

## **LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

### **SPEAKER**

Dr T-B Gurirab (Mr)

### **DEPUTY SPEAKER AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE**

Prof Loide Kasingo (Ms)

### **THE CABINET**

#### **MINISTERS**

*(21 March 2010 – Elected in terms of Article 133 of the Constitution)*

Dr G H Geingob (Mr)	<i>(Prime Minister)</i>
Mr M Hausiku	<i>(Deputy Prime Minister)</i>
Mr N Angula	<i>(Defence)</i>
Ms P Iivula-Ithana	<i>(Home Affairs and Immigration)</i>
Mr I Ngatjizeko	<i>(Safety and Security)</i>
Ms N Nandi-Ndaitwah	<i>(Foreign Affairs)</i>
Dr A Kawana (Mr)	<i>(Presidential Affairs &amp; Attorney-General)</i>
Ms S Kuugongelwa-Amadhila	<i>(Finance)</i>
Mr J Ekandjo	<i>(Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture)</i>
Mr U Nujoma	<i>(Justice)</i>
Mr E Nghimtina	<i>(Works and Transport)</i>
Dr D Namwandi (Mr)	<i>(Education)</i>
Ms D Sioka	<i>(Labour &amp; Social Welfare)</i>
Mr J Mutorwa	<i>(Agriculture, Water &amp; Forestry)</i>
Mr J Kaapanda	<i>(Information &amp; Communication Technology)</i>
Mr U Herunga	<i>(Environment and Tourism)</i>
Dr N Iyambo (Mr)	<i>(Veterans Affairs)</i>
Mr A !Naruseb	<i>(Lands &amp; Resettlement)</i>

Dr R Kamwi (Mr)	<i>(Health and Social Services)</i>
Ms R Nghidinwa	<i>(Gender Equality and Child Welfare)</i>
Mr C Namoloh	<i>(Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development)</i>
Mr B Esau	<i>(Fisheries and Marine Resources)</i>
Mr I Katali	<i>(Mines and Energy)</i>
Mr C Schlettwein	<i>(Trade and Industry)</i>

## **DEPUTY MINISTERS**

*(21 March 2010 – Elected in terms of Article 133 of the Constitution)*

Ms P Haingura	<i>(Health and Social Services)</i>
Ms A Muharukua	<i>(Gender Equality and Child Welfare)</i>
Mr A Muheua	<i>(Labour and Social Welfare)</i>
Ms L Lucas	<i>(Agriculture, Water &amp; Forestry)</i>
Mr P Iilonga	<i>(Defence)</i>
Mr E Utoni	<i>(Safety and Security)</i>
Mr T Nambahu	<i>(Justice)</i>
Mr T Tweya	<i>(Trade and Industry)</i>
Dr S C Ankama (Mr)	<i>(Fisheries and Marine Resources)</i>
Mr P Mushelenga	<i>(Foreign Affairs)</i>
Mr P Shifeta	<i>(Environment and Tourism)</i>
Ms J Kavetuna	<i>(Youth, National Service, Sport &amp; Culture)</i>
Mr W Isaacks	<i>(Mines and Energy)</i>
Mr S Simataa	<i>(Information and Communication Technology)</i>
Dr E Kaiyamo (Mr)	<i>(Home Affairs and Immigration)</i>
Mr K Nguvauva	<i>(Works and Transport)</i>
Ms P Beukes	<i>(Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development)</i>
Vacant	<i>(Finance)</i>
Ms S Makgone	<i>(Education)</i>

## **SECRETARY**

Mr. J Jacobs

## **DEPUTY SECRETARY**

Mr F S Harker

## **DEPUTY MINISTERS IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL**

Mr K Ngauva	<i>(Works and Transport)</i>
Mr T Diergaard	<i>(Lands and Resettlement)</i>
Ms H Nicanor	<i>(Veterans)</i>

## **LIST OF MEMBERS AND PARTIES WHICH THEY REPRESENT**

### **ALL PEOPLE'S PARTY (APP)**

Mr I Shixwameni	<i>(Chief Whip and Party Leader)</i>
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### **CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS (COD)**

Mr B Ulenga	<i>(Chief Whip and Party Leader)</i>
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### **DTA OF NAMIBIA**

Mr K Kaura	<i>(Party Leader)</i>
Mr P Moongo	<i>(Chief Whip)</i>

### **NATIONAL UNITY DEMOCRATIC ORGANISATION OF NAMIBIA (NUDO)**

Mr K Riruako	<i>(Party Leader)</i>
Mr A Tjihuiko	<i>(Chief Whip)</i>

### **RALLY FOR DEMOCRACY AND PROGRESS (RDP)**

Mr S Bezuidenhout	
Mr Hidipo Hamutenya	<i>(Party Leader)</i>
Ms A Limbo	
Mr H Lucks	
Mr P Naholo	
Mr K Nehova	
Mr J Nyamu	<i>(Chief Whip)</i>
Mr A Von Wietersheim	

