

ANNOUNCEMENT

Honourable Members

I have an announcement to make.

My attention has been drawn to a press article which appeared in the newspaper “Le Défi Quotidien”, in its edition of 12 May 2022.

The said article makes mention of the fact that the Honourable Paul Raymond Bérenger, is reported to have given the assurance, I quote:

“d’effacer toutes les décisions prises par le Speaker, du “Hansard”.

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Honourable Members

I have caused a letter to be sent to the Editor in Chief of Le Défi Quotidien requesting him to ascertain from the journalist who wrote the said article as to whether Honourable Paul Raymond Bérenger did say something to that effect and the reply is being awaited.

However, be that as it may, the purpose of the present announcement is to dispell the fallacy created by the said statement conveying the illusion that it is possible or permissible for anyone to, *a posteriori*, have *locus* to change anything said by whoever had the floor or any decision of the Chair during the proceedings of Assembly sittings and reported in the Official

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Report of the Assembly, commonly known as the *Hansard*, save and except in specific instances wherein expunctions are resorted to.

Honourable Members

Any attempt in the aforementioned direction would constitute a breach of the principle of unbroken continuity of Parliament.

On another note, in regard to the decisions that I have been taking whilst in the Chair, I can assure the House that these are based on the same rules, regulations and practice that have been in existence prior to my assuming office as Speaker.

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Honourable Members

I hope this announcement serves as guidance to whoever wish to acquaint themselves with the principles of parliamentary democracy and how our Parliament works.

I thank you for your attention.
