SENATE NEWSLETTER – FIRST EDITION
VOLUME 1

PARLIAMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO SENATE



SENATE

EDITORIAL NOTE

Welcome to the Senate of Lesotho Newsletter!

It is our pleasure to welcome you to this edition of the Senate of Lesotho Newsletter, which brings you updates on the activities, proceedings and engagements of the Senate.

As an important institution of Parliament, the Senate plays a significant role in the country's legislative processes, oversight responsibilities and representation of the interests of the nation.

Through this publication, we aim to keep our readers informed about the work of the Senate, including parliamentary debates, committee activities, official engagements, institutional developments and other events of national importance.

This newsletter also provides an opportunity to highlight the contributions of Senators and Senate staff in fulfilling the institution's mandate and promoting good governance, accountability and democratic principles.

We invite you to follow our journey as we continue serving the nation through our parliamentary responsibilities.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We hope you will enjoy this edition.

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LITTLE PRESIDENT BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

LITTLE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE TEBELLO MACHEMA MARKED HER BIRTHDAY BY GIVING BACK TO TEENAGE MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

Machema continued her birthday celebrations on Friday, 4th September 2026 at 10 O'clock in the morning by giving back to young mothers and their children at the Good Shepherd Centre for Teenage Mothers at Sehlabeng in Berea District.



The initiative followed her birthday on 30 August 2026, under the theme:



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"On My Birthday, I Choose to Be a Blessing."



Through this gesture, the Little President sought to extend



compassion, encouragement and support to young mothers and their children, while highlighting the importance of caring for and empowering young people in our communities.

The birthday outreach was intended not only as a celebration, but also as an opportunity to share hope, care, kindness and support to the teenage mothers.







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A TEAM FROM LESOTHO DEFENCE FORCE CONDUCTS PRE-RETIREMENT TRAINING FOR SENATE STAFF

A team from Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) led by Major General Khomo Mohobo facilitated a pre-retirement training session for Senate staff members who are approaching retirement. The training was held at the Senate Offices from Wednesday, 16 September 2026, to Friday, 18 September 2026.

The training focused on raising awareness among staff members about the importance of maintaining good mental and physical health as they prepare for retirement. Participants were also encouraged to develop a better understanding of themselves, recognise their abilities and potential, and identify opportunities they could pursue during their post-retirement years.

The training provided an opportunity for the officers to reflect on their personal well-being, financial preparedness and forthcoming plans as they prepare for the transition from active service to retirement.

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NINTH MEETING OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

On Tuesday the 22nd of September 2026, the Senate House resumed its duties following winter break. The President of the Senate Honourable 'Mamonaheng Mokitimi greeted and warmly welcomed Honourable Senators to the ninth session of the eleventh Parliament of Lesotho, she indicated that it is her believe that the Honourable Senators have had the opportunity to harvest their crops in their fields during the recess.

In addition, she said it is also her believe that they have also engaged with Basotho in their respective constituencies and wards and explained to them (Basotho)the work of the House and have also listened to their challenges so that they will be discussed and find final solutions.

Honourable Mokitimi further talked about the El Nino climate phenomenon of which she commended Disaster Management Authority and World Food Program for making efforts to alert Basotho and helped them to prepare for those anticipated conditions resulting from El Nino.

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Apart from that, Hon. Mokitimi further talked about drug abuse amongst the unemployed youth of which she said it must be addressed by investing in initiatives that help them create their own jobs and also create agricultural food production to eradicate hunger and produce excess for exportation to other countries.

Furthermore, she said "You will recall that the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution Act, 2025 contains provisions that grant Parliament autonomy through the enactment of an Act of Parliament. I am pleased to report that significant progress has been made in this regard. A draft Policy for Administration of Parliament has been developed to guide the preparation of an Act of Parliament that will expedite the autonomy of the two Houses of Parliament. The policy is now at a stage where it can be considered for approval by both Houses, after which the Act of Parliament can be developed.'