## **REPUBLICAN PARTY**

Ms C //Gowases

*(Chief Whip)*

## **SWANU**

Mr U Maamberua

*(Chief Whip and Party Leader)*

## **SWAPO OF NAMIBIA**

Ms S Kuugongelwa – Amadhila

*(Minister)*

Mr B Amathila

Dr M Amweelo (Mr)

*(Deputy Chief Whip)*

Mr N Angula

*(Minister)*

Dr H Geingob (Mr)

*(Prime Minister)*

Dr S C Ankama (Mr)

*(Deputy Minister)*

Ms P Beukes

*(Deputy Minister)*

Mr E Dingara

Mr J Ekandjo

*(Minister)*

Mr B Esau

*(Minister)*

Dr T-B Gurirab (Mr)

*(Speaker)*

Ms P Haingura

*(Deputy Minister)*

Mr M Hausiku

*(Deputy Prime Minister)*

Mr U Herunga

*(Minister)*

Mr P Iilonga

*(Deputy Minister)*

Mr W Isaacks

*(Deputy Minister)*

Ms P Iivula-Ithana

*(Minister)*

Dr N Iyambo (Mr)

*(Minister)*

Mr J Kaapanda

*(Minister)*

Dr E Kaiyamo (Mr)

*(Deputy Minister)*

Dr R Kamwi (Mr)

*(Minister)*

Mr P Kapia

Prof L Kasingo (Ms)

*(Deputy Speaker)*

Mr I Katali

*(Minister)*

Ms J Kavetuna

*(Deputy Minister)*

Dr A Kawana (Mr)

*(Minister)*

Mr K Kazenambo

Ms L Lucas

*(Deputy Minister)*

Ms S Makgone

*(Deputy Minister)*

Ms A Manombe-Ncube

Mr N Mbumba	
Ms A Muharukua	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr A Muheua	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr P Mushelenga	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr J Mutorwa	<i>(Minister)</i>
Ms T Mushelenga	
Mr B Mwaningange	
Mr T Nambahu	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr C Namoloh	<i>(Minister)</i>
Dr D Namwandi (Mr)	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr A !Naruseb	<i>(Minister)</i>
Ms E !Nawases-Taeyele	<i>(Assistant Whip)</i>
Mr I Ngatjizeko	<i>(Minister)</i>
Ms N Nandi-Ndaitwah	<i>(Minister)</i>
Ms R Nghidinwa	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr E Nghimtina	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr U Nujoma	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr P Shifeta	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Ms D Sioka	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr T Tweya	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Dr B. Ndjoze-Ojo (Ms)	
Mr E Utoni	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr P Van der Walt	
Ms L Witbooi	

#### **UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT (UDF)**

Mr J //Garoëb	<i>(Party Leader)</i>
Mr S Tjongarero	<i>(Chief Whip)</i>

#### **APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT IN TERMS OF ARTICLE 32(5)(c) OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Ms M Jankowski	
Prof. P Katjavivi (Mr)	<i>(Chief Whip and Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee)</i>
Mr C Schleittwein	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr S Simataa	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Ms S Swartz	
Ms A Tjongarero	

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
WINDHOEK  
06 MARCH 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

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**HON SPEAKER**: Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Notice of Motions? Honourable Amweelo.

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**HON DR AMWEELO**: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I Move without Notice that the proceedings on the Second Reading of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90 (c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER**: Will the Honourable please table the Motion? Any Ministerial Statements? None.

The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

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**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON SECOND READING:  
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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**HON SECRETARY**: Resumption of Debate on Second Reading - *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

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06 March 2014

**SECOND READING: APPROPRIATION BILL  
HON LUCKS**

**HON SPEAKER:** When the House adjourned on Wednesday, 5 March 2014, the question before the Assembly was the Motion by the Honourable Minister of Finance that the Bill be read a Second Time.

Honourable Lucks had the Floor and he may now continue.

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**HON LUCKS:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me continue.

During the Budget Statement on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2014, the Minister has again painted a rosy picture of the general situation that we, Namibians, find ourselves in. However, she also pointed out the many challenges that we, as a Nation face.

