

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
12 OCTOBER 2016**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

HON SPEAKER took the Chair and read Prayers and the Affirmation.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Members, Any Petitions? Reports of Standing and Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Yes, Honourable Minister of Labour, please.

TABLING: RECOMMENDATION NO. 204

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I lay on the table the Recommendation No. 204 concerning the transition from the informal to formal economy, as adopted by the International Labour Organisation at its 104th session in Geneva, for note-taking and the same.

I also lay on the table the new instruments adopted at the International Labour Organisation 2003 session held in Geneva for ratification.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you.

We move on. Notices of Questions? Honourable Auchab you have the floor.

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**NOTICE OF QUESTIONS
HON AUCHAB**

NOTICE OF QUESTION

QUESTIONS 93:

HON AUCHAB: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker I hereby give notice that on Thursday, 20th October 2016, I shall ask the Minister of Environment and Tourism Honourable Pohamba Shifeta the following questions:

A long-standing relationship that stretches back to pre-independence between Namibian leaders and Egypt has resulted in signing of another memorandum of understanding during 2015 aimed specifically at tourism to strengthen the fastest growing sector and bilateral ties between the two countries.

Can the Honourable Minister share with the House when the technical Committee run by the Ministry of International Relations were set up for the implementation, strategies and to specifically focus on the cultural tourism? How many members Committee has been established and how regular do the Committee report the progress to the Ministry concerned?

May the Minister appraise this august House how far we are as nation and as country to benefit from the main areas of cooperation for instance a change of information, tourism promotion, marketing and training, so far?

QUESTION 94:

HON !AUXAB: Honourable Speaker on the same day I shall ask the Minister of Public Enterprises Honourable Leon Jooste the following questions:

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**NOTICE OF MOTION
HON NGATJIZEKO**

The Government of Namibia has established Ministry of Public Enterprises to ensure complied to achieve full compliance with various legislative and statutory provisions.

Will you Honourable Minister kindly share with the august House how many of the 97 public enterprises have been found with cases of none compliance during the visit of the Ministry and what remedy or actions have been agreed upon to rectify the situation?

Can the Minister further share with the House whether the performance and governance agreement between the Boards and the line Ministries has been signed? If yes; when was it signed and if not, when will it be signed?

Can the Minister appraise this August House how critical the situation analysis of public enterprises is to be conducted as ongoing process? If critical, how do the Ministry intend to do it?

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. We move on. Notices of Motion?
Honourable Ngatjizeko.

NOTICE OF MOTION

**INTRODUCTION OF BILL FOR ESTABLISHMENT
OF NAMIBIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**HON MINISTER OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, TRADE AND SME
DEVELOPMENT:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I hereby give

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**NOTICE OF MOTION
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

notice that on Tuesday, the 18th of October, I shall Move that leave be given to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the Namibia industrial development agency, to define the objects and powers, duties and functions at the said agency and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Next is Honourable Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, I Move without notice that this House congratulates the Right Honourable Prime Minister Sarah Kuugongelwa-Amadhila on her birthday today, and to wish her many more years of prosperity, health and wisdom. I so Move.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. That is already is presented and is so approved. Thank you, Honourable Member. I was going to bring it up but it has been taken care of. It just reminded me at the Pan African Parliament usually when is a birthday of a given female Parliamentarian we used to organise some flowers. Before you can ask you can tell whose birthday it is by seeing the flowers that are presented in front of an Honourable Member. Yes, we join in that warmest congratulations Right Honourable Prime Minister. Next on my list is Honourable Calle Schlettwein.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO PROVIDE FOR
ESTABLISHMENT OF NAMIBIA SPECIAL RISK
AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION AS PUBLIC COMPANY**

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**NOTICE OF MOTION
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Of course I want to support the Motion for congratulations Right Honourable Prime Minister.

Honourable Speaker, I lay on the table or I seek leave to be given to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the Namibia Special Risk and Tourism Association as a public company with a shared capital to determine the insurance business right and to provide incidental matters thereof.

