



PUTTING THE PEOPLE IN THE PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT ROUNDTABLE REPORT



The Public Service Accountability Monitor (PSAM) and its partners organised a roundtable, geared at facilitating constructive dialogue between civil society organisations, Members of the Provincial Legislature and Chapter 9 institutions in the Eastern Cape. Through the dialogue, our aim was to explore the role of Provincial Legislatures and other actors in fostering meaningful public participation for accountable and responsive governance in the province. The dialogue was held at Hemingways Guesthouse in King Williams Town, on the 15th of October 2019.

Setting the scene: reflections and introduction from Putting People in Parliament

Zukiswa Kota, Head of Monitoring and Advocacy at Public Service Accountability Monitor set the scene and welcomed the participants. She acknowledged the presence of the Speaker, other office-bearers and administrative staff of the Legislature. In particular - emphasis was placed on the unique nature of the event in which an inclusive dialogue space between representatives of the Provincial Legislature, civil society, researchers and Chapter 9 institutions¹ was created to critically explore current oversight processes and the means to collaboratively enhance them. The Public Service Accountability Monitor places emphasis on the value of using a systemic approach to understanding - and improving - public resource management in which oversight represents a fundamental component. The Roundtable event was developed in recognition of the critical role played by members of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures in ensuring that the state works effectively to fulfil the rights enshrined in the Constitution.

The event also presented an important opportunity for the PSAM to commemorate 20 years of activism in the Eastern Cape with important partners: duty-bearers and rights-holders alike. The objective to continue to leverage multi-stakeholder initiatives to contribute to improve the conditions of the Eastern Cape was underscored.

The introduction was followed by a keynote address from the Speaker of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, Mrs Helen Sauls-August.

Keynote Address: Hon. Helen Sauls-August, Speaker of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature



Pic: Hon. Speaker of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, Ms Helen Sauls-August

¹Provincial Chapter 9 institutions include the South African Human Rights Commission and the Office of the Public Protector

During her keynote address, the Speaker mentioned that the “theme for the roundtable is thought-provoking” and that it is dialogues like these that will assist the Legislature towards realising the importance of public participation.

The Speaker emphasised the need to have an ‘active parliament’ with increased public participation. She further bemoaned the lack of involvement of the youth as expressed by low voter turnout and indicated that public apathy could be emerging from two angles:

1. people have never participated before
2. people have lost interest in democracy and public participation

To address these key problems, the Speaker highlighted **the need for innovation** through stronger collaboration between other stakeholders and Chapter 9 institutions in order to enhance public participation. There is need to reconnect people with the Legislature as people are not fully knowledgeable of the role of the Legislature but only know that they bring petitions. The interaction between the Legislature and the people will help attract public interest. The Speaker emphasised the need to have rigorous law making to enhance public participation. She particularly mentioned that the Legislature will have close partnership with SALGA to enhance public participation at local government level.

Specific questions raised to the Speaker included:

1. How does the Legislature imagine inclusive participation?
2. What impedes the Provincial Legislature from carrying out its mandate?
3. Is there a programme (specifically designed to allow members of the public) to meet the MPLs?
4. Who is the driver of public participation in the province and is there a budget allocated to that?
5. How is communication with the citizenry enhanced?

The Speaker, replying to questions related to public participation and language barriers during the programme of Taking Parliament to the People outlined that when the Legislature takes the Legislature to the people, participants are addressed in vernacular. Alternatively, a translator will be there to assist when they are unable to speak in the vernacular.

Honourable Sauls-August asked that Honourable Ndabeni, the Chairperson for Public Participation speak to the issue of public participation and Taking Parliament (Legislature) to the People.

Honourable Ndabeni gave context to the public participation programme by outlining that the Legislature has a committee, which is dedicated to dealing with public participation and petitions. As such, citizens, organisations and individuals are permitted to write directly to the Legislature and petition them on any matter. There is a three-month deadline on petition responses.

Honourable Ndabeni continued to outline the importance of addressing youth apathy and that it is a societal and political matter. It is through the vote of the people that political parties are elected into the Legislature. In the context of the Eastern Cape, and in response to the need to increase youth representation, the ANC has recently moved to ensure that in the list of members of parliament, 20% representation must be young people. Therefore, in the Cabinet the ANC have

about three MEC's that are young. Nationally, there are five ministers that are 35 years and younger.