What was interesting to note was the subdued and uninspiring way in which she spoke about Government's achievements, as if she herself was not 100% convinced about the list of stated achievements. Similarly, she listed the challenges we are facing, and I hasten to say that those are exceedingly serious challenges that need our urgent attention, without showing much passion for solutions and policy interventions that are required to overcome these. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** What point are you rising on, Deputy Minister?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** On a Point of Order Honourable Speaker; we cannot repeat what we already said yesterday.

I want Honourable Lucks to mention the challenges right now. We cannot say things and hide behind that. We want the Nation to hear from you. You cannot say the Minister is complaining; complaining about what? She mentioned the challenges we are facing. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Lucks, continue.

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**HON LUCKS:** I run the risk of repeating much of what has been said about the 2014 Budget already. However, I am also of the opinion that repetition is one of the best ways to ensure that a message, as well as the importance thereof, is clearly understood. Some of the messages that I would like to repeat are the following:

1. The fact that no increase in old-age pensions has been announced is unacceptable. An increase only every second year will continue to increase the destitute of our senior citizens as prices of basic goods and services needed to lead a decent and worthy life are increasing much more regularly than only every two years.

2. The massive increase in debt year after year means that we are on a dangerous path of peril. I have mentioned this in previous years and the Minister will not convince me that this growth in debt is within control, especially when the growth is at a rate of a staggering 27.2%. Our mushrooming debt will haunt us in the years to come. (Intervention)

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** On a Point of Information, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Lucks, you are talking about the Old-Age Pensioners, which Old-Age Pensioners are you talking about?

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**HON MEMBER:** Namibians!

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Because we are in Namibia. When the SWAPO



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Government tries to help the Old-Age Pensioners, you start complaining but you were here my brother.

You are only talking about the money from one side, what about the other side? Thank you.

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**HON LUCKS:** 3. TIPEEG has been a massive failure. Very few permanent jobs have been created. Jobs were mainly created in the construction of infrastructure and as soon as these projects have been completed, most jobs have been lost again. Perhaps that is the reason why the Minister has only mentioned figures about temporary jobs **created** through TIPEEG but has been silent about the number jobs that have been **lost** in the same time in our overall economy.

4. The execution rate of Government projects is decreasing year after year. This is extremely worrisome, especially if it becomes clear that many Offices, Ministries and Agencies (OMAs) budget for the filling of vacancies year after year and still they fail to actually appoint people in these positions. To illustrate my point, I would like to refer the House to the Annual Report of the Office of the President which was laid upon the Table of this august House less than three weeks ago. I am referring to Pages 24, 40, 50, 68. On Page 40 of the Report, the empty blocks are vacancies within the Office of the President, the highest office in this country. This is the situation in the highest office of our country, but let me assure you that this is the situation in a vast number of OMAs, and this is shocking and totally unacceptable. (Intervention)

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Comrade Speaker, I am rising on a Point of Order. May ask Honourable Lucks a question?

Honourable Lucks, you are complaining that TIPEEG did not create jobs, have you read in our news media about how people complained about the

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15,000 permanent jobs that were created out of 83,000 overall jobs? They were saying that the 15,000 jobs were again added to the Civil Servants, how do you judge that and condemn at the same time? According to you 15,000 jobs are less but there are those who complain that it increases the Civil Servants, how do you judge that?

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**HON LUCKS:** I honestly cannot remember condemning anything.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, all is not well in Namibia, our beloved country and the Honorable Minister has rightly listed some of the challenges facing our country which our Government seems to be grappling with ever since Independence without any concrete proof of improvement. I would like to quote some parts of these mentioned challenges:

- *“a jobless growth trajectory, with a lopsided distribution of income and resource ownership;*
- *substantial skills deficit and a narrow economic base with primary commodities still serving as the engine of export-led growth;*
- *low Human Development Index (HDI), which calls for rapid progress in the areas of education and health;*
- *susceptibility to climate change; and*
- *moral decay which manifests itself in, among others, increasing violence against vulnerable members of the society, especially defenceless women and children.”*

I could not agree more with the few challenges that were mentioned by the Minister and although there are many more to mention I will focus my attention on those words by the Minister. There are two observations I would like to make about the Minister's sobering words. (Interventions)

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**HON LUCKS**

**HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Honourable Speaker, may I ask the Honourable Member a small question?

Honourable Lucks, I just want to find out, which country in this world has got no challenges? It is a utopia to think that there are no challenges in Namibia. Which country in the world can you give us as an example? The United States which is the biggest economy in the world has trillions of debts today and yet here you are talking about 27% of our national debt. You can also talk about the other countries; there are even challenges in your own Party there.

Tell me about any country without social problems. Problems are everywhere; even your own small Party has a cold war, what are you telling us?