It is the Bill that we have withdrawn before the closure of last term. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

ON GAZETTE 6132

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: While I have the floor, Honourable Speaker, I also wish to lay upon the table Government notice gazette number 6132. It is an amendment to the gazette number 619 of 30th May 2016 and it is to amend schedule 1 of the Customs Act, Act number 20 of 1998 for the imposition of duties on certain disposal goods and vehicle emissions. I so Move.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Next is Honourable Hambyuka.

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**NOTICE OF MOTION
HON HAMBYUKA**

HON HAMBYUKA: Honourable Speaker, I Move without notice that leave of absence due to his own illness be granted to Honourable Veiko Nekundi until the 4th November 2016. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Messages from the Head of State? Ministerial Statements? Yes, Honourable Uutoni Nujoma.

HON MINISTER OF LAND REFORM: Thank you, Comrade Speaker, I also support the Motion and congratulate our Prime Minister on her 15th birthday.

HON SPEAKER: Was it 15 or 50?

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT INTERMS OF
RULE 98 OF THE STANDING RULES AND ORDERS**

**ON THE RESCHEDULING SECOND
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAND REFORM**

HON MINISTER OF LAND REFORM: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise this afternoon to give a brief to this August House and to the nation on the circumstances leading to the decision to reschedule the whole thing of the second national conference on land reform and land question.

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**ON THE RESCHEDULING SECOND
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAND REFORM
HON NUJOMA**

The Ministry feels compelled to immediately inform the nation about this decision especially as it closely follow the successful launch of the preparations for this conference held on the 24th of August 2016.

Additionally, the Ministry has also undertaken to inform the nation on the date of the commencement of the planned conference. While the nation is still waiting for an announcement to this effect, anticipation has been building up since the decision by the Ministry to proceed with regional consultations before hosting the second national land conference.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members on the 24th of August 2016 our nation witnessed the official launch of the hosting of the second national land conference at the Windhoek Country Club. A successful launch was preceded by comprehensive technical presentation on the status of the 24 resolutions that emanated from the 91 land conference also presented was a synopsis of the policy and legal framework specifying the various achievements and challenges as experienced by the Ministry during the implementation in the past 25 years. The resolutions of this water-shed conference in conjunction with the constitution of the Republic of Namibia provide a solid foundation for the Ministry's policies and legislations on the redistributed land reform program.

At this juncture, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members a further elaboration on the background of this issue is imperative. On the 5th of April 2016 His Excellency Doctor Hage Geingob the President of the Republic of Namibia delivered the state of the nation address which was followed by the release of the Harambee Prosperity Plan 2016-2017, 2019- 2020. The plan outlined the nation policies in the next four years within the Harambee Prosperity Plan.

The Ministry of Land Reform is tasked with the important mandate to host the second national land conference in order to take stock of the achievements so far and to establish what still has to be done to speed and improve the implementation of the recommendation of the 1st national conference and land reform and land question of 1991. Furthermore, the

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**ON THE RESCHEDULING SECOND
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAND REFORM
HON NUJOMA**

Harambee Prosperity Plan direct the Ministry to hold the second land conference before December 2016.

Therefore, the Ministry immediately started to work towards the attainment of this set target. This is reflected in the Ministerial annual plan and by the numerous consultative platforms and engagements that took place prior to the official function on the 24th of August 2016. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members the whole thing was an event of such as the land conference has major economic implications especially in the context of the current financial constraints.

In addition to the economic challenges, our country has been experiencing, severe successive drought that has left our productive sector sunder threats and agricultural initiatives and disarray. They have most or compromise and in need to assistance. The situation is further compounded by the continued low levels of water in all our national dams and water shortages in most rural and urban centres. This is focusing our Government to reprioritise and direct available resources to critical sectors.

We as a land sector has also not been spared the necessary budgetary cuts which has ultimately impacted on our overall capacity to delivery on set targets. The whole things of a conference of this magnitude requires considerable working budget. Given the budgetary concern the Ministry does not have such funding at its disposal in the current Financial Year thus after consultation the decision has been taken to postpone the whole thing of the second national land conference until such time that the required resources are available.