Concerning youth employment, Honourable Ndabeni stated that Government has recently pronounced that the issue of experience must not be a hindering factor to applicants with regards to entry-level posts in administration. 'How are you expected to have experience as a young person coming out of University?'

Honourable Ndabeni finished by outlining that during the week of the 21st of October 2019, the entire Eastern Cape Cabinet will be Taking Parliament to the People in Queenstown from Monday to Friday. He confirmed that everyone should attend and be part of the conversation that takes place during this time. During the Taking Parliament to the People programme, 90% of the time, those in attendance get an opportunity to interact directly with members of Cabinet. He confirmed that committees at the Legislature are open to the citizens to attend and if members of communities would want to come and address them, they only need to write requesting the opportunity to address members of the committees and they will respond with a suitable date and time.

Honourable Ndabeni went on to outline that when the members of the Legislature come to your area as part of the Taking Parliament to the People programme, individuals are encouraged to use this as an opportunity to address them about issues in their communities. Should the community feel that part of addressing the issue involves the members of the committee visiting a certain area, they need to write a request that the members visit their area and the members of committees will schedule a date to go to the area in question in order to call a meeting to address the issue outlined?

Honourable Ndabeni outlined that it is important that the Legislature work towards live-streaming committee meetings at the Legislature so that members of the population know that the Legislature is busy at work. He was concerned that some of the work of the Legislature may go unnoticed due to lack of coverage.

At the end of the keynote address, the floor was opened for participants to comment or ask questions. The following comments were made:

- "It's good to sit in spaces and acknowledge the Legislative space and the work that they do. It is also important to acknowledge that the EC is a rural space and if ambulances cannot get to some places in the EC, the parliament cannot get to those spaces. What are the practical aspects that we can implement that could help with getting parliament to the people? What is the Legislatures' relationship with civil society organisations? Can civil society organisations work with the Legislature to get information to communities about road shows happening especially in areas where the Legislature cannot get to the rural communities?" - Thokozile Mtsolongo, Section 27
- "We are happy that the Legislature goes to the people. I am worried about policy formulation- we talk about policies that are coming out and we have no idea how they were formulated. Regarding Human Rights, there is gender-based violence that happens on a day to day basis and yet nothing is being done about this. The children's rights need to be revisited by all here as there seems to be no respect from children"- Phumla Gojela, Care Alicedale.

- “I believe that the mandate of the Legislature in relation to oversight is similar to the mandate of civil society and chapter 9 institutions which is to hold people accountable. I don’t know if civil society knows about the public participation framework? It requires education and participation. Live streaming benefits both civil society and the parliamentary space. Community media is an underused resource and Legislatures need to look at those space to disseminate information”- Martina Della Togna, Rhodes University PhD student and a former employee of the National Parliament Communication’s team.

Hon. Ndabeni and Hon, Sauls-August replied to the comments as follows:

- “The Legislature is not able to reach people in all rural areas in the Eastern Cape but they are trying to get there. Traditional Courts Bill will be presented in the deep areas of the Eastern Cape to deal with traditional leadership. A point in contention is women leadership in the traditional courts and we are dealing with this aspect. Furthermore, the Legislature is working with all Municipalities in the province (SALGA- umbrella of the Municipalities). We work with them to assist us in going to the deepest rural areas of the province. We understand the demographics of the province and we work with the ward councillors too. What I am picking up is that when the Legislature undertakes certain work, the Legislature must determine how we involve all the role players in the room so that we can work as a collective. Last week, we went to an area in rural EC and the community initiated what we call a community unrest to try to get boys arrested that had been involved in the raping of young girls in the area. The Legislature also assisted in getting the rape survivors and their families counselling services”- Honourable Ndabeni, Chairperson of Public Participation and Petitions
- “We must not lose sight that we are not working in a vacuum. Local government has ward councillors and ward committees. They have war rooms in the municipalities. The issue to be addressed is the use of resources and how they can be used to forge partnerships moving forward” -Honourable Helen Sauls-August, Speaker of the House

The Speaker’s address was followed by a presentation from Mr Mpondo of the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), a Chapter 9 Institution.

