



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

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WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 1994

MOTION:-

Consideration of the Draft Constitution of the Republic of Uganda [Pg 2643]

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Wednesday, 14th Dec. 1994.

*The Assembly met at 2.30 p.m. in the
International Conference Centre, Kampala.*

PRAYERS

*(The Deputy Chairman, Prof. V.Mwaka, in the
Chair)*

(The Assembly was called to order)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Delegates, we have a technical problem; when we held a plenary yesterday, we had not anticipated that NRC will be sitting. When I look round, we are about 53, and I think the reason is because of this drizzling. And in our rules we need 142; so we are barely a quarter of the required number, because all our Friends are on the other side. And actually we have not been meeting whenever NRC is sitting, but then they are eating our time, because we had not planned for them.

DR. KABERUKA: Madam Chairperson, I wanted to observe that, there are 284, and the Members who go to that Chamber are only 107. But that still leaves us with over 170. Surely we should at least be able to form a quorum without those, if we were serious that way.

PROF. SENTEZA KAJUBI: (Kyadondo North): Madam Chairperson, according to rule 9(2), I think the Chairperson is not supposed to have eyes to see that there is no quorum until it has been drawn to the Chair's attention. Business is supposed to continue normally, until the attention of the Chairperson is drawn to the fact that there is no quorum.

Secondly, Madam Chairperson, I would like to find out whether Rule 9(5) is being kept strictly. Which says that *'any Delegate shall not be absent from four consecutive sittings, without reasonable excuse, except with permission of the Chairperson'*. You have pointed out that Members of NRC are away, I am wondering whether you have received any other apologies and you do receive apologies whenever we do not have quorum.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They may be in the Chairman's office. On your first issue, sometimes it is too obvious that it will be a really very blind

Chair not to see that. You want many people and there is only one, and he sees that they are 10. And that is why I brought it under communication from the Chair; because on Monday, we had a full House, because the NRC was not sitting and some Members may have taken it that whenever NRC is sitting, we do not sit. You cannot rule that one out also. But there is also another provision, that we can adjourn for 15 minutes and we wait. But I remain here, so that we see whether we shall have the quorum.

AN HON. DELEGATE: Madam Chairperson, I do not know whether that has been the ruling that we wait for 15 minutes and then we see if we have a quorum.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is according to hon. Senteza Kajubi - we want to follow the rules.

AN HON. DELEGATE: Because if really the Members are in the House, in Parliament, then we cannot expect them to come here in 15 minutes. So, I do not know. Because I see only about 2 or 3 Members of Parliament who are also here. Which means that, the majority of the others are on the other side. And as we have indicated, if people take it for granted that, whenever Parliament is sitting then CA is not sitting, then we cannot expect these people to come. So, are we not really wasting the 15 minutes, especially those of us who can utilise these 15 minutes in other quarters?

MRS. MWONDHA: Thank you, very much, Madam Chairperson. I think I would go with you in your proposition that, we follow the rules. In other words, we came here prepared to go on to the plenary, and I think it is orderly to follow the rules that we suspend the plenary for 15 minutes, then after we shall find out whether there is a quorum or not. This business of saying that, we are not sure whether they will come or not I think is immaterial at this time. Because we know very well that, the Members of NRC are only 107, and we still would have formed a quorum, if people were willing to come and deliberate on the issues. So, I would go with you when you say that, we suspend for 15 minutes, then we adjourn. That is what I have to say, Madam Chairperson. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We adjourn for 15 minutes, waiting for our Colleagues those who are coming, and then we proceed to the business.

(The Assembly adjourned for 15 minutes due to lack of quorum)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. Hon. Delegates, I have been told that we are 70; we lack another 72 to realise a quorum. So, I adjourn the meeting until tomorrow.

(The Assembly rose at 2.50 p.m. and adjourned until Thursday, 15th December 1994, at 2.30 p.m.)