However, although the Ministry is postponing the actual hosting of the conference, other platforms will be made available to continue engagement on this very important matter with our various stakeholders.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members the initiative to host the second land conference is ultimately an important intervention that will

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**ON THE RESCHEDULING SECOND
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAND REFORM
HON NUJOMA**

immensely benefit the country after 25 years of implementing the agreed 24 resolutions.

The Ministry has articulated in the spirit of Harambee Prosperity Plan considers important once again lead the process of consulting the Namibian nation on future direction of the land reform and to review the progress made, the challenges encountered and to propose ways to expedite land reform program.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members having said the above, the Ministry will continue to systematically work in order to further advance the land reform program in an orderly manner in line with the current policy and legal framework. To support some of the critical policy proposals, the Ministry has finalised the draft Land Bill that is currently under final scrutiny by legal drafters at the Ministry of Justice.

It is anticipated that the draft Land Bill will be tabled in the National Assembly in its current form thus whilst awaiting the eventual resuscitation of the discussion pertaining to the second national conference on land and the land question, the Ministry will focus on the tabling of the Land Bill.

To conclude, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members despite the many challenges, the Government through the Ministry of Land Reform is aware of the acute demand for land for agricultural purposes. It is committed to a transparent, fair and equitable land reform process that is guided by our policy and legal framework.

I repeat that is guided by our policy and legal framework. Simultaneously, as a Ministry we are proud of the honour bestowed upon us to lead and host the conference of such important and magnitude. We reiterate our support to the Harambee Prosperity Plan and will continue with firm commitment to further strengthen the said initiatives as articulated under the land reform process.

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**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ON
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON MAAMBERUA**

I thank you, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. A quick one from Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Allow me to thank the Honourable Minister for updating the nation about the status of the process of hosting the second national land conference. I think that is cardinal and important.

As we all know, the issue of the land is at the very core and heart of the SWANU of Namibia, I just want to make a small observation and perhaps seek small clarification also and that is it appears as if the postponements of the hosting of the second national land conference is now indefinite because the Minister did not give an indication as to it is postponed until when apart from stating that until resources permit and that we do not know because we seem to be facing a precarious financial future and so it is possible that this second national land conference could be postponed for another 25 years. I hope not but maybe the Minister will give an indication as to when is the situation going to improve in order to have.

The second aspect to that is that I can hardly believe that hosting a national land conference should be so expensive to the extent that such an important and cardinal conference should actually be postponed on the issue of the country not affording at the moment. I do not even think we are talking about N\$100 Million. It is probably less than that maybe only N\$20 Million or something like that. Could the Minister perhaps give an indication as to how much were you looking for? Maybe you could find some resources to assist to close that gap because it is very important.

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**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ON
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON MUHARUKUA**

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Maamberua, can I ask Minister to respond quickly because we want to continue?

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes, those two issues maybe I can follow up. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: The timeframe – do you want to add a quick one? I am assuming you have the money.

HON MUHARUKUA: Honourable Minister, I think given the timeframe between the launch and the promised time of the said conference and the reasonable Namibian perhaps or perhaps some of us thought we were sceptics to think that it was not going to happen given what needs to happen in between the preparation.

Perhaps the question that I want to ask is when the Minister it is similar to the question of Honourable Maamberua, when Honourable Minister talks about until such resources are available are we talking about Government?

Are we talking about the next budgetary allocation and the state or are we talking about your Ministry actively involved in being seeking some additional fund or funds somewhere to cover for the hosting of the conference and therefore Namibian should perhaps expect that maybe even before the next Financial Year this conference could happen maybe just that clarity.

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON NUJOMA**

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much, those two questions Honourable Members.

HON MINISTER OF LAND REFORM: Comrade Speaker, I said in my statement until resources becomes available, and that is what I said and that is what I am saying. I cannot say otherwise because the land conference would be a national land conference and I do not foresee that we will ask donors or some outsiders to come and sponsor us.

