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FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2015

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The House met at 10:00

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS - see p

The SPEAKER: You may be seated. [Interjections.] Order please, members.

ORDER OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER: The Secretary will read the Order of the Day.

1. Introduction and First Reading – *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B4 – 2015] (Minister of Finance).

The SPEAKER: I recognise the honourable, the Minister of Finance.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear. Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker; honourable Premier Zille; the honourable Leader of the Official Opposition; leaders of other political parties present here today; honourable members of the Legislature, Premier Zille has committed her Government to an open opportunity society for all. This Medium Term Budget Policy Statement builds on that foundation and will continue to focus on improving the quality of lives of all the citizens in the Western Cape.

We are living in tough, very tough economic times. Globally and on the domestic front people are experiencing difficult times. The geopolitical landscape is changing rapidly and the political economy is also subjected to these global trends. These problems are complex and no singular approach can deal with the scale and the scope and the depth of these complexities.

But there is hope because together we are better, we are safer together, we are stronger together and we have more wisdom together and we are more resilient together as a nation and as people of this beautiful province.

Honourable Speaker, today I am tabling the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement of this Government under the theme, “Inclusive Growth”. We are united in our approach that South Africa needs to grow its economy, create jobs and reduce unemployment.

This Medium Term Budget Policy Statement reconfirms and allocates resources to facilitate inclusive growth.

The 2016 to 2019 Western Cape Medium Term Budget Policy Statement provides the economic, fiscal and budget policy context for the next three years. This MTBPS provides us with levels of predictability so that we can create an enabling environment for growing the economy.

Let me now turn to the economic and fiscal context of this Medium Term Budget Policy Statement.

Global economic and South African growth performance remain weak and growth projections have both globally and nationally been revised downwards. The world economy is anticipated to grow at 3.1% in 2015 and South Africa at half these levels at 1.5%, which was the same during the year 2014. Growth is forecast to accelerate to 1.7% in 2016.

Growth in the Western Cape is forecast at 1.9% in 2015 and 2.0% in 2016, averaging at a rate of 2.7% over the period 2015 to 2020.

The most recent Labour Forecast, as the third quarter 2015 indicates that the narrow unemployment rate in the Western Cape is 20.6%, is lower than the national average of 25.5% at the third quarter of 2015, but low economic growth translates into lower levels of economic activity, which translates into lower revenue, which translates in less resources to fund the national fiscus.

What are the implications of economic and fiscal outlook for this Medium Term Budget Policy Statement?

The South African economy is under stress. The recent demands for above inflation wage increases and other additional funding pressures will put South Africa's fiscal policy straight into a danger zone.

Yesterday's announcement by the South African Reserve Bank's Monetary Policy Committee of a second interest rate hike for the year highlights the fragile state of our economy. The hiking of the repo rate to 6.25% brings the prime lending rate to 9.75%.

This announcement comes against the background of expected inflationary pressures due to the lagged effect of the severe drought on food prices, a weakening rand exchange rate and the prospect of rising interest rates in the United States before the year-end and during next year further hikes in lending rates are forecast for 2016, which will cause debt repayments to increase, contributing to additional financial constraint on consumers.

South Africa's economy can no longer afford to absorb demands placed on the national fiscus without severe consequences for taxpayers. Leading South African economists have warned that South Africa is facing a fiscal cliff if South Africa does not change its fiscal policy.

The public sector wage bill and the low levels of productivity in especially State-owned enterprises need serious Government intervention. South Africa needs a radical repositioning of its fiscal policy.

In the Western Cape our fiscal policy will focus on:

- Creating a sustainable fiscal base for providing essential frontline services in Health, Education, and my colleague here on the left in Human Settlements.
- It also will ensure a fiscal buffer, for this, for the first time we are now able to restore a fiscal buffer, and I am happy to report that the Cabinet has approved the creation of a fiscal buffer for 2015/16 and over the new 2016 MTEF because we foresee tougher times coming this way.
- Thirdly, we will also implement our Game Changers and Provincial Strategic Plan deliverables.

We understand the severity of our fiscal position in South Africa. This Government has therefore committed itself to maintain tough fiscal discipline.

Madam Speaker, and members of this House, during our recent M-TEC engagements every Minister in this Cabinet and the Premier re-committed their departments to the fiscal objectives of this Government.