In conclusion, Hon. Mokitimi quoted wise words from Vincent Lombardi who said, "Commitment is an act and not a word." She urged the Senators therefore that they should keep on being committed as they have taken the oath to serve His Majesty's government before the House.





RADIATION SAFETY AND REQUIREMENT REGULATIONS 2026 TABLING

On 23rd September 2026, Honourable minister of Environment and Forestry Hon. Thabo Mofosi tabled before the Senate House Radiation Safety and requirement Regulations, 2026 and was referred to the relevant committee.





COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES ADOPTS REPORT

The Senate Committee on Government Assurances adopted the audit report on the construction of the new Royal Palace in Maseru, Lesotho on the 23rd September 2026 following its consideration of the report.

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REPORTS ADOPTION IN THE SENATE

On 24TH September 2026, Chairperson of Legislation Committee Honourable Seabata Motsamai presented before the Senate House the reports to be adopted and were as follows: -

- Public Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 2026
- Income Tax (Amendment) Regulations, 2026
- Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 2026
- Agriculture Marketing (products Control and subsidized Input Protection Regulations, 2026
- Tollgate (Amendment) Regulations,2026
- Public Holidays, Bill 2026
- Administration of Estates (Amendment of Schedules) Regulations,2026

All reports were adopted by the House.

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AGRICULTURAL LAND NEED PROTECTION

On 29th September 2026. Honourable Senator M.Seeiso Maama raised before the Honourable House the motion tittled as follows:

"NEED FOR PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN LESOTHO"

Through that motion, Honourable Senator S.Maama says that the Government of Lesotho is urged to take urgent and decisive measures to protect agricultural land from being converted to non-agricultural uses.

The motion highlights concerns about the loss of agricultural land through unregulated land sales, illegal allocations, environmental degradation and the expansion of residential settlements into agricultural areas. It calls for measures to safeguard land that is important for agricultural production and the country's long-term food security.

LESOTHO PRIMARY SCHOOLS PAY A VISIT TO SENATE FROM SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2026

Schools that visited the Senate for educational purposes from September to October 2026 among others were: - Potomane Primary school from Mopeli ACL Primary School from Mphaki, Mokh'opha Primary school from Mohaleshoek. Mechechaneng Primary school from Botha-Buthe, Mochaso government Primary from Quthing Qomoqomong, Mejametalana Primary from Maseru. Qhoalinyane Primary school from Qacha'snek, Machakela primary school and st. Lucia Primary from Sefikeng Berea.

















HON. SENATOR M. M. MOSHOESHOE ASKS QUESTION NO 124

UNFINISHED ROAD PROJECTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

On behalf of Honourable Senator T. Matela, Honourable Senator M, Moshoeshoe, on 30th September 2026 asked the Minister for Public Works and Transport if he is aware that some Basotho contractors are leaving road projects unfinished across the country.

And if so, what follow – up mechanisms and penalties do the Ministry have in place to hold these contractors accountable and ensure that projects are completed on time and without causing more damage to the road and communities using the road?

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Honourable Matjato Moteane gave an answer to question no 124 and said

"The Ministry of Public Works and Transport acknowledges the problem raised by the Honourable Member of the House. In response, my Ministry is committed to implementing the following measures to address the problem.

Before outlining these measures, I would like to explain what we believe to be the underlying cause of the problem.

during the tendering process, contractors sometimes give the impression that they have greater financial and operational capacity than they really have when they commence work. Consequently, some contractors eventually run out of what is commonly referred to as working capital. This problem often becomes evident when contractors begin to struggle to make progress with their projects.

to address and prevent these challenges, the Ministry has taken the following measures:

1. **Training of contractors:** We have initiated a programme to train contractors in business management, particularly

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financial management, as well as in

2. the technical aspects of undertaking public works contracts.
3. **Quarterly release of project funds:** The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, has introduced a pilot arrangement under which funds allocated to individual projects will be released by the Ministry of Finance on a quarterly basis. This is a departure from the previous arrangement, under which payments were made only after the completion of work, often resulting in delays before contractors received their money.

