

CPA AFRICA REGION



**RESOLUTIONS OF THE 19TH CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS AND PRESIDING OFFICERS
OF THE COMMONWEALTH (CSPOC) AFRICA REGION HELD AT THE EMPERORS
PALACE HOTELS AND CONVENTION CENTRE, GAUTENG, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH
AFRICA, FROM 14TH TO 20TH JUNE, 2026**



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The Nineteenth Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) Africa Region, meeting in Gauteng, Republic of South Africa, from 14th to 20th June, 2026, under the theme “***Proactive Parliaments and Sustainable Development: An Imperative for Political Stability in Africa,***” and having deliberated on matters relating to strengthening democratic governance, parliamentary leadership, youth empowerment and technological transformation in Africa, hereby resolves as follows:

PREAMBLE

RECALLING the principles of democracy, good governance, accountability, transparency and respect for the rule of law as espoused in the Commonwealth Charter and other relevant regional and international instruments;

RECOGNISING the central role of Parliaments and Presiding Officers in promoting sustainable development, political stability, peace and prosperity across the African continent;

ACKNOWLEDGING that public confidence in democratic institutions remains fundamental to the legitimacy and effectiveness of parliamentary systems;

CONCERNED by emerging challenges including declining public trust, youth unemployment, digital inequalities, misinformation and the need for innovative approaches to parliamentary leadership;

EMPHASISING the importance of harnessing Africa's youthful population including domesticating the youth Charter and leveraging technological advancement as catalysts for inclusive and sustainable development;

COGNISANT of the agenda 2063, the strategic master plan for transforming Africa into a global powerhouse and promoting political unity free movement of people and seamless infrastructure connectivity;

COMMENDING the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa and the Gauteng Provincial Legislature for successfully hosting the 19th CSPOC Africa Region Conference and for their warm hospitality and excellent arrangements throughout the Conference.

THEREFORE, THE CONFERENCE RESOLVES THAT:

On enhancing Public Trust in Governance

1. **URGES** African Parliaments to strengthen mechanisms for transparency, accountability, integrity and responsiveness in parliamentary processes in order to enhance citizens' trust in governance.
2. **CALLS UPON** African Parliaments to promote meaningful citizen participation through public hearings, constituency engagements, petitions, e-systems and other inclusive mechanisms aimed at strengthening democratic legitimacy.
3. **ENCOURAGES** Presiding Officers to foster ethical leadership and uphold the highest standards of parliamentary conduct and professionalism.
4. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** African Parliaments to strengthen oversight over the Executive and the utilisation of public resources to ensure efficient and accountable governance.

5. **CALLS FOR** enhanced communication strategies and public outreach programmes to improve public understanding of parliamentary functions and activities.

On Reforming Parliamentary Leadership and Strengthening Institutional Capacity

1. **EMPHASISES** the need for innovative and responsive parliamentary leadership capable of addressing contemporary socio-economic and governance challenges facing Africa.
2. **ENCOURAGES** African Parliaments to modernise their rules, procedures and institutional frameworks to improve efficiency, effectiveness and responsiveness.
3. **CALLS FOR** Parliaments to increase investment in capacity-building programmes for Speakers, Presiding Officers, Members of Parliament and parliamentary staff including advanced research capacity to strengthen institutional performance.
4. **URGES** greater cooperation, knowledge-sharing and exchange of best practices among African legislatures and Commonwealth parliamentary institutions.
5. **ENCOURAGES** African Parliaments to mainstream sustainable development considerations into legislation, budgeting and oversight functions to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063.
6. **CALLS UPON** governments and development partners to provide adequate resources necessary for Parliaments to effectively discharge their constitutional mandates.

On Harnessing the Potential of Africa's Youth for Sustainable Development

1. **RECOGNISES** that Africa's youthful population represents a strategic asset and a key driver of economic growth, innovation and sustainable development.

2. **CALLS UPON** African Parliaments to enact and strengthen legislation and policies that promote youth empowerment; an educational curriculum that is both theoretical and practical orientated; skills development; innovation; and entrepreneurship.
3. **ENCOURAGES** governments to create conducive environments for youth skills development, employment and investment in emerging sectors of the economy including the green and blue economies.
4. **URGES** African Parliaments to enhance the participation and representation of young people in democratic and decision-making processes.
5. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** the establishment and strengthening of Youth Parliaments and other platforms aimed at fostering active citizenship and leadership among young people.
6. **CALLS FOR** targeted interventions to address inequalities affecting young women and vulnerable groups to ensure that no one is left behind in the development process.
7. **FURTHER CALLS** for African Parliaments to accelerate the implementation of the African Continental free trade area which aims to eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers dramatically boosting intra-Africa trade and fostering long term industrialization with a view to eliminate youth unemployment.

On Leveraging Technology and Digital Tools for Sustainable Development

1. **RECOGNISES** the transformative potential of digital technologies in improving parliamentary effectiveness and promoting sustainable development.
2. **ENCOURAGES** African Parliaments to accelerate digital transformation through the adoption of e-Parliament systems, artificial intelligence, data-driven decision-making and secure digital platforms.

3. **CALLS FOR** strengthened cybersecurity measures and legislative frameworks to safeguard digital systems and personal data.
4. **URGES** governments and stakeholders to bridge the digital divide and expand access to affordable information and communication technologies, particularly in rural and underserved communities.
5. **ENCOURAGES** African Legislatures to utilise technology and digital tools to enhance citizen engagement, transparency and access to parliamentary information.
6. **CALLS FOR** regional cooperation in promoting digital innovation, technological capacity-building and the responsible use of emerging technologies.

On Strengthening Regional Cooperation

1. **REAFFIRMS** the importance of solidarity and cooperation among African legislatures in addressing common challenges and advancing the interests of the continent.
2. **CALLS FOR** enhanced collaboration among Africa Region Parliaments in promoting democracy, constitutionalism, peace, security and sustainable development.
3. **ENCOURAGES** continued engagement with regional and international parliamentary organisations to foster mutual learning and strategic partnerships.

Appreciation

The Conference expresses its sincere appreciation to the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, the Gauteng Provincial Legislature, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Africa Region Secretariat, and all stakeholders whose efforts contributed to the successful execution of the 19th CSPOC Africa Region Conference and to the warm hospitality extended to delegates and participants

ADOPTION

Adopted by the 19th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) Africa Region, held in Gauteng, Republic of South Africa, on 18th June, 2026.

MEMBERS OF THE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

S/NO.	NAME	TITLE
1.	Hon. Lukas Sinimbo Muha, MP., Chairperson of National Council of Namibia	Chairperson
2.	Rt. Hon. Dithapelo Keorapetse, MP., Speaker of the National Assembly of Botswana	Member
3.	Hon. Mary Muyali Boya Meboka, MP., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Cameroon	Member
4.	Hon. Enos Asiimwe, MP., Uganda Representing Rt. Hon. Jacob Marksons Oboth, MP., Speaker of National Assembly of Uganda	Member
5.	Mr. Thomas Shawa, Tanzania	Secretariat
6.	Ms. Beatrice Geria, Uganda	Secretariat
7.	Dr. Eugenia Mpofu, South Africa	Secretariat