Mbow called for fellow Africans to reduce talking and be more action oriented.

Associating himself with the call to harmonise African languages by Hon Mbow, Dr. Mathole Serofo Motshekga (South Africa) emphasised that Africans need to decolonise their minds through the promotion of Pan-Africanism and indigenous African languages, for example, Kiswahili has been elevated and recognised as one of the official languages of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). He also advocated for the setting up of a Pan-African Peoples’ Institute (PAPI) to tackle the continent’s perennial brain drain problem.

Other PAP members emphasised the need to find lasting solutions to the migration problem. They identified insider trading and corruption as barriers to the development of trade on the continent and advised themselves to take the lead, together with their governments, to popularise the AfCFTA and its opportunities in terms of trade.

Following the debates, Hon. Sen. John Bonds Bideri (Rwanda) moved a motion for the adoption of the two reports he had presented. The motion was seconded, and the PAP plenary approved the reports.

Next was the presentation and debates on the report on a proposed model law on cooperatives and the report on a proposed model law on factoring in Africa. The two reports were presented to the PAP plenary by Hon. Mohammed Muntaka Mubarak (Ghana), chairperson of the Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs.

Whilst presenting the Report on Cooperatives, Hon. Mubarak said: *“The challenges facing cooperatives in Africa include overregulation, political interference into cooperative affairs, and the existence of cooperative legislation which does not adhere to the cooperative values and principles. A model law on cooperatives opens the possibility for a new continental instrument which could expressly acknowledge and promote the relevance of cooperatives in socio-economic development in Africa, and the obligations of states and other stakeholders, specific to cooperative development. This can be another crucial step, given that cooperatives continue to significantly contribute to the achievement of the aspirations of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and other continental development goals in a manner ensures prosperity is broadly shared”*.

In presenting the report on factoring, Hon. Mubarak stated that a model law on factoring would address the financing gap, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) by engendering the growth of innovative enterprises through the development of trade. It would also foster implementation of the AfCFTA Agreement for the structural transformation of Africa.

The PAP plenary adopted the two reports and authorised the Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs to forge ahead with drafting the model laws on cooperatives and factoring in Africa. It also authorised the Committee to involve the relevant departments of the African Union Commission, regional economic communities, and civil society organisations, in the process of formulating the model legislation.

In the afternoon, Hon. Miles Sampa (Zambia), chairperson of the Committee on Audits and Public Accounts (CAPA) presented the Committee’s report to the PAP plenary. In his presentation, Hon. Sampa stated that the Committee had reviewed the audit reports of the African Union board of external auditors, the African Union Office of Audit and Internal Oversight and the PAP Office of Internal Audit. He also highlighted the significant issues considered by the Committee, as follows:

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1. Institutional issues, such as revision of the annexes to the Host Agreement between the African Union and the Government of the Republic of South Africa on the seat of

the PAP; inability of the PAP to recover funds from the Government of the Republic of South Africa for value-added tax (VAT) since 2014; and non-implementation of the organisational audit of the PAP approved by the PAP plenary.

2. Service-related matters, such as inadequate staffing of the PAP; lack of succession planning at the PAP; and poor quality of the catering service at the PAP restaurant.
 3. Finance-related matters, including an overview of the 2021 PAP budget, which represents a 28% drop from the previous year and 38% reduction from the budget of 2019, as well as implementation of the budget; support of some PAP programmes and activities by development partners other than the European Union (EU) that were not captured in the PAP financial statement; fraudulent operations and cash transactions carried in the petty cash account without any justification and payments being made without any supporting documents (misappropriation of funds); and inability of the PAP to confirm accounts payable balances directly from vendors which prevents the auditors from ensuring the reality of the accounting balances of the supplier debt.
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In the ensuing debate, PAP members raised a lot of issues, for example, the need for the development of an internal financial management manual for the PAP and for the Bureau of the PAP to curb African Union influence or control over the recruitment process of PAP staff by unilaterally putting out vacancy announcements, conducting shortlisting and interview of candidates, and appointing staff. PAP members also decried the lack of clear lines of responsibility between the African Union and the Bureau of the PAP. It was also pointed out that staff skills and competencies need to be upgraded from time to time. At the conclusion of the debate, the PAP plenary adopted the report.