Until resources become available, it is a national issue and until resources becomes available, then we will host the conference. Thank you Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I think we leave it at that.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I had a second question and that was how much are we talking about. How much was budgeted for that?

HON SPEAKER: Can we how much is expected the conference to cost?

HON MAAMBERUA: Exactly.

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON NUJOMA**

HON SPEAKER: Minister, do you have a figure in mind?

HON MINISTER OF LAND REFORM: I cannot provide figures now, because I do not have those figures but I have checked in my budget and I know the resources are very limited given the fact that we have budgetary cuts. What must I do if we have to prioritise this to other areas such as drought as I said even today we read Omaruru is almost running dry? Windhoek is almost running dry. Where will the people will come here to drink what?

HON SPEAKER: I think we leave it at that, yes.

HON MAAMBERUA: My good friend Comrade Minister, was the cost of hosting the second national land conference budgeted for and then the Ministry of Finance instructed a cut and that is why you cannot afford to continue with the conference or what exactly are you saying?

HON MINISTER OF LAND REFORM: ...and satisfy yourself. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. We move on to the next Honourable Nghimtina. You have the floor.

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HON NGHIMTINA**

**INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
SOCIAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION: Thank you Honourable Speaker, Honourable Speaker I want to provide information pertaining to the Social Security Development Fund.

The background and the purpose of the Social Security Commission Development Fund, the Development Fund was established through section 37 of the Social Security Act, Act number 34 of 1994 and was officially launched in March 2011 by the then Minister of Labour and Social Welfare.

It is a known contributory fund, which focus on getting unemployed Namibians from social economic disadvantaged background into the labour market. In line with the Act subsection 4(a) and (b), it is objective or main mandates are:

1. The conducting of training theme and employment theme approved by the Treasury for the benefit of social economic disadvantaged persons who are unemployed.
2. The granting of bursaries, loans and other forms of financial aid to students enrolled at any technical or academic institution of higher education, therefore, Social Security Development Fund operates around the following four core functions:

The provision of bursary scheme and low interest study loans schemes which advantage students studying towards under and post graduate

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qualifications, the provision of financial assistance to the training scheme of unemployed Namibians include of strategic importance to the country and the provision of financial assistance as establishment of community development projects across all sector of the economy or employment creation and income generation.

Funding models of the Social Security Development Fund the Act further states how the fund is to be funded. There shall be faith into the fund. Such portion of the said contributions payable to any other fund as maybe determined by the Commission with the concurrence of the Minister monies appropriated by the Parliament for the purpose of the fund, any interest or dividend earned in defence of the section 16 of the Act, any monies received by way of donation and any other money which may accrue to the funds from any other sources.

Accordingly, the fund has been receiving its funding mainly from the Commission and the Government through the line Ministry. Funding from the Commission is done as follows.

Each year any independent accrual valuation is carried out on the maternity leave, sick leave and death benefit fund. This is after considering all obligations against the fund and its sustainability determines the value of three reserved under the maternity leave and death benefit fund. At percentage currently, 2% of these three reserves is then transferred to the Social Security Development Fund after obtaining Ministerial approval.

On the other hand funding from the Government is determined based on the availability of resources and competing priorities. Therefore, there is no set formula for this funding. Therefore, the funding ratio has on average between roughly 85% from the Commission and 15% from the Government.

Beneficiaries of the Social Security Development Fund the excess stated above entitle social economical disadvantaged persons who are

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unemployed to benefit from the various schemes administered by the Social Security Development Fund especially under the employment and training schemes. This is a line with its mandate of assisting unemployed Namibians to enter the job market. On a day-to-day basis the operations of the fund are guided by the regulations and approved policy, which set out the rules of entitlement.

Under the training scheme Social Security Development Fund has to date since 2013 had at least 1 500 unemployed Namibians to get training in fields such as hospitality, office administration, household operations, training of domestic workers, operating both literacy and other statements of vocational training.

