



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19

Wednesday, 27 May 2020 (13h00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

ATTENDANCE

Members:

Democratic Alliance

Allen, R
America, D
Baartman, D
Bosman, G
Mitchell, D
Philander, W
Van der Westhuizen, A
Wenger, M (Chairperson)

African National Congress

Lekker, P
Windvogel, R

African Christian Democratic Party

Christians, F

Alternate Members

MacKenzie, R (DA)
Nkondlo, N (ANC)
Sayed, K (ANC)

Absent

Dugmore, C (ANC)
Herron, B (GOOD)
Lekker, P (ANC)

Windvogel, R (ANC)
Marais, P (FFP)
Xego, M (EFF)

The following persons were in attendance:

Members of the Public

Ms S Payne, Journalist: Daily Maverick
Ms J Kassen, Journalist: EWN

Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Ms Z Adams, Procedural Officer
Ms L Cloete, Senior Procedural Officer

1. Welcome and update on Departmental Briefings

The Chairperson welcomed the Members and officials. The Chairperson noted that no apologies were received for the meeting.

The Chairperson informed the Members that she was disappointed to inform the Committee that there would be no Departments presenting to the Committee at this meeting. The Committee was scheduled to be briefed by the National Department of Health (DoH) and the National Department of Communications related to “Citizen Surveillance” or “Contact Tracing” in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee had received an apology from the Minister of Health timeously, the Director-General of the Department of Health, however, despite numerous follow ups failed to confirm and attend this meeting. It has been confirmed as per the Regulations that the Director-General of the National Department of Health has the delegated powers in “Contact Tracing” or “Citizen Surveillance”.

The Department of Communications were invited to the meeting as well, but they informed the Committee that the Department of Digital Communications and Technologies amended the Electronic Communications, Postal and Broadcasting Directions published on 26 March 2020, by deleting paragraphs 2.4 and 8 on “Contact tracing”. This was done because the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) issued regulations on contact tracing, after the publication of the Directions on 26 March 2020. To this end, the Department of Home Affairs has these delegated powers and is the custodian of the COVID19 tracing database to request location based information from mobile operators.

The Chairperson proposed to reschedule this meeting and that a second letter of invitation be issued to the Minister of Health and the relevant Departments such as the Director-General of the Department of Health and the Department of Home Affairs to brief the Committee on Wednesday, 3 June 2020.

Hon Mitchell supported the Chairperson’s proposal. Hon Sayed agreed to the proposal.

2. Deliberations on the draft Citizen Engagement Programme

The Chairperson informed the Committee that the Committee should discuss and consider the parameters of public participation since the Committee should include an element of public participation in its work. Where possible this should be related to the current themes dealt with by the Committee to engage with civil society and receive public comments on the draft Committee Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19.

The Chairperson allowed the committee to suggest various sectors to be involved in the public participation matters for this process.

The Chairperson requested that the Committee invite umbrella bodies/formations/federations to brief the Committee, however, if Members have specific individuals or NGOs that they would like to invite to the engagements that they submit those names in writing to the Procedural Officers.

The Committee agreed to the proposal.

3. Resolutions/Actions

The Committee RESOLVED to:

- 4.1 Invite the Minister and National Department of Health and Home Affairs to brief the Committee on "Citizen Surveillance", in relation to COVID-19, for a meeting on Wednesday 3 June 2020;
- 4.2 Invite the Provincial Department of Health to brief the Committee on its health preparedness and Members may send additional input for this meeting to the Procedural Officer in writing;
- 4.3 Invite umbrella bodies/formations/federations to brief the Committee, however, if Members have specific individuals or NGOs that they would like to invite to the engagements, that Members submit those names in writing to the Procedural Officers;
- 4.4 Further discuss the public participation/citizen engagement process of the Committee on 3 June 2020; and
- 4.5 Adopt the minutes of 20 and 22 May 2020 at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 13h22.



MS M WENGER, MPP
CHAIRPERSON: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19
DATE: 10 June 2020