



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF**  
**THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY**

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**OFFICIAL REPORT**

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**Tuesday, 21st June, 1994.**

*The Assembly met at 9.30 a.m. in the International Conference Centre, Kampala.*

*(The Chairman, Mr. J. Wapakhabulo, in the Chair)*

*The Assembly was called to order*

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

#### NOTICE OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION DAY FOR MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE ASSEMBLY

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Hon. Delegates, you must by now have received the notice I sent out yesterday through your pigeon holes, providing for the election of Members to Standing Committees. The Notice is in the terms that, in accordance with rule 33:1, I declare today Tuesday 21st June, 1994 to be the nomination day for the following Committees of the Constituent Assembly: - namely; the Business Committee, Committee on Privilege, Discipline and Welfare committee, Legal and Drafting Committee, Rules and Orders Committee. As Delegates will recall, these committees are provided for in our Rules of Procedure which we approved yesterday, and through them, we shall be performing some of the business of this House. I did not consider it a proper way to use our time, if we were to elect the business committee; then have another notice in relation to other committees and waste more time. In the circumstances, we consider this appropriate that we should proceed today and tomorrow to complete the elections and embark on serious substantive work, i.e The consideration of the draft constitution as required by law. In accordance with rule 33:5, nominations will close at 5.00 p.m., today. This will enable the Secretariat to prepare the various documents required i.e. the chairman is required to send to you the list of delegates as required by the rules, so that on the close of nomination, we shall have the list prepared for delivery to Members tomorrow after 5.00 p.m.

Then, in accordance with 33 (6) of the rules, the election will take place tomorrow. The Members will have got all the necessary documents and we would then proceed to have in place the committees, and then we shall work out our programme thereafter. There is no need to suspend any of the rules, because

we are giving you a day of nomination, and there is no need to suspend the rules relating to 12 hours notice prior to elections, because nominations close at 5.00p.m. The names will be made available, and we proceed to have elections. Should it become necessary I think we shall have to proceed by suspension of some rule here and there, to make sure that we finish with these House Keeping matters, and start on substance.

I would like to urge the Members to bring in their nominations, to the Clerk between today after we rise until the hour of 5.00 O'clock. I do not think we have any other business that we could transact today, except to compile the timetable I have set.

**A HON. DELEGATE:** Sir, I am just asking for some clarification. I do not have the complete rules, but could you please clarify to us, how many nominations you can sign?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I do not think there is a limit. I do not re-collect any limit. Order! we are still in session, and we shall not allow side meetings.

**MR. SSEBAANA KIZITO (Makindye East):** Mr. Chairman, I want to re-emphasize the point you have made, particularly for the benefit of the press, which has been very good in reporting the proceedings of this Assembly since we started. But if one reads the Newspapers, it would seem as if since we started we have not done much business. However, it is very important, and I want to appeal to the press to tell the public that this Assembly has been doing a very important job of getting rules of procedure which will govern us in making our deliberations.

All that we read indicates that what we have done so far is to ask for allowances and it will be joking around whether God is a man or not; and things of that nature. This is not true. The truth is what you have said, Mr. Chairman: namely that we have transacted very, very important business in the life of this Assembly and we would like the public to know that we have done a good job, so that they do not feel cheated that we have been wasting time here, trying to deliberate on matters which affect us personally.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, with those few words, I want to re-emphasize, and to appeal to the press once more, to tell the public that the job we have been

doing since we started the deliberations of the Assembly, has been a very, very important job. Thank you, Mr. Chairman

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Yes, I could not agree with you more, the fact is that you do injustice to your job, if you do not set your procedures and work methods right. If you do not give yourself a good work method, you can end up wasting more time. What we have been doing is setting our rules so that our work develops smoothly, and with the structures we have in place now, and we are going to put in place, we should be able to expedite our work rather than hindering. So, there has been no wastage of time. The Members have been doing a good job, they have been working very hard, and these rules were produced even over the weekends, by the Rules Committee to show how serious we are tackling our job.

Therefore, I would also add to that message you have just said. I would like to adjourn so that we go to serious business of nominations, but I give you the Floor.