A Perspective from a Chapter 9 Institution: Mr. Loyiso Mpondo, SAHRC



Pic: Mr Loyiso Mpondo, South African Human Rights Commission

During his presentation, Mr Mpondo explained the role of the SAHRC within the oversight and legislative context.

The SAHRC was established in October 1995 and is an institution whose mandate is to support constitutional democracy. It has nine provincial offices.

Mr Mpondo outlined that the SAHRC is mandated by section 124 of the Constitution of 1996 to protect and promote human rights under section 28 of the Constitution. The SAHRC is tasked with monitoring, investigating and promoting the rights that are outlined in Chapter 2 of the Constitution.

The SAHRC Act of 2013 gives the SAHRC the power to investigate and report on human rights and take steps in cases of violation, to hold those responsible for the violations accountable, do further research and educating members of the public.

The Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act assists the victims of racism and hate speech.

Each commissioner is assigned a focus area (e.g-education, children, justice etc.) in different provinces. In conducting their oversight role:

1. They investigate complaints and they do their own investigations using social media and newspapers.
2. They write to government departments asking for information on socio-economic rights and equality, especially in instances where there have been human right violations.
3. They also monitor the extent to which judgments of the courts have been complied with.
4. They ensure that reports on human right violations sent to government departments regarding their findings are implemented and the extent of the implementation is monitored.

The SAHRC is also in the process of looking at old age homes and detention centres (inspections).

Mr Mpondo also mentioned that the Commission was recently involved in the issue of undocumented learners. Mr Mpondo went on to outline that the Commission is currently facing financial challenges because of budget cuts which limits the extent to which they can litigate in cases of human right violations. In addition, the Commission is under-staffed yet challenges on human rights are still high, including racism, health, water and sanitation and problems of pit latrines.

Mr Mpondo highlighted the fact that their organisation depends on reports coming from the public. That is how they were able to deal with the case of learners that did not have birth certificates in Mqanduli.

In response to a question on the issue of registration of the children of refugees. Mr Mpondo replied that the application of identity documents for undocumented learners includes children of the foreigners.

A question was directed to the SAHRC about what challenges they face while carrying out their mandate. Mr Mpondo responded and said that the SAHRC is facing the following challenges in

line with the work they do: patients sleeping on hospital floors, pit latrines in schools, water and sanitation issues.

Within the context of the organisation, the following challenge was identified by Mr Mpondo: the office of the SAHRC has 9 people that work in the Eastern Cape. He explained, “the issue with us is that there is no staff and resources (budget cut by R10 million) and there is a possibility of facing retrenchment soon”. Furthermore, the lack of budget makes it difficult for the SAHRC to do their work; in particular, it makes it difficult for them to litigate. He acknowledged that even though the difficulty of their inability to litigate has been raised, there are organisations, like the Legal Resource Centre, that assist with taking matters to court.

The discussion was followed by a presentation from Ms Tlamelo Mothudi, a Researcher from the Public Service Accountability Monitor.

Insights from Parliament Watch and Putting the People in People’s Parliament Projects:
Ms. Tlamelo Mothudi, Researcher, Public Service Accountability Monitor



Pic: Ms Tlamelo Mothudi, Public Service Accountability Monitor

PSAM Health Researcher Tlamelo M Mothudi presenting on the Parly Watch Scorecard.

Ms Mothudi’s presentation dealt with a [scorecard](#) that was compiled by Parliament Watch (ParlyWatch) monitors and monitors from the Putting the People into the People’s Parliament (PPIPP) project.

The scorecard sought to zoom in on four case studies. Three of the case studies span from portfolio committee meetings in the National Assembly, namely: The Portfolio Committee on Social Development, specifically pertaining to challenges in the Social Security Agency (SASSA); the Portfolio Committee on Police’s deliberations on the allocation of police resources; and the

Portfolio Committee on Communications' focus on the ongoing challenges at the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC). The fourth case study provides observations and scoring from monitoring select committees in the Eastern Cape Legislature.