This arrangement will be implemented from now until the end of the current year. If the management and utilisation of funds remain satisfactory, we will continue with the arrangement in the following year.

4. **Downgrading of contractor classifications:** The Ministry has also resolved to downgrade the classifications of contractors whose performance is unsatisfactory. This measure is intended to encourage them to improve their performance and subsequently qualify to return to their previous classifications or advance to higher categories."

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GALLERY

HON. SENATOR LEBOEA KHOAELE



HON. SENATOR 'MAKO MOHALE



HON. SENATOR JOEL MOTS'OENE



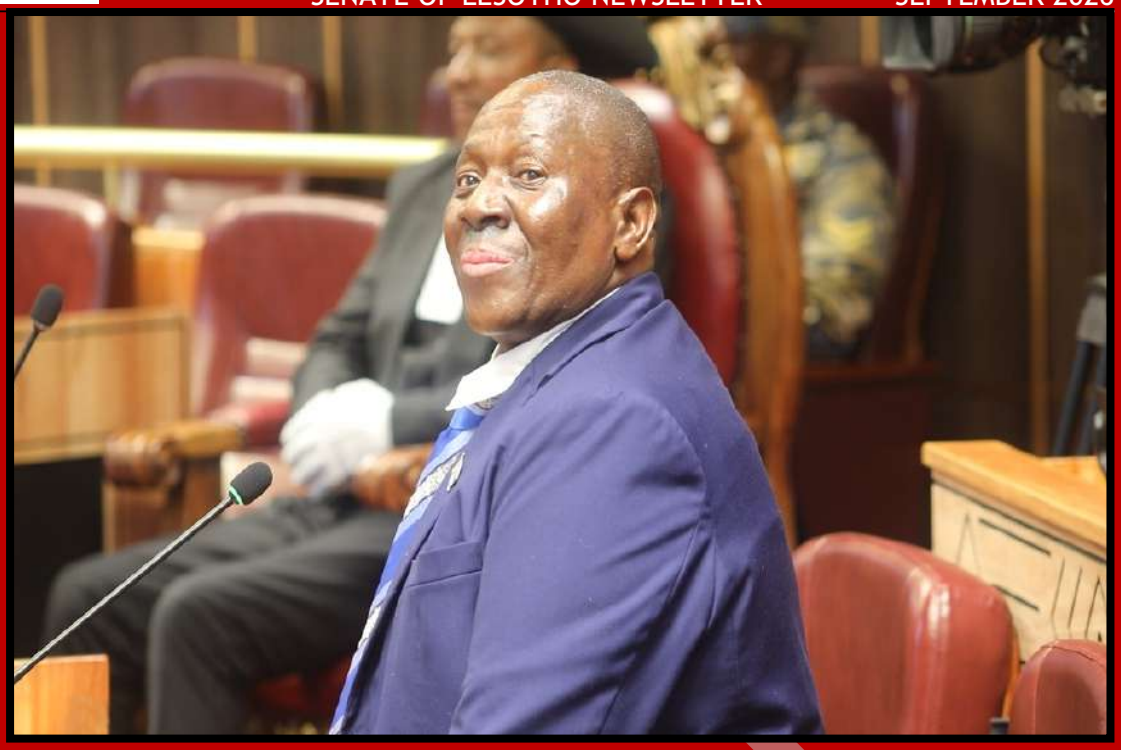
HON. SENATOR SEEISO NKOEBE



HON. SENATOR DR. THABISO LEBESE



HON. SENATOR SEHLOHO MONATSI



HON. SENATOR 'MAPHAKISO LEBONA & HON. SENATOR GABASHEANE MASUPHA



HON. SENATOR PONTS'O SEOEHLA MATHEALIRA



HON. NTHUPI BERENG, HON. QETO SEKONYELA & HON. TUMANE MATELA



HON. SENATOR MOJELA MAKHAOLA



HON. SENATOR SENTLE MOJELA

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HON. SENATOR MAMOLAPO MAJARA AND HON. SENATOR THEKO BERENG