On **Tuesday 8 November** the business of the PAP in the morning consisted largely of various motions being moved by PAP members, including the following:

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1. Motion congratulating the Federal Republic of Ethiopia and Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) on the signing of the Peace Agreement
 2. Motion calling for the immediate end of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
 3. Motion calling for the immediate lifting of unilateral economic sanctions imposed on the Zimbabwean Government by the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and the European Union
 4. Motion for a resolution of the PAP for support of the Eastern Africa Crude Oil Pipeline Project
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Hon. Felix Okot Ogong (Uganda) moved the motion congratulating Ethiopia and the TPLF for signing an agreement on a “permanent cessation of hostilities” after the conclusion of African Union brokered peace talks in Pretoria.

Hon. Pemmy Castelina Pamela Majodina (South Africa) moved the motion calling for a cessation of all hostilities in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The motion also advocated for respect for the current Luanda and Nairobi peace initiatives and implementation of their recommendations.

Hon. Alhagie Mbow (The Gambia) moved the motion advocating for a lifting of illegal economic sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe by Western powers citing the negative impact of those sanctions on women, children, and the general populace. The motion canvassed the support of African countries in accordance with the longstanding principle of solidarity and in view of the successful advocacy carried out by the PAP in 2016 that led to the lifting of economic sanctions similarly imposed on Sudan since 2007.

Hon. Felix Okot Ogong (Uganda) moved the motion supporting the East African Crude Oil Pipeline Project (EACOP). This pipeline is expected to transport crude oil from Uganda’s oil fields to the Tanzanian port of Tanga. However, the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium, is attempting to stop the construction of the pipeline using climate change and other environmental concerns as the excuse. Once completed, the pipeline will be the longest heated crude oil pipeline in the world. During the debate on the crude oil pipeline project

Hon. Sulayman Saho (The Gambia) said that the project implementation should continue. He posited: *“Africa needs infrastructure and employment for our people. Africa has a right to use its own natural resources”*.

After the motions were moved the PAP plenary resolved to adopt them. This was followed by a special event, H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and African Union High Representative for the Horn of Africa delivered a message to the PAP members.

H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo began his address by recalling the rationale for the establishment of the PAP. He said that the PAP is now 21 years old and was established to ensure that citizens are involved in the economic development and integration on the continent. *“This*

institution is not an unnecessary institution. It is an institution that should be part of the process that will lead us to the promised land": he said. He also emphasised that this ideal is even more relevant today: *"Tell those who are now in charge that the Pan-African Parliament is part of the Africa we want"*.

H.E. Obasanjo also said that the objectives for which the PAP was established have not changed and then questioned: *"How have we performed? How did we get to where we are now? What lessons do we learn?"*. He counseled the PAP Members: *"You have power and don't let anyone curtail your power. For instance, you can discuss, approve the budget, and make recommendations to policy organs on your own initiative... if you don't make yourself relevant you will remain irrelevant"*. He called on the PAP to harness its potential and deliver on its mandate, and play a pivotal role in ensuring security, peace, and stability in Africa.

At the end of his message and after a glowing tribute paid to him by Hon. Dr Ashebiri Woldegiogis Gayo (Ethiopia), 2nd Vice President of the PAP, the PAP President presented to H.E. Obasanjo a signed copy of the motion congratulating the Federal Republic of Ethiopia and Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) on the signing of the Peace Agreement, together with an addendum to the motion proposed by Dr. Mathole Serofo Motshekga (South Africa), as a memento for his important contribution to brokering the ceasefire between the parties.

The afternoon session featured presentations and debates on various reports and resolutions, including:

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1. Presentation and debate on the report and resolution on the proposed model law on gender parity, by Hon. Dao Gabala Mariam (Cote d'Ivoire), chairperson of the Committee on Gender, Youth, and People with Disability
 2. Presentation and debate on the report and resolution on the promotion of ratification of the Protocols on the Rights of Persons with Disability and Older Persons, by Hon. Mrs. Dao Gabala Mariam (Cote d'Ivoire), chairperson of the Committee on Gender, Youth, and People with Disability
 3. Presentation and debate on the resolution on the promotion of the model law on policing, by Hon. Jean Marie Nibirantije (Burundi), chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights
 4. Presentation and debate on the report of the PAP Caucus on Women, by Hon. Ms. Victoria Kingston (Malawi), 2nd Vice Chairperson of the Women's Caucus

Each of the presenters of the various reports moved a motion for their report to be adopted by the PAP plenary and the reports were duly adopted.

A highlight of the debate on the presentation on the proposed model law on gender parity was when Hon. Maimuna Ceesay (The Gambia) called implementation of gender laws and for women to raise their self-esteem. Hon. Ceesay said that action must come from women themselves.