Section 59 of the Constitution states that the National Assembly must facilitate public involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Assembly and its committees and that it must conduct its work in an open manner and hold its sittings, and the sittings of its committees, in public. Section 118 imposes the same obligations on provincial Legislatures. It is within this context that Parliament Watch monitored selected committees in the National Assembly and the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature and to a lesser extent the Western Cape Provincial Legislature during 2018 using a framework of four thematic areas: access and openness; responsiveness to the public; independence and oversight; and general effectiveness. This scorecard rates committees' performance across these three case studies with a five-point score. In the scoring we have used 1 equals a fail, 2 equals poor, 3 equals fair, 4 equals good and 5 equals excellent. Parliament Watch members acknowledge that their assessment is based on subjective analysis and have attempted to mitigate this by collectively agreeing on the scoring subsequent to debate and collective analysis.

The discussion emanating from the presentation:

During the discussion that emanated from the presentation, participants from the Legislature requested clarity on instances where monitors have struggled to get information.

In response to these questions, Ms Mothudi gave the following two examples:

1. Information sought on committee recordings: Ms Mothudi explained that there had been communication sent to the Office of the Speaker requesting that monitors from the Public Service Accountability Monitor (PSAM) who monitor various committee meetings at the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature be permitted to record the committee meetings. While positive responses have been received to date - placing emphasis on this a key aspect of an open Legislature, formal/written assent is yet to be received. We are encouraged by this acknowledgement and look forward to commencing with the work of recording and documenting committee sittings

PSAM monitors also requested the recording of the committee meetings from the committees and were informed that the recording can be obtained from HANSARD. However, the monitors were advised that HANSARD only records the house sittings and not the committee meetings.

2. The register outlining the attendees of the committee meetings: Ms Mothudi explained that the health committee has been requested to submit a register of the members who attended the committee meetings but has not received a copy to date.

Honourable Helen Sauls-August made an observation that the reports which have been submitted by the monitors in the scorecard would be considered in order to make sure that the services of the Legislature are improved.

Responding to an enquiry of an example of a situation where systematic failures were addressed during committee meetings, Ms Mothudi gave the example of the health committee addressing

issues about Cecilia Makiwane hospital which had been raised by members of the health committee.

Ms Mothudi's presentation was followed by a presentation of the Provincial Fiscal Oversight Report and Provincial Money Bills by Dr Sean Muller.



Pic: Dr Sean Muller, University of Johannesburg

Provincial Fiscal Oversight Report and Provincial Money Bills: Dr Sean Muller, Senior Lecturer, University of Johannesburg

Dr Sean Muller provided an overview of fiscal oversight based on information provided by the Legislature and associated legislation. He presented the main findings of the Provincial Financial Oversight Report for the Eastern Cape and Gauteng and provided a comparative analysis of the two in different contexts. He indicated that until recently the nine provinces did not have the provincial money bill legislation required by the Constitution. The GPL had passed such legislation in 2019 at the end of its 5th term. He commended the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature (ECPL) on having started the process of drafting such legislation.

A money bill (Section 77, and 120 for provinces, of the Constitution) appropriates money (takes money from government resources and allocates it), imposes taxes, levies or surcharges, abolishes or reduces or grants exemptions from, any national taxes, levies, duties or surcharges OR authorises direct charges against the National Revenue Fund, except a bill envisaged in section 214 authorising direct charges.

According to the Constitution, the Minister/MEC tables the money bill and Legislature has power to amend, but with a requirement that Legislatures pass their own legislation to determine the process such amendments must follow. There has been very slow progress on formulating legislation for amending money bills and in implementation thereof. There is no legal clarity on amendment without the legislation.

Fiscal oversight report

In theory, fiscal oversight begins with National Treasury proposals followed by parliament oversight, national amendments and outcomes. At provincial level, processes happen almost concurrently with national. Provincial treasury proposals are made followed by Legislature oversight, provincial amendments and outcomes. There should be public participation and input.

In practice parliament and Legislature oversight is overlooked and there is little robust engagement between the Legislature and the treasury due to lack of capacity and political dynamics. Public participation on money bills is low due to timelines, lack of awareness and knowledge and perception of ineffectiveness.