**MR OWORI (Samia Bugwe North):** I am just seeking your guidance on this question of hours. There has been constant reference to hours. But I do not see interpretation of hours in rule No. 2. Are we talking about working hours, day hours, and night hours?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Which hours? For the elections? The twelve hours? Normally in elections, you allow a cooling period, and when you allow the cooling period you take in hours, day and night - you do not give working hours. The thing is to separate the nomination from the election by some reasonable space of time, so that people cool from their consultations if I may use the term.

**MR. KAJARA:** Mr. Chairman, when we broke off yesterday, we more or less agreed that we would elect the Business Committee this morning. I believe that most of the Delegates came in well knowing we would elect a Business Committee this morning. Well aware that there are rules that govern this House, and in view of the fact that, we may wish to be interested in saving time, I would like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, that, we suspend rule 43, and elect a Business Committee, save time for other committees which may be elected in due notice. This is what has been echoed by the previous speaker, that the Assembly is deliberating on nothing

but small things like rules, like allowances; so it would save us a bit of time if we agreed that we elect the committee that people are ready to elect, and then we can carry on business with others when we are ready with the nominations.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** We will go ahead with a business as outlined by the chairman. We should go into consultations so that nominations take place in good time and if we finish them earlier, then we can prepare the documentations for work tomorrow morning. I do not think it really helps us now to begin indulging in debate. I would like to proceed to adjourn.

**A HON. DELEGATE:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like some clarification on two issues.

One in the form where we are going to propose names of delegates for the Business Committee. I see names of delegates nominated for election, and I see one all the way up to 20. Now, from our rules, it says I think not more than two. I do not know what the other list is for.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** The list is for the women.

**A HON. DELEGATE:** Then secondly, there are names of the candidates in section three supporting the nomination. Again we go from 1 up to 31.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Yes, if you read the rules, they say the women are going to nominate 10, and we said they can nominate not more than twice, therefore up to 20 is really intended to provide for those who may nominate only one or two and those who may nominate 20, taking into account the women.

**A HON. DELEGATE:** Does it mean that when these names are nominated and brought to the Assembly then there have to be supporters signing these forms?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** The rules say, 'in case of institutions like the women group, they should be supported by the majority of members of that group'.

**A HON. DELEGATE:** Now, if I remember correctly the rule says 'you cannot be a Member of more than one committee'. But by filling in a form, it straight away restricts you that should you lose in one committee, you cannot present your credentials

to another committee. I thought we would elect a committee, finish it, then those who want to stand on another committee can stand; but, it seems when you prefer one committee, the moment you are not elected there, the other committee will have been elected, and you will have no opportunity to stand.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** There is nothing you can do about the rules we have set for ourselves. They say, we must comply with certain time notices. We cannot change them just like that. I think let us operate the system as it is, and see how it goes.

**A HON. DELEGATE:** But I wanted to say, can you fill your names for standing in two committees? Is there any rule stopping you from standing in two committees, Mr. Chairman?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** I suggest that, you consult your Colleagues; if they can nominate you in more than one committee, fine. But if you win in one, then you are withdrawn from the other.

**MR. KYEMBA:** Further clarification. Mr. Chairman, I note that on the nomination form for the Business Committee and others, there is provision for the nomination paper to be signed by the nominee. There is no such provision for the nominee on the other committees. Is that deliberate or was it an omission?

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Maybe hon. Kavuma can help us on this one, if he is around. The point hon. Kyemba is raising is that, nomination to committees other than business committee does not require signature by the candidate; is that what was intended or is it an omission? In which case, we can make a provision for that. I think we shall consult when we have adjourned. If there is any need for re-print of this form, we can run it through the computer any minute. There is no problem.

**MR KYEMBA:** Mr. Chairman, I was going to suggest is that if it is alright with the committee, that at least we provide for the nominee to sign to save time. If it is not required then we can even make them sign whatever way because it does no harm, so that we lose no time. The nominee can write the name and sign at the bottom for the committee other than business committee to save time.

**THE CHAIRMAN:** Now, hon. Delegates, order! With those observations, I request the hon. Members to bring in their nominations as early as possible. I adjourn the Assembly to 10.00 O'clock, tomorrow morning. We stand adjourned.

*(The Assembly rose and adjourned until 22nd June, 1994 at 10.00 O'clock)*