Furthermore, whilst contributing to the debate on the report on the PAP Caucus on Women, Hon. Ceesay said that failure is not meant for women and emphasised the need to create a system or policies that will ensure enjoyment of land and inheritance rights for women. She also urged respect for the rights of migrant women and female domestic workers, whilst calling for closure of the economic disparity between men and women through the formulation of appropriate educational policies, and development of women for leadership positions through skills development in local politics.

In his contribution to the same debate, Hon. Sulayman Saho (The Gambia) said: “*The problem on the continent is not a war between men and women*”. He also said: “(It is) *Time for women to rise up in the political parties*”.

In winding up the debate on the report of the PAP Caucus on Women, Hon. Ms. Victoria Kingston (Malawi) questioned whether women could participate in political processes without elections, since men are more likely to offer bribes for votes. Hon. Kingston also urged women to learn to love each other and refrain from oppressing each other.

On **Wednesday 9 November** the business of the PAP in the morning started with a presentation on the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and its processes. The APRM was adopted by African Heads of State and Government (HOSG) as a systematic peer learning and self-assessment mechanism emanating from the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) foundational document, the “Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic, and Corporate Governance” adopted in Durban, South Africa in July 2002.

The topic was presented by Mr. Ferdinand Katendeko, Director of Operations, representing the Chief Executive Officer of the APRM, who pointed out: “*The APRM Base Document provides that six months after the Country Review Report has been considered by the Heads of State and Government of the participating countries, the Report must be formally*

and publicly tabled in key regional and sub-regional structures, foremost the Pan-African Parliament, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the ECOSOCC and other sister organisations".

Mr. Katendeko's dealt with issues such as the African Governance Report, Evaluation Themes on Reporting on Unconstitutional Changes of Government (UCG), APRM Value Addition by Targeted Assessments to Member States, Role of Parliamentarians in the APRM Process, Role of the National Parliament, Role of the Regional Parliament, and Role of the Continental Parliament.

The role of parliamentarians could be summarised as follows:

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1. Influence government decisions and policies on APRM
 2. Ensure the sustainability of the APRM process by passing legislation and mobilising grassroots support for it
 3. Pass budgets for the APRM process
 4. Seek for equitable representation in the national commissions on the APRM and play an important role in this body
 5. Organise and participate in sensitisation events on the APRM
 6. Engage in APRM advocacy in their constituencies, especially in rural communities
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The role of the Pan-African Parliament could be summarised as follows:

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1. Promote transnational peer learning
 2. Share experience among APRM Member countries
 3. Provide opportunities for tabling APRM Reports during PAP ordinary sessions with a view to generating debates on APRM best practices on the continent
 4. Encourage all African Union member countries to accede to the APRM to foster the APRM country review process
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In the ensuing debate on the APRM and its processes, one delegate stated: *"This is not an African Peer Review Mechanism rather it is an African Governance Review Mechanism"*, whilst another delegate questioned: *"Who funds missions of the APRM?"*.

Dr. Mathole Serofo Motshekga (South Africa) suggested removing the APRM function from the APRM Secretariat and relocating it to the PAP as a function. He also urged a shift in focus from political governance on the continent to land access and governance.

Hon. Jaynet Desirée Kabila (Democratic Republic of Congo) acknowledged the early warning mechanism of the APRM but questioned whether the continent missed the signs in the cases of unconstitutional changes of government in Mali, Guinea, etcetera.

Other delegates questioned amongst other things what happens to the reports of the APRM Secretariat after publication, and whether the APRM Secretariat ascertains the credibility of the information submitted to it by Member States.

After the presenter wound up the debate, the PAP President informed him that the PAP will invite the APRM Secretariat again in October 2023 for the PAP Members to receive a more detailed analysis of the APRM and its processes.

The rest of the day was taken up by presentation and debates on several documents from various committees, including the following:

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1. Resolution on the project for the development of a model law on food and nutrition security, by Hon. Assane Marou dit Koubou, rapporteur of the Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources
 2. Resolution on the project of the development of a model law on soil management in Africa, by Hon. Assane Marou dit Koubou (Niger), rapporteur of the Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources
 3. Presentation and debate on the report and resolution on advocacy on the promotion of the African Union ten-year action plan to eradicate child labour, human trafficking, and modern slavery, by Hon. Jean Patrice France Quirin (Mauritius), chairperson of the Committee on Health, Labour, and Social Affairs
 4. Presentation and debate on the guidelines on harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks,, by Hon. Jean Marie Nibirantije (Burundi), chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights
 5. Presentation and debate on the resolution on the elimination of harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks, by Hon. Jean Marie Nibirantije (Burundi), chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights
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In his presentation on the model law on food and nutrition security, Hon. Assane Marou dit Koubou (Niger) kept in view of the African Union theme for 2022, “Building resilience in nutrition on the African continent. Accelerate the human capital, social and economic development”.