Eastern Cape Parliament Legislature Rules

Dr Muller did not find easy access to information on ECPL fiscal oversight processes for the report.

The timelines for the ECPL Legislature rules were not specific but discretionary.

There is no public participation mentioned in the rules in spite of the fact that public participation is a legal requirement in budgeting process and amending money bills.

The rules go further than the Constitution and prohibit the Legislature making amendments without legislation in place.

Dr Muller highlighted the opportunities and risks for provincial oversight of the drafting of money bills amendment legislation:

Opportunity: reflect on experience of last 23 years, continuing challenges and limitations of oversight, involve civil society – then draft legislation and processes that will guide improvements in terms to come

Risk: treat as a compliance exercise, limit involvement of civil society to the bare minimum, then draft legislation which is superficial and not accompanied by substantive processes – leading to an entrenchment of past/current limitations

Dr Muller highlighted a number of points for consideration in the process of making the legislation for amendment of money bills for the Legislature. These considerations include the following:

The Eastern Cape Legislature must identify core areas of oversight and practicalities of amendment. For example, total allocation (division of revenue) and appropriation across programmes and departments, are arguably key areas for oversight. The Legislature should also assess and consider what an amendment process would require in practice and its implications.

Timing

The timing for provincial Legislature on amendment of money bills is primarily for appropriations oversight since division of revenue is prescribed by national legislation.

Public participation

The ECPL must include in the money bill amendment legislation the processes of public participation, that is, when and how to facilitate public participation and how public participation can substantively inform decisions on amendment of money bills.

Capacity

The Eastern Cape Legislature must consider and be clear on what is required of their staff and the Members of the Provincial Legislature (realistically and within the constraints of term cycles). Legislatures have fewer resources on matters of public finance that requires substantial technical experience. To counter lack of capacity, Parliamentary Budget Offices (PBOs) can be used to advise and support the implementation of the Money Bills Act. The ECPL must consider if it is desirable to establish a Provincial Legislature Budget Office (PLBO) or equivalent. The basic role of a PBO is to provide MP(L)s with the technical support to fulfil their oversight role in relation to public finances. The PBO should not play day-to-day advice role and therefore are different from committee staff. The key role for PBO is to produce substantive, technically credible, reliable and independent research and analysis on important public finance issues.

The PBO supports MP(L)s but this does not imply direct instruction or non-transparent interaction with the MPLs. The role of the PBO needs to be properly understood and integrated into the workings of the Legislature administration and relevant committees.

Dr Muller pointed out important factors to consider when deciding on having a PLBO. It is important to take note of the nature of analysis and research undertaken by the PLBO. In particular, it is important to recognise that the potential scope of research and analysis vastly exceeds the resources available (of both the PLBO and members themselves). Additionally, the nature of possible research varies from forecasting economic growth to costing specific policy proposals and estimating distributional effects. The quality of research should be equivalent to highest in public or private sectors. Research requires appropriate staffing, management and long-term planning and be made public wherever possible, as that serves to test/establish the credibility of the research. Research adds significant value to broader public engagement with public finance issues (*if* credibility is achieved).

A P(L)BO can achieve a great deal if properly structured, staffed and managed; correspondingly, it can be a serious liability if this is not the case. The Director and senior management must be robustly independent in order to command the respect of all political parties and ideological groupings. One important dimension of independence is access to information from other institutions. Consistent pattern across countries is that economists, with requisite knowledge of quantitative methods and public finance, are the core of a successful PBO. PBOs tend to advise finance and appropriations committees, not Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA). Experts of other kinds can be contacted, or contracted, on an ad hoc basis.

Learning from Gauteng Provincial Legislature's errors

High-level problems with the GPL's Money Bills Act

1. Failure to think through the nature of the *provincial* oversight process
2. Drafting and revision process was rushed resulting in errors and ambiguities

Specific problems with the GPL's Money Bills Act

1. Does not incorporate the Division of Revenue mandating process
2. Lacks detail and decisiveness on the PLBO it seeks to establish

Dr Muller's presentation was followed by a discussion, with questions from the participants. The matter of access to information during the research process was raised. Both Ms. Mothudi and Dr Muller indicated that their efforts to obtain timely information were challenged by limited information (e.g. on the website) and responses from the Legislature.