I want to thank the Premier and the Ministers and their respective accounting officers for exercising fiscal discipline in their respective budget votes.

The Western Cape Government identified Game Changers and that will have the potential to be catalysts for substantive improvement in people's lives.

These Game Changers are bold and focused interventions of this Government. In the space of Energy and Security, the Energy Security Game Changer is geared toward enhancing the uptake of roof PV and solar water heaters and also to reduce energy usage in public and private buildings, and also to facilitate economic growth by limiting electricity disruptions and essentially diversifying our energy mix in the Western Cape.

Artisan and technical skills: The Artisanal and Technical Skills Game Changer is positioned to align the demand and supply of labour as it relates to the artisan and technical skills. In effect it would focus on addressing the shortage of vocational skills in line with the increasing demand of the industry particularly, as it relates to the agro-processing, oil and gas and the tourism industry.

The After School Game Changer: The goal of the After Schools Game Changer is for the 20% of the no-fee learners to have access to quality after school programmes by 2019. This equates to about 112 600 no fee learners by 2019.

The e-Learning Game Changer is probably one of the biggest single instruments that this Government will use to transform the educational landscape in the Western Cape. The e-Learning Game Changer aims to create modern classrooms to improve teaching to enhance learning. E-Learning will increase access to ICT particularly in our disadvantaged communities. It will provide support to learners, contribute towards teacher training and

professional development and improve management and administration at our schools.

The Better Living Model. This Game Changer is to develop a replicable better living model of mixed use, mixed income, mixed tenure, residentially-led development that will address the apartheid legacies.

Mr C M DUGMORE: You have been talking about that for years.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Madam Speaker, a rather exciting partnership formalised. Recently, two days ago, we have signed a formal agreement that will see the Western Cape and the Dutch Governments working together on an innovative response that will show how change can address the apartheid spatial legacy of the City of Cape Town, and I want to thank our colleagues that facilitated this particular development.

The momentous signing of the Two Rivers Urban Park memorandum of cooperation is a significant step towards transforming this area into an innovative, sustainable neighbourhood, characterised by high density mixed use development and the Live, Work, Play philosophy. There is work in progress.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hear, hear.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: In terms of the Alcohol Harms Reduction,

the objective of the Game Changer is to achieve a 30% reduction in alcohol-related motorist fatalities over three years. Community interventions specifically aims to reduce alcohol related injuries in the high risk areas of Nyanga, Khayelitsha and Paarl-East through the use of accredited neighbourhood watches. Another initiative is around random breath testing as an integrated law enforcement and communication campaign.

Let me now turn to the broader opportunities for growth and jobs. Creating opportunities and growth and jobs is the number one strategic objective of this Government. The Province recognises that without inclusive growth with our partners it will be impossible to reduce unemployment and so we have developed a project under the leadership of the Minister of Economic Opportunities, Minister Winde, of Project Khulisa, and Project Khulisa will focus on productive and enabling sectors that contribute to the regions most competitive advantage and to have the potential to be catalytic in the growing of the economy. So what we are now doing, we are now looking at the growth potential of towns and regions, but we are also looking at the competitive sectors of the economy that will not only translate in high growth but will also translate in higher job opportunities. There is a focused attention of the resources, the limited resources of the State.

Let me now turn to one of the key projects that was announced also by the Premier, the Green Economy.

The focus over the 2016 MTEF is to upscale the themes identified in the



Green Economy Strategic Framework, namely smart living and working; smart eco-systems; energy security and efficiency; and resource efficiency. A focus on the green economy themes not only result in massive cost efficiency, for all stakeholders, including Government, but will also see improved economic competitiveness and the rise of new industry opportunities.

Additional priorities under the green economy will include the Western Cape Industrial Symbiosis Programme, improved waste management practices in municipalities, through the Waste Economy Project, water for economic development and 110% green initiative and the Genius of Place Project.

Nurturing innovation. This in the second term of office, Premier Zille made this a key, one of the key principles and values of this Government. Innovation is a strategic enabler in fostering a competitive economy. Over the 2016 MTEF, a joint Innovative and Design Strategic Framework will be developed within the economic cluster departments of the Western Cape Government. The main emphasis will be on how to facilitate the application of innovative solutions in order to improve the cost efficiency and service delivery. In addition, an innovation support toolkit will be developed to support and facilitate innovation in Government, but also in business and in our local communities.