Hon. Marou said: *“Food security is one of the concerns of the African Union and the tabling of this Model Law on Food and Nutrition Security could not have come at a better time. When we consider issues to do with food and nutrition security Africa continues to lag behind global trends hence this guideline for the African Union member states to help them to realise the right to adequate food for their citizens”*.

Hon. Marou emphasised that the model law uses a human rights-based approach and respects the different legislative frameworks that exist on the continent. He stated that the model law seeks to espouse access to policies and legislation and was inspired by around 175 legislations around the African continent. He therefore called on the PAP plenary to adopt the model law on food and nutrition security.

In his presentation of the draft report on the project for the development of a model law on soil management, Hon. Assane Marou dit Koubou (Niger) pointed out that Kenya, Cameroon, and Zambia were the pilot countries for studying African soils. He also said the study was carried out under the auspices of Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

The debates following the two presentations by Hon. Marou included consideration of important issues such as the nexus between food preservation and the management of post-harvest loss, availability of food reserves at the household level, intra-country and inter-country food distribution, bureaucratic bottlenecks and other barriers to trade and their contribution to food insecurity, the need for the African Union (like the European Union) to be a union of economic integration and not just political integration; African countries need to hold hands economically, not only politically, the need for irrigation measures to reduce dependence on rain, the need for improvement of transportation systems in Africa, and the need for local production and supply of fertilisers.

In his contribution to the debate, Hon. Suwaibou Touray (The Gambia) said: *“We need model laws to move away from bad practices”*. He also counselled: *“We need to not only produce but process the produce and then market the crops”*. Hon. Touray pointed out that fertilisers could cause loss of soil fertility and the introduction of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) is controversial and must be tackled. He also emphasised that Africa must resort to mechanised farming.

Hon. Jean Patrice France Quirin (Mauritius), chairperson of the Committee on Health, Labour, and Social Affairs then presented a report and resolution on advocacy on the

promotion of the African Union ten-year action plan to eradicate child labour, human trafficking, and modern slavery, which was followed by a debate.

The last two presentations in the afternoon were done by Hon. Jean Marie Nibirantije (Burundi), chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, on viz. the guidelines on harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks and a resolution on the elimination of harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks, which were similarly followed by a debate.

In his contribution to debate on harmful practices, Hon. Suwaibou Touray (The Gambia) expressed hope that the guidelines will serve as an advocacy tool in the fight against harmful practices. He also called for collaborative effort on the part of PAP member states, as well as harmonisation of laws on the issue across the continent.

The plenary adopted the various documents presented for adoption by the representatives of the abovementioned PAP committees.

Hon. Professor Mrs. Massouda Mohamed Laghdaf (Mauritania), 1st Vice President of the PAP was present in the Chambers for the first time since the start of the session, after recovering from an illness.

A procedural issue arose in the meeting when a parliamentarian from Malawi used language which the presiding officer deemed to be unparliamentary. After a heated exchange between the offending member and other members (on the one hand) and the offending member and the presiding officer (on the other hand), the presiding officer requested the offending member to leave the Chamber. The presiding officer also promised to initiate disciplinary proceedings under Rule 51 of the PAP Rules of Procedure (which deals with “grossly disorderly conduct”) against the offending member for using words such as “idiot” and “nonsense” when addressing colleague members.

On **Thursday 10 November** the PAP President invited into the Chamber a representative of the Speaker of the Parliament of Cote d’Ivoire. The PAP President had invited the Ivorian Speaker to grace the session with a view to strengthening relations between the PAP and the Ivorian Parliament.

A new delegation of parliamentarians was sworn in as members of the Pan-African Parliament. The new delegation comprised:

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1. Hon. Prof. Margaret Kamar – Kenya
 2. Hon. Sen. Danson Mungatana – Kenya
 3. Hon. Rahab Mukami – Kenya
 4. Hon. Kalasinga Majimbo – Kenya
 5. Hon. Esther Passaris – Kenya
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After the swearing-in ceremony of the new members, the PAP President called on the acting Clerk of the PAP, Mr. Gali Massa Harou to proceed with reading of the draft resolutions and draft recommendations of the PAP during the 1st Ordinary Session of the 6th Pan-African Parliament. Mr. Harou announced that there were 18 draft resolutions and 3 draft recommendations.

Hon. Pemmy Castelina Pamela Majodina (South Africa) then rose on a point of order to question why the resolution on the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was not included amongst the draft resolutions on the floor for final adoption by the plenary.