The Speaker mentioned the importance of the issues raised in the presentations for the Legislature that were useful to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement. It was highlighted that the budget committee sits seven times before the budget is sent to the financial portfolio committee. Timeframes are tight because the budget needs to be concluded by November and both appropriations for 2019 and 2020 are done concurrently. There was acknowledgement of the need to empower the Legislature to amend bills through learning from national parliament. Dr Muller warned the Eastern Cape against rushing the process as Gauteng did. He also cautioned against simply reproducing the Budget Review and Recommendation Report (BRRR) requirements in the national Money Bills Act, as these are onerous and resource heavy. As much as BRRRs could provide important feedback in the budgeting process, Dr Muller indicated that this is often not the case in practice. The need to develop provincial guidelines for amendment of the money bills was emphasised and the Eastern Cape Legislature acknowledged that the process of developing Legislature for amendment of money bills must indeed be completed. Advocate Beja highlighted the importance of having the rules, as these are essential in case of a change in political administration. She however, explained the complexity of the budget cycle and tight timelines that characterise the process and mentioned how Portfolio Committees have to sit until 8PM at night before the money bills are finalised.

She concluded by mentioning the need to empower the Legislature to amend bills and to put in place the legislation to do so. Baby steps and learning from national parliament is necessary.

After the discussions, a presentation from Ms. Zanele Mene, an Executive Manager for Oversight from the Legislature, followed focusing on how civil society organisations can contribute to the Legislature's oversight mandate.

A Perspective from the Eastern Cape Legislature: Ms. Zanele Mene, Executive Manager for Oversight, Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature



Pic: Ms Zanele Mene, Executive Manager for Oversight, Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature

During her presentation, Ms Mene mentioned that the mandate of the Legislature is to make law; conduct oversight and facilitate public participation. She noted that the recommendations of the committee become house resolutions. They are communicated to the executive and the MEC who have to respond to the recommendations or house resolutions. The committee also considers quarterly reports, mid-term report and annual reports with regards to their budgets.

Ms Mene explained the role of civil society as follows: lobby platforms; provide an opportunity to bring communities or certain groups of people together to articulate their demands or concerns. CSOs also act as watchdogs/practicing oversight of the executive. The Legislature is mandated to hold the executive accountable. For the Legislature to do its job, experts are needed to provide support to elected representatives, which can be done through internal professional capacity; collaboration with state organisations, state monitoring and research centres. CSOs can play an important role by educating members of the public about the role of the Legislature. They can also share a balanced, objective information on matters of public interest with communities and not have an adversarial approach to government. Ms Mene mentioned that collaboration opportunities are available for the Legislature and CSO to come together and hold the executive accountable.

Ms Mene also mentioned that research from the CSOs can be used to empower the Legislature. CSOs and the Legislature do not have to compete for the space of oversight. Oversight is a constitutional mandate of the Legislature. What is lacking is the issue of information sharing from the CSOs. Lastly, Ms Mene mentioned that all correspondence that comes to the committee must come through the office of the Speaker.

Conclusion of the Roundtable: The main **messages and resolutions** from all actors. The key messages from the roundtable included the following:

Key messages:

1. The spirit of openness and collaboration in which the engagement was held prevailed and participants agreed to foster this in future dialogue
2. The need for enhanced public participation through further engagement between the Legislature, chapter 9 institutions, civil society organisations and other stakeholders was acknowledged by all participants
3. Communication and access to information were identified as critical limitations
4. The Legislature highlighted the importance of its role to fulfil the mandate on public participation, to open space for public engagement in the Legislature and particularly increase participation with the youth.
5. Resources were identified as the major constraint on the activities of both the Legislature and the other stakeholders like the South African Human Rights Commission, whose budget was reduced making it difficult to offer legal support and resolve more cases on human rights violations.
6. Public awareness of the Legislature was underscored as a significant barrier to participation