If we want to grow the economy you have also to focus on easing the doing of business and according to the World Bank 2015 Report that compares

business regulations for domestic firms in 189 countries, South Africa is ranked 43. The identified Ease of Doing Business Programme is a key component in creating economic growth and jobs. Attention will be placed on improving both the legislative and process components of services offered to business. As a cross-cutting transversal enabler, this intervention draws its agenda for action from the three priority sectors particularly, tourism, oil and gas and agro-processing as well as other strategic priorities of this Government, for example land reform and particularly focusing also on the Game Changers particularly on energy and the skills sectors.

Improved education outcomes and opportunities for development. A commitment to improve education outcomes is at the centre of the Western Cape Government's agenda of this Government.

The main goals of the Western Cape Education Department are to improve the levels of language and mathematics in all schools and to increase the number and quality of passes in the National Senior Certificate and increase the quality of education provision in poorer communities.

Key focus areas for the 2016 MTEF include: one of the more significant developments for 2014 was the expansion of the No-fee School Programme. About 216 schools with 172 541 learners in Quintiles 4 and 5, became no-fee schools, through applying for no-fee status.

The pro-poor emphasis in the Western Cape Education Department will be

pronounced, albeit in a financially-constrained context. An optimal environment for teaching and learning will be provided and managed through infrastructure, fee relief, resourcing and transport plans.

Mr C M DUGMORE: And what about safety? What about safety?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Planning and projections are informed by enrolment and population trends and data analysis. The purpose of all these interventions is to provide the best possible education foundations and opportunities for all.

Madam Speaker, the Minister of Education will make further announcements in her Main Budget in 2016.

Increase wellness, safety and tackling social ills, the focus on “wellness” was highlighted and the social determinants of health and the imperatives of addressing the upstream risk factors such as poverty, unemployment and overcrowding. Inter-sectoral interventions targeting upstream risk factors include initiatives to reduce the harms from alcohol abuse, the 1000 Days Project, the Western Cape on Wellness (WOW) Project and the Integrated Service Delivery Model that we are piloting in Drakenstein.

The Minister of Health will also make further announcements during her Main Budget in 2016.

Madam Speaker, let me now also turn to increasing safety. I am tabling the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement and the adjustment estimates against a fast changing geopolitical landscape characterised by global acts of terrorism in different parts of the world and citizens are increasingly becoming vulnerable.

Citizens of the world no longer feel safe in their homes, on the streets and/or within recreational spaces. Safety is a critical facet of human life. We will have to work together to restore the moral and ethical fibre of our communities. The Western Cape Government has prioritised the safety of its citizens.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Start with the City [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: The Provincial Community Safety Improvement Programme is a response to give effect to national and provincial policy directives by adopting a “whole-of-society” approach. The key basic priorities of this programme is to promote professional policing; to promote the safety of partnership and to secure public spaces.

This programme also aims, by means of a formal process of joint planning, to clarify roles and responsibilities, to initiate various projects with shared objectives and measurable targets within the main role-players within the field of safety namely the South African Police Services, the municipalities, the Police Community Forums, the Neighbourhood Watches, various

structures and the Department of Community Safety.

Transport safety is also equally a high priority for the Western Cape Government and it includes the Public Transport Safety Implementation Programme, the Safely Home Project, traffic law enforcement training and public transport law enforcement.

Let me now turn to integrated human settlements, not because Minister Madikizela sits next to me, but because this Government has prioritised human settlements.

Firstly, in terms of the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement our plans are to enable a resilient quality and sustainable and inclusive living environment and so this Government will continue to upgrade informal settlements, to improve the living conditions of many people in informal settlements and in backyards who continue to wait for housing, and I was so pleased recently when I visited one municipality; they have a programme called “Wait in Dignity.”

We will also prioritise the most deserving people like over 40s, the elderly, the disabled, and child-headed households in the allocation of breaking new ground opportunities; increasing affordable housing opportunities to provide shelter for people that earn too much, excluding them from qualifying for free subsidised housing and earn too little to qualify for bonds.

The Department of Human Settlements has embarked on creating public

private partnerships with financial institutions, developers and private sector to unlock this market opportunities. We are also determined to promote security of tenure through the transfer of title deeds to beneficiaries.