Dr. Mathole Serofo Motshekga (South Africa) also rose on a point of order to question why the resolution on Zimbabwe did not include a provision for Zimbabwe to nationalise the assets of the Western countries that had imposed unilateral sanctions on Zimbabwe, which would amount to punitive sanctions against the United States, the United Kingdom, and the European Union.

Hon Sulayman Saho (The Gambia) recommended (in terms of the recommendations on labour migration in Africa) for the adoption of an African passport to ease migration woes such as harassment and intimidation faced by Africans within Africa.

At this juncture, one delegate suggested that draft resolutions, etcetera, must be reviewed and corrected by the Bureau of the PAP and the movers of those resolutions before being brought to the plenary for adoption.

The Pan-African Parliament adopted the following 19 resolutions at Midrand on 10 November 2022:

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- 1. Resolution congratulating the Federal Republic of Ethiopia and Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front on the signing of the peace agreement**

- 2. Resolution on solidarity and support to the government and the people of the Republic of Mozambique – adopted with amendments**
 - 3. Resolution of the Pan-African Parliament to support the East African crude oil pipeline project**
 - 4. Resolution calling for the immediate lifting of unilateral economic sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe by the United States, United Kingdom, and the European Union – adopted with amendments**
 - 5. Resolution for the ratification and implementation of the Additional Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (called the Maputo Protocol)**
 - 6. Resolution on the roundtable on advancing democratic governance through the implementation of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) and enhanced citizen engagement**
 - 7. Resolution on labour migration**
 - 8. Resolution on the African Continental Free Trade Area**
 - 9. Resolution on the adoption of the model law on food and nutrition security in Africa**
 - 10. Resolution on a model police law for Africa**
 - 11. Resolution on the elimination of harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks**
 - 12. Resolution on the promotion of ratification of the Protocol on Persons with Disability and the Protocol on Older Persons**
 - 13. Resolution on the formulation of a model law on labour migration In Africa**
 - 14. Resolution on the formulation of a model law on gender parity in Africa**
 - 15. Resolution on the promotion of the African Union Ten-Year Action Plan to Eradicate Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery (2020 – 2030)**
 - 16. Resolution on the formulation of a model law on statelessness**
 - 17. Resolution on the development of a model law on cooperatives in Africa**
 - 18. Resolution on the development of a model legislation on factoring in Africa**
 - 19. Resolution to immediately bring to an end the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo**
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The Pan-African Parliament adopted the following 3 recommendations at Midrand on 10 November 2022:

- 1. Recommendations of the 2022 High-Level Parliamentary Dialogue on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance in Africa under the theme of Unconstitutional Changes of Government and Political Transitions in Africa**
 - 2. Recommendations of the Conference on Women’s Rights – adopted with amendments**
 - 3. Recommendations on labour migration in Africa**
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After the adoption of the 19 resolutions and 3 recommendations the acting Clerk of the PAP, Mr. Gali Massa Harou announced that the Women’s Caucus meeting will take place after the closing ceremony.

The PAP President then announced that members of the Bureau and the Bureaux were required to attend the PAP strategic planning meeting which would take place from 10 November – 13 November 2022.

The PAP President closed the session with a speech in which, amongst other things, he praised teamwork in the Bureau of the PAP, and the good reputation of the PAP in the eyes of the public. He praised the PAP for adopting the amended Rules of Procedure, and also lauded the attendance of special guests such as H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo and Baroness Scotland for gracing the session.

The PAP President reminded PAP members their behaviour makes or breaks the PAP. He urged them to attend all meetings held during PAP sessions. He said that members’ commitment to attend meetings must be rewarded, for example, by being nominated to attend PAP missions abroad.

The 1st Ordinary Session of the 6th Pan-African Parliament ended on 10 November 2022 after a rendition of the African Union anthem.

A key milestone of the session was the adoption by the plenary of a motion to amend the PAP Rules of Procedure, whilst a key takeaway from the session is the urgent need for African Union member states to take the following actions:

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1. Ratification of the Protocol to the Constitutive Act of the African Union Relating to the Pan-African Parliament (Malabo Protocol)
 2. Ratification of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement

3. Ratification of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence, and Right of Establishment

The General recommendations of the session is herewith attached with this report with Reference number: **PAP.6/PLN/RECOMS/1-3/NOV.22.**

Abubakarr Siddique Kabbah (Director of Legal Affairs) provided support to the delegation of parliamentarians from the National Assembly of The Gambia to the 1st Ordinary Session of the 6th Pan-African Parliament.
