

MEDIA RELEASE

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IPC Demands an End to Secret State Contracts

The Independent Patriots for Change (IPC) today tabled a Notice of Motion in the National Assembly to halt the Executive's practice of signing binding international treaties and major state contracts without parliamentary scrutiny.

The motion, moved by the Shadow Minister of International Relations and Trade, invokes Articles 40, 63 and 144 of the Constitution. It targets the sovereign debt agreements, zero-tariff trade deals and long-term oil and gas concessions concluded behind closed doors — deals that bind Namibians not yet born.

"The Executive is operating a 'cash-and-carry' diplomacy," the Shadow Minister said. "When they sign an oil concession with hidden fiscal clauses, they are spending the inheritance of future Namibian generations. We are demanding a public register of all state contracts and mandatory parliamentary debate before any deal takes binding effect."

The motion asks the House to resolve that every significant treaty, sovereign debt agreement and major state contract be laid before Parliament, debated, and — where the Constitution requires — ratified, before it takes binding effect. It also calls for a public register of all such instruments.

The representatives of the people must scrutinise the deals that bind the people.

Issued by:

Hon. R. Cloete, MP

Shadow Minister of International Relations and Trade
Independent Patriots for Change