These training interventions were carried out at a cost of N\$10 Million. At least 36% of these trainees are in the job market. How would beneficiaries access funding, periodically Social Security Development Fund runs a call or proposals and training providers, registered and accredited by the Namibian Training Authority NCA and the Namibian Qualification Authority NQA are invited to apply for the funding to provide training on behalf of the Social Security Development Fund?

Training is conducted in fields such manufacturing, value addition to produce mineral or natural resources, domestic workers, fashion design, attire making, hairdressing, manicure and pedicure, electrical repairs, brick making, construction and maintenance operating heavy duty vehicles, entrepreneur training and office skills, trans-office and customer care, practical food preparations, food service and housekeeping, woodwork, carpentry and welding.

The Commission upon receiving proposals from training providers evaluates these and makes recommendations to the line Minister who then request the Head of State to approve this for funding in line with subsection 4(a) of the Act stipulated above. Once approval is obtained from the Head of State, Social Security ensures that services level agreements are entered into with the training provider, which set out rules of engagements. This then allows the training providers to invite qualified

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trainees to take part in the training programs as approved. The Social Security Development Fund pre-approves the list of the trainees before training commences. Financial status of the Social Security Development Fund, the Fund value is N\$222 Million of which N\$202 Million is reserved. It has a liability of N\$19 Million, which are commitments to its fund programs across all the scheme.

In conclusion, the Social Security Development Fund in 2010 availed N\$10 Million to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare at the time. The funds were intended to assist the Ministry to set an integrated employment system, which has a crucial intervention that assist job seekers to get access to available job opening in the centralised manner. It also allows employers access to available pools of job seekers.

The system is currently up and running. The financial assistance was made in a form of a once off donation for the benefit of unemployed Namibians.

Similarly, assistance towards the training of the children of liberation struggle was a one off donation approved by the Head of State in line with the Act.

The ultimate goal through this form of assistance is that those trends will enter the labour market and become new contributors to the existing contributory funds of the Commission.

Its element across subversion is a key basis on which social protection scheme and systems are built. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. That concludes Ministerial Statements. We move on the first Notice of Motion, that of Honourable Minister of Finance. Does Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be introduced?

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**ON APPROVING OF NEW MEMBERS
OF EMPLOYMENT EQUITY COMMISSION
HON NGHIMTINA**

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE: Honourable Speaker, I would like to postpone the Motion to next week the 19th of the same month next week Wednesday.

HON SPEAKER: Next week Wednesday. So decided. Thank you. Next; second notice of a Motion is the one of Honourable Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation.

Does the Honourable Minister Move the Motion? Who seconds? Any objection? Agreed to. Minister, you have the floor.

**APPROVING OF NEW MEMBERS
OF EMPLOYMENT EQUITY COMMISSION**

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members in terms of Section of 4 of the Affirmative Action Employment Act number 29 of 1998 the ruling party and the official opposition party are required to nominate representative for the previously rationally disadvantaged on the employment equity Commission.

The official opposition party, which is DTA it is, true its candidate Mr Vincent Kanyetu this withdrawal led to a vacancy in the Commission.

Another position of the Commission became vacant as a result of the death of late Miriam Thomas Jefta may her soul rest in peace who used to represent persons with disabilities on the Commission. Section 9(2) of the Affirmative Action employment Act provides as follows a vacancy on the Commission arising from any circumstances referred to in a subsection 1

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**ON APPROVING OF NEW MEMBERS
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or caused by death of any member of the Commission referred to in that subsection shall be filled by appointment of another person in the same manner in which the person who has vacated his or her office or her death was appointed and such member shall hold office for unexpired portion of the period of office of the member who has vacated his or her office or who has died as the case maybe.

The organisation representing the interest of the designated groups were consulted in terms of section 6(4) of the Affirmative Action Employment Act to nominate candidates to fill these positions.

The official opposition party this year nominated Tjamarine Tjirare who is currently serving on the Commission as an alternative member to serve as the main member and Mr Tale Peter as her alternate.