Madam Speaker, let me now turn to Spatial and Development Planning.

The aim of the Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF) is to give spatial expression to the National Development Plan as well as in terms of our objectives of the One Cape 2040. The Provincial Spatial Development Framework advocates the sustainable use of provincial spatial assets through the management and protection of our biodiversity and ecosystems, safeguarding our coastal and inland water and managing our water resources.

These assets also hold immense socio-economic development potential. Equitable access to services and opportunities is a keystone to building a strong regional resilient economy.

Let me now turn to the resource use of efficiency and sustainability. The Western Cape State of the Environment Report published by Minister Bredell's Department indicated that in terms of our natural systems, land, inland water, biodiversity and oceans and coasts are under significant pressure. Climate change also poses significant biophysical and economic risks to the province. The mainstreaming of sustainability, resource-use efficiency and climate change is therefore also a strategic priority of this Government.

The investment in enhancing fire-fighting capacity in this province resulted in the improvement in the ability to extinguish wildfires. Just yesterday we experienced huge fires in the Simon's Town area.

However, the state of many fire services within the province, especially outside the metropolitan areas, is a matter of great concern to this Government. [Interjection.]

Investment in certain areas has been almost non-existent. The dire financial situation of most district municipalities has resulted in old and obsolete equipment not being replaced. The 2016 MTEF will allocate additional resources to expand our fire-fighting capacity across the province. Climate Change initiatives and Disaster Prevention. This Medium Term Budget Policy Statement as well as the adjustment estimates allocate additional money in terms of managing this particular risk.

Key areas include the management of wildfires at Cape Nature; climate change mitigation projects for agriculture to assist with the drought, water and food security; as well as hazardous material; the response and capacity along major routes, and fire-fighting capacity.

Let me now turn to the Regional Socio-economic Project as well as the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrade. The practical application of the development planning and integrated service delivery, with the aim of

achieving planning-led budgeting and spatial targeting, will continue to be implemented through the RSEP or as we call it, the Regional Socio-economic Programme and the VPUU Programme during the 2016/15 MTEF period.

The main goal of the programme is to partner with active citizens to plan and implement upgrading and safety projects in poor neighbourhoods in our province.

We are also now entering the second year of the implementation of this programme, which represents a combination of the Western Cape Government RSEP and VPUU Programme.

The programme is now being implemented in towns with high socio-economic needs. The programme is based on the successes that we have achieved in the City of Cape Town and it is now also going out, outside the City of Cape Town, and through joint funding from the German Development Bank and the Western Cape Government the programme is being piloted now in five partner municipalities, namely Saldanha Bay, Swartland, Breede Valley, Drakenstein and Theewaterskloof, together with a Phase 4 in the City of Cape Town.

Over the next ten years this Government will invest R1.3 billion rand in rolling out the Broadband Technology to facilitate greater access in the Western Cape.



Recently I visited the ICAN Centre in Elsies River. That ICAN Centre highlights the impact that broadband technology has on a community. It is located in Halt Road and it provides a physical space containing various focused interactive zones, which include separate areas, for learning, quiet study; a creative zone and a gaming zone. The primary goal of the ICAN Centre is to improve community accessibility, readiness and the use of broadband. Additionally, it is envisaged that via the use of broadband connectivity, community members will acquire skills to assist them to find employment, aid entrepreneurship in building businesses and assist students on their academic path. To this end, the ICAN Centre project is envisaged to facilitate socio-economic inclusion and closing the digital divide and the creation of opportunities for all the citizens in the Western Cape.

Because this Government is investing about R1.3 billion in broadband technology, I am now also undertaking visits to see the fruits of these investments and therefore I have recently paid a visit to the Kasselsvlei Comprehensive High School. There I have met the principal, Mr Bantom, and staff who highlighted the following. They spoke about the implementation of broadband at that school. They said the following.

- It facilitates easy essays, which include pictures.
- Orals which are presented in a video format.
- Learning which is presented in a multimedia format and can be accessed on demand. This is especially exciting in the potential it holds for maths learning.

- Online planning and scheduling via the Google Calendar.
- Learners teaching educators “add-ons and extensions”.
- International collaboration and connections with overseas schools creating that “anything is possible” mindset.
- The school is starting a school food garden based on a Google Challenge to apply “moonshot thinking”. Simply put we are inspired to attempt the impossible.
- The school is for the first time in our history also now going to start a School Alumni Association, to help us to build the platform provided for us by the Western Cape Government and Google with the stellar support provided by Clouded Solutions.

