



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Vol. 2, No. 87 Session 4

Meeting of the Parliament

Tuesday 26 March 2013

Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Time for Reflection: Nila Joshi, Edinburgh Women's and Interfaith Group and former Director of the Edinburgh Mela led Time for Reflection.

2. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretary and Minister.

3. Forth Road Bridge Bill: The Minister for Transport and Veterans (Keith Brown) moved S4M-06057—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Forth Road Bridge Bill.

After debate, the motion was agreed to (DT).

4. Reports on Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting our Emissions Reduction Targets 2013-2027 - The Draft Second Report on Proposals and Policies: Rob Gibson, on behalf of the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee, moved S4M-06033—That the Parliament notes the reports of the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee, the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee, the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee and the Local Government and Regeneration Committee on the Scottish Government document, Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting our Emissions Reduction Targets 2013-2027 - The Draft Second Report on Proposals and Policies.

After debate, the motion was agreed to (DT).

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 3 and 4 as noted above.

6. Kurdish Contribution to Scotland, Remembering Halabja: The Parliament debated S4M-05871 in the name of Bob Doris—That the Parliament recognises the contributions to Glasgow and wider Scottish society by the Kurdish diaspora; welcomes the role that Kurds and other migrants play in making Scotland a vibrant and multicultural nation; understands that many Kurds have made a new life for themselves all over the world after fleeing several countries, including Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran, for many reasons, especially violence, discrimination and persecution against their language, education, religion and culture; particularly notes the 25th anniversary of the horrific attack on Halabja in northern Iraq on 16 March 1988, which is reported to have left up to 5,000 dead and another 7,000 to 10,000 injured, mostly unarmed women and children, from indiscriminate chemical and conventional bombardment; understands that this attack was part of the larger Anfal Campaign, a bureaucratic ethnic cleansing directive led by Saddam Hussein and Ali Hassan al-Majid from 1987 to April 1989, marked by mass disappearances, village destruction and forced relocation, executions, detainments and the use of chemical weapons; understands that up to 4,000 villages were destroyed and 182,000 people killed or reported missing as a result of the campaign; welcomes the 2005 Hague decision that formally recognised the 1988 attacks as genocide and the decisions by the UK, Norwegian, and Swedish parliaments to do the same, and believes that formal recognition will bring justice and awareness to the plight of the Kurdish people and comfort to Kurdish communities around the world still suffering as a result of these tragic events.

The meeting closed at 6.40 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
26 March 2013

Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 25 March 2013 and was not subject to Parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Committee of the Administrative Justice & Tribunals Council Annual Report 2011/2012 (SG/2013/19)
laid under paragraph 21 of schedule 7 to the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 25 March 2013—

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee, 5th Report, 2013 (Session 4): The Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Amendment Order 2013 [draft] (SP Paper 294)

The following reports were published on 26 March 2013—

Equal Opportunities Committee, 1st Report, 2013 (Session 4): Where Gypsy/Travellers Live (SP Paper 284)

Subordinate Legislation Committee, 22nd report 2013 (Session 4): High Hedges (Scotland) Bill as amended at stage 2 (SP paper 296)

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