The national federation of people with disabilities in Namibia nominated Mr Trumb Daniel Tjiremo to take over from the late Ms Miriam Thomas Jefta who served as the main member on the Commission representing persons with disabilities.

I am, therefore, presenting to you, Honourable Members, the following persons as nominated by the DTA and by the national federation of people with disabilities in Namibia to serve as members of the Employment Equity Commission for the unexpired portion of the period of office of the 5th Employment Equity Commission ending the 30th of April 2018 as approved, Ms Charmaine Ngirare, Mr Tale Peter and Mr Trumb Daniel Tjiremo as the members of the Equity Commission.

I thank you Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Any further discussion? I do not have anyone who would like to take the floor. It is consensus as far as

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**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ON
FAMILIARIZATION VISIT TO
CAPITAL PROJECTS**

I can tell. If that is the case, may I turn back to the Honourable Minister?
Would you like to reply to this unanimous acceptance?

**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND
EMPLOYMENT CREATION:** I thank the Honourable Members for the
big support. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I now put the question that the
Motion be adopted. Any objection? Agreed to.

The Secretary will read the Order of the Day.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ON
FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO CAPITAL
PROJECTS IN OPUWO AND KUNENE REGIONS**

SECRETARY: *Consideration of Report on the Familiarisation Visit to
Capital Projects in Opuwo and Kunene Regions.*

HON SPEAKER: Does Honourable Jagger Move that the report be
considered.

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**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ON
FAMILIARIZATION VISIT TO
CAPITAL PROJECTS
HON JAGGER**

HON JAGGER: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Member, you now have the floor.

HON JAGGER: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I rise to motivate the reports on the familiarisation visit by the Parliamentary Standing Committee. Thank you so much, Honourable Speaker.

I do not know why the system reject kind of for me to report on the Kunene visit. Is it because I am from Kunene. Is it not allowed that I should speak on Kunene issues?

However, I rise to motivate a report on the familiarisation visit by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development to the Ondawo mobile primary school unit and some schools in Opuwo in Kunene region from the 30th of May to the 3rd of June 2016.

This report Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members has already been tabled in this August House. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members it is not my intention to delve into the details of the report that is before the House today. I have no doubt that Honourable Members has had the opportunity to peruse the report and will therefore be able to discuss the report in detail. However, there are a number of issues contained in this report, which requires attention and action from the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.

I should however hasten to point out here that some issues raised in this report might have already been addressed and attended to by the Ministry. That notwithstanding, I wish to highlight some of the issues Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members which the Standing Committee consider

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HON JAGGER**

being of great importance and as it has an impact on the welfare of our learners and teachers at the mobile units.

These issues deal greatly with general school administration as well as infrastructural development at schools. Ondawo Mobile Primary School in the Kunene region was an initiative of the Norwegian Government. The school has its administrative office in Opuwo with three Principals and three HODs Heads of Department. It has 37 units that are to provide education to marginalised children of the nomadic population.

I must however report here Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members that these units are no more so mobile. The Principal and the HODs are all based in Opuwo, and are not teaching as their colleagues at conventional schools are doing. They only take time to visit the units when opportunities are created. The mobile units were mostly mobile in response to the nomadic lifestyle of Himba people as they migrate from one place to another in search for better grazing for their livestock and as a result the teachers of the units had to follow in the past whenever they go.

The units' physical structures are predominantly ten, which are used as classroom and also as sleeping quarters. The fathers unit is more than 220 kilometres away from the town of Opuwo.

Most of the teachers are Grade 10 and 12 graduates but the encouraging part is that some register themselves for furthering their studies in education. They are more than 127 teachers employed to teach and learn approximately 3 279 children in the units. The teachers endure the hardship of staying far away from the township life and live to see the harshness of nature every day.