Key Resolutions and opportunities for collaboration

7. The Legislature welcomed the idea of creating a database with a list of all civil society organisations in the Eastern Cape, which the Legislature can contact when they have events such as Taking the Parliament to the People.
8. The development of legislation/rules that guide the amendment of money bills was highlighted as an opportunity for stakeholders to influence the budgeting process. The Eastern Cape Legislature has done some progress in developing the rules, albeit further emphasising that amendment of money bills should not happen without the rules. Dr Muller emphasised the need not to rush the process of implementing the rules. Advocate Beja from the Legislature acknowledged the need to take baby steps and learn from national parliament and guide the development of their own rules.
9. Collaboration, learning together with all stakeholders was identified as a necessary objective in order to increase public participation. How can this be achieved in partnership?
10. There is an opportunity for the Legislature to work with civic organisations, institutions of higher learning and researchers to identify innovation to enhance public participation and inclusion within the Legislature. The Parliamentary Monitoring Group (PMG) is an example of one such opportunity - audio recording of provincial committee sittings

11. The opportunity to ensure that the Taking Parliament to the People programme is improved to better meet its mandate, reach out to more people was identified
12. Although the use of technology to livestream the proceedings of portfolio committees would require more resources, the need to open up space in the Legislature remain key. This entails, the Speaker noted, coming up with innovative ways that key stakeholders can undertake in order to enhance public participation.

ATTENDEES

No	Name and Surname	Position	Organisation
1.	Siyamthanda Dyantie	local activist	Imbokodo
2.	Thozama Mxenge	Personal Assistant to the Speaker	EC Legislature
3.	Lwandile Sicwetsha	Spokesperson to the Speaker	EC Legislature
4.	Siyabulela Fobosi	Education Researcher	Public Service Accountability Monitor
5.	Nonkululeko Qonto	Youth Care Coordinator	Zanoncedo Empowerment Centre
6.	Sean Muller	Senior Lecturer: School of Economics; Research Association	PEERC; UJ
7.	Helen M. Sauls-August	The Speaker	EC Legislature
8.	Recardo Langbooi	Researcher, Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements	EC Legislature
9.	Vuyo Msizi	Development coordinator	SCAT
10.	Nobuzwe Mofokeng	Director	Interchurch LDA
11.	Virginia Camealo-Benjamin	MPL-Whip of Public Participation	EC Legislature
12.	Itumeleng Mothlabane	Junior organiser	Equal Education
13.	Sikhander Coopoo	Programme Officer:	Afesis-Corplan

		Local Governance	
14.	Sisesakhe Ntlabezo	Chief of Staff	Equal Education
15.	Tlamele Mothudi	Health Researcher	Public Service Accountability Monitor
16.	Phumla Gojela	Director	Care Alicedale
17.	Esteri Msindo	Human Settlement Researcher	Public Service Accountability Monitor
18.	Sakhumzi Njotini	Researcher, Portfolio Committee on Public Participation, Petitions and Public Education	EC Legislature
19.	Sidwell King	Fieldworker	Deliwe Advice Centre
20.	Kennet Danile Sigidi	Coordinator	Daliwe Advice Office
21.	Thokozile Mtsolongo	Coordinator/Communi- ty Mobilizer	Section 27
22.	Zimkhitha Mhlahlo		Legal Resource Centre
23.	Cameron McConnachie	Director	Legal Resource Centre
24.	Zanele Mene	Executive Manager: Oversight	EC Legislature
25.	Mziwonke Ndabeni	Chairperson, Portfolio Committee on Public Participation, Petitions and Public Education	EC Legislature
26.	Khumbulani Yekani	Manager	Entlango Cooperative
27.	Koleka Beja	Advocate	EC Legislature
28.	Loyiso Mpondo	Senior Legal Officer	South African Human Rights Commission
29.	Mtutuzeli Xiniwe	Coordinator	Mqanduli Advice Centre
30.	Zukiswa Kota	Head: Monitoring and Advocacy	Public Service Accountability Monitor

		Programme	
31.	Lwandile Fumba	Senior Manager, Office of the Secretary	EC Legislature
32.	Thokozile Madonko	Project Manager	Heinrich Böll Stiftung
33.	Martina Della Togna,	Rhodes University PhD student and a former employee of the National Parliament Communication's team	



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