This is the educator and the learners in the classroom who shared their experience and the massive impact that it is already making in terms of changing the educational landscape in the Western Cape.

A significant investment in broadband is also the roll-out of the rural connectivity all over the Western Cape. The establishment of twelve Cape Access Centres is envisaged for 2016 and 2017. The purpose of these centres is to provide access to ICTs and training to citizens in rural areas. The programme provides poorer and disadvantaged communities with access to Government services and products. The Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport will make further announcements in her Main Budget in 2016/17.

This Government is committed to what we call “infrastructure-led growth”,

and so for the next three years this Government will spend about R17.3 billion rand to facilitate infrastructure investment in the Western Cape.

This Government will also continue to invest in public infrastructure also in housing. I have now also requested Cabinet to institute a Ministerial Infrastructure Committee where we will now on a quarterly basis also exercise executive oversight over the implementation of infrastructure projects in the province.

The medium term budget allocation estimated at R23.3 billion include:

- R8.9 billion for roads and transport - Minister Grant;
- R6.2 billion in public housing - Minister Madikizela;
- R2 billion in general buildings;
- R3.9 billion in public schools - Minister Schäfer;
- R91 million for tourism facilities across the province, because if you target tourism as a growing sector of your economy, you must support that sector in terms of infrastructure investment.
- R2.2 billion will also be spent in improving health facilities and particularly also supporting equipment - the Minister Health will make further announcements in her Main Budget.

Madam Speaker, let me now turn to the 2015 adjusted estimates.

The adjusted budget makes provision for additional net spending amounting

to R240 million.

The salary adjustment, due to the 2015 Wage Agreement is R214.579 million from 2015/16 national equitable share funds, is the main revision of the expenditure estimates for this year, and is allocated as follows:

- R62.9 million goes to Vote 5 for Education;
- R149.4 million to Vote 6 for Health;
- R2.196 million to Vote 8 for Human Settlements.

R7.6 million was received from national resources for Vote 6, due to the conversion of a portion of the National Health Insurance Grant from an indirect grant to a direct grant.

R130 million for infrastructure related projects will be allocated as follows:

- For the demolition of the Conradie Hospital, Minister Grant, R11 million;
- For property rates and municipal services higher than the projected escalation of R12 million;
- For education infrastructure, R12.7 million. Part of it is a grant rollover.
- For the revitalisation of the health facilities, R67.2 million;
- To acquire a property for a community health clinic in Beaufort West, R1 million and a health related lease agreements, R575 000;
- To Human Settlements for bulk services and eradication of the bucket

system, R19.149 million;

- For routine road maintenance within the Eden District another R2 million;
- For Cultural Affairs to deal partly with the unfunded mandate, R5 million for library infrastructure. The Minister of Cultural Affairs will make further announcements during her Budget Vote on the transfer of these particular allocations.

Another R36.127 million was received from the traffic management function from the Road Traffic Management Corporation, and it has been allocated to Vote 10, Transport and Public Works.

With regards to the Global Fund, Vote 6, Health will be receiving an additional R22.238 million from previous year's own revenue to fund the Global Fund Anti-retroviral Treatment and R4.9 million from rollover funds.

The revenue to be received for the Global Fund has however been reduced by R27.136 million in the current financial year, due to the attrition in posts, advances cleared earlier than required and a reduction of the Global Fund sites.

With regard to e-Learning initiatives, the Department of Education will provide:

- Structured and focused support for improved learners' learning in the

foundation phase at schools as part of the 100 Schools Initiative, R10 million,

- supplement experimental hubs at schools, another R10 million,
- and purchasing of tablets for schools, R10 million.

The Budget Policy Committee gave serious consideration to the request for financial support for the risks associated with climate change, disasters associated with climate change and fires and to this end the budget allocates:

- R26.5 million for climate change, disaster prevention and municipal fire brigade [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: How much for safety?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- R6.5 million to be earmarked for disaster prevention measures; management of wildfires at CapeNature through Environmental Affairs and Development Planning;
- R10 million for climate change mitigation projects for Agriculture and nobody must underestimate the impact that this drought will have on agriculture.
- An additional R10 million for hazardous material response-capacity along major routes, as well as fire-fighting capacity across the province to the Department of Local Government.