During the rainy season, mobility is almost impossible due to the flowing rivers. As a result, the units are left on its own. The classroom is a tent with in many instances no chairs, desk and teacher table, lack of textbooks and stationery. Quality teaching and learning is compromised beyond

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doubt. The challenge the children face is the distance from home villages to the schools to the units a distance of 50 kilometres will take you almost two hours to drive on the rough road.

Many teachers are not professionally trained to teach and have little or no access to in-service training. The learners sit on logs in some units and use few tables to write on. The tendered classroom makes it difficult for teachers to produce teaching and learning material due to whether condition.

Distances and rough road also make it also difficult for the senior education officers that the advisory teachers and inspectors and also the Ondawo Mobile Primary School management to visit the units for capacity building and support. Under normal circumstances, it would take the Principal and the HOD one full year to visit all the units. The tendered classrooms mostly accommodate multi Grade teaching, combined Grade 1 and 2, combined Grade 3 and 4 due to few learners or rather inconsistency in attending classes.

Parents who have more than three children would send them to school on a rotational basis and parents threatened to remove all their children from school until a consensus is reached in that regard. When the pastures for animal is poor, communities move in search for better grazing and the units have to follow them making sure their children are not denied access to education.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members at times of water scarcity, animals come first and then the community. The delegation was informed that many learners have graduated from the mobile units and went to conventional schools who are now playing a significant role in the country after having finished their studies at secondary and tertiary level.

The delegation under-pined a need to engage education officers in Kunene region through the Ondawo Mobile Primary School Indaba so as to outline

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and find practical ways that would enhance not only access to education for the children in the marginalised communities but indeed to ensure quality education as well in general.

The delegation was also sensitised that international donors and well-wishers are assisting schools with infrastructural development. Since there are many lodges, lodges are also contributing in assisting the schools and the units in the most rural parts of the region.

These schools have numerous challenges that needs to be addressed shortage of water is a big problem, poor sanitation, insufficient ablution facility which at time unreliable water supply which at times disrupt the school programs. Some conventional schools experience shortage of teachers and institutional workers, lack of furniture, lack of classrooms as well as lack of parental involvement.

Other challenges, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members are reported are teenage pregnancies and early child marriages among school going girls that compromised quality education.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members I wish to thank the Colleagues who have gone with me on this familiarisation visits for their support and their inputs. I would equally thank the educational authorities who have accompanied us on our visit and with their honest inputs and reports.

With these few remarks, and not wanting to pre-empt the discussion due to take place on this report, please allow me to make a humble request to the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture to deal with the recommendation as suggested by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resources and Community Development.

I so move, Honourable Speaker.

12 October 2016

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT ON
FAMILIARIZATION VISIT TO
CAPITAL PROJECTS
HON VAN DEN HEEVER**

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Next on my list is Honourable Jennifer Van Den Heever.

HON VAN DEN HEEVER: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would like to adjourn the debate on behalf of Honourable Dienda, who is with other commitments not present today until next week Tuesday the 18th of October 2016.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Let me exhaust my list, before I come to your request. Honourable Doctor Mushelenga, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION: I wanted to adjourn to tomorrow.

HON SPEAKER: That is a double request. In the absence of any other request for the floor, I will accept the adjournment of the debate on this topic until next week Tuesday so decided. There is no harm in continuing.

Let us adjourn until tomorrow if there are other people who wish to participate and we see how it goes so decided then. I revisited my decision and until tomorrow.

Well, Honourable Members we have come to the end of our long item for today. All that is left for me is request the Right Honourable Prime Minister to adjourn the House until tomorrow.

12 October 2016

ADJOURNMENTS
RT HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

HON PRIME MINISTER: I Move that the House adjourn until tomorrow 14:30.

HON SPEAKER: I think tomorrow is Thursday and we have a number of questions, so we adjourn until tomorrow 14:30, yes indeed.

HON PRIME MINISTER: Honourable Speaker, I Move that the House adjourn until tomorrow 14:30.

HON SPEAKER: Well, the House stands adjourn until tomorrow the usual time.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 16:05 UNTIL 2016.10.13 AT 14:30