Madam Speaker, the Department of the Premier receives R18 million, which is a shift from Vote 13, Cultural Affairs and Sport, for enabling the procurement of an Open Text Enterprise Licence Agreement for the ECM, what we call the Enterprise Content Management.

Agriculture will receive a R1 million for the upgrading and access control at Elsenburg Campus and another R1.2 million for the development of a new student information system, for the academic and other relevant history of students.

Considering the constrained fiscal outlook and to facilitate fiscal stability and sustainability and financial prudence, Provincial Government's budgets were realigned to allow for the reduction or reallocation of funds over the 2016 MTEF and that amounts to R217.307 million:

- R53 million will be reallocated to Broadband in the Department of the Premier;
- R5.2 million to decrease the transfer payment allocation to the Gambling and Racing Board.
- R78.6 million reduction in Transport and Public Works to the provincial wage agreement.
- R80.4 million reallocation to the 2016/17 financial year at Economic Development and Tourism and the provincial CTICC contribution of R65 million, broadband and Halaal Park as well as the park of the

## Project Khulisa and Agro-processing.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude. The policies that I have tabled today is informed by a process, which has seen my office and I travelling the length and breadth of the Western Cape to share the Government's budget priorities with local municipalities. The process has been further strengthened by a recent meeting that I called between the MEC for Finance and all the Mayco members for Finance across the Western Cape.

In addition, as part of our philosophy of responsive governance, I recently also conducted a Fiscal Policy Seminar inviting top economists of the World Bank, the IMF, the National Treasury and the Finance and Fiscal Commission to inform our budget policy decisions.

The Medium Term Budget Policy Statement of 2015 is our assurance to the people of the Western Cape that we will continue to pursue inclusive growth by mastering the science of deliverology. It is putting the correct systems in place and making the correct decisions to ensure irreversibility.

During my recent Fiscal Policy Seminar, Government was again reminded by leading economists from the National Treasury, from the Fiscal and Finance Commission, the World Bank and universities that South Africa faces tough economic times. Our fiscal policy as a country is under severe risk. The potential of a fiscal cliff is now a real risk for South Africa.



The bloated civil service has also been acknowledged recently by the President. We need as a nation to change the fiscal policy direction if we want to avoid a fiscal cliff. These are serious matters.

It is not a matter to laugh about in Parliament because we are dealing with people's lives. It requires leadership, real leadership, and under the leadership of Premier Zille she has provided leadership in terms of the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement. [Interjections.]

Ms M N GILLION: Five years.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Madam Speaker, we need real leadership. These are not laughing matters. The State is in a crisis. The fiscal envelope is under pressure. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: The Western Cape [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: The Premier has provided excellent leadership, not only in the Budget Policy Committee but also in the Cabinet.

Mr P UYS: Ja man, she is never here.

Mr D JOSEPH: It is not a laughing matter.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: This is not a laughing matter, Madam

Speaker.

An HON MEMBER: No-one said that. [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: It is not a laughing matter.

The SPEAKER: Order please. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Madam Speaker... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order members! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: This nation is in a crisis. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: This is not a laughing matter. We need fiscal stability in South Africa. We need to make the right fiscal policy choices in South Africa. We need to understand the fiscal global environment in which we live.

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: And the recent developments in the country call for fiscal discipline at all levels, at national, provincial and at municipal

level. It is not a laughing matter, Madam Speaker.

Mr D JOSEPH: We do not need [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

Financial: Madam Speaker, I hereby now table the Western Cape Medium Term Budget Policy Statement, the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill 2015 and the Adjusted Estimates of Provincial Expenditure 2015, the Western Cape Gazette of Allocations to Municipalities and this speech for deliberation and consideration by the House.

I so move.

I thank you Madam Speaker. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Meyer.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear.

The SPEAKER: The Secretary will read the Bill the first time.

*Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B4 – 2015]*

The SPEAKER: The Bill, together with the papers tabled will be referred to the relevant committees for consideration and report. Before we adjourn, I would like to remind members that the Budget Committee meeting will

commence after the adjournment in the Chamber.

That concludes the business for the day. The House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 10:40.