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**HON LUCKS:** The issue is not about the challenges but about the inability of the ruling Party to face these challenges

The first is that we seem to be simply not capable to bring about any meaningful change in the situation that we find ourselves in. Let me quote the Minister again when she said that; *"We must do things differently."* Why should we be doing things differently? I ask myself and the answer to this is quite simple: We should do things differently in order to achieve different results. These, by the way, were my exact words when I delivered my maiden speech in this august House approximately three years ago. Nothing is more evident of our need to do things differently than the failures in our Health and Education systems. Hardly a week goes by without proof of the glaring inefficiencies in these two Sectors making headlines in our media. Yet, year after year billions are pumped into these two Ministries. Is throwing money, and in these cases billions of dollars of money, at a problem going to solve the problem? Are we doing things differently when we are just allocating more and more of our precious financial resources to these Ministries without looking at the underlying problems that cause such massive failures? I am afraid not. I am also afraid that without the political will from the countries' highest

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office and a pronouncement by the President that “*enough is enough*”, we will unfortunately not see different results. (Intervention)

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Comrade Speaker, I am rising on a Point of Information and also a Point of Order.

Honourable Lucks, you cannot really reduce the highest office to that level. You are talking about challenges, however, Honourable Nehova and Honourable Naholo there, are not your Members but only Members because you are forced by the legal system, otherwise they could not be your Members. Now you are just talking here. What suggestions can you come up with? The Government belongs to every citizen but your Members only concentrate on sabotaging the Government.

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**HON LUCKS:** If you have no other excuses, sabotage seems to be one of the best words to come up with.

The second observation about the Ministers’ words is that the challenges facing us are mostly of a social nature. Much has been said about the social policies of our country during the Budget Debate and the fact that we are a country based on socialist principles. In this regard, I would like to tell this Honourable House a little story but because of the lack of time, I will leave the story out. However, what becomes clear is that pure socialism seldom works.

Firstly, I would like to make it absolutely clear that I am not against some of the ideals of socialism. I am, however, against political socialism that is expressed by members of our society that do not subscribe to the idea but want to use it as a political tool or want to be politically correct. Socialism does not mean that the Government is the only employer of a country. Socialism does not mean that there is no need for a very strong, dynamic and free Private Sector. No, Socialism has other aims and must not be measured by how much control the Government has over the

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Private Business Sector. In a truly socialist country there is no need for private schools because Government is able to supply in the needs for education of all citizens, free of charge, at the highest level of quality. True socialism means that there is no need for private hospitals because Government is able to supply in the needs for medical services of all citizens, free of charge, at the highest level of quality. True socialism means that there is no need for private medical aid funds, private pension funds, study policies, and the list goes on. The fact that we have a need for private schools, private hospitals, private medical aid, private pension funds and study policies in Namibia is a clear sign that our socialist ideals remain a pipe dream, that pure socialism is unattainable and that we need to have partner, a strong Private Sector that employs people, lifts their standard of living and gives workers the ability to ensure that they are in a position to be in control of their own needs and wants. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Nambahu.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Since the Honourable Member embarks upon a diatribe of lecturing us on things that he does not have much knowledge of in terms of expertise, if that is the ideal that you are trying to advocate, you are probably a lone voice there because when most of your Members where in the Executive, they were responsible for more liberal policies that we are implementing even to this day in areas like Trade. Are you aware of that?

The other Colleagues who are behind you, the ones that I used to know like the Honourable Nehova them used to prescribe to socialism. What are you trying to talk about here? You do not understand neoliberal politics that you are trying to focus on.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Lucks.

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HON LUCKS**

**HON LUCKS:** What a wonderful Party in which all views are welcome.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, we need to constantly remind ourselves that in Namibia we have adopted the principles of a mixed economy and that is something that should be evident in our Laws, policies and also in our National Budget. Vision 2030 and its goal to become an industrialised Nation demands from us a total rethink of how we spend our financial resources. Take the pitiful amount of N\$1 billion that is allocated to the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Are we demonstrating with this, our resolve to become an industrialised Nation? On the other hand we are expected to accept that our Nation needs and will benefit from exorbitant and self-grandiose projects like a new Parliament Building, N\$700 million, a new office for the Prime Minister, N\$600 million, a new office for the current Head of State after his term ends, N\$100 million. And the list goes on. How do these projects, totaling several billion Namibian Dollars (N\$) contribute to industrialization, how do these projects contribute to job creation when the tenders for the construction thereof will in all likelihood go to Chinese or North Korean construction companies. Consider the huge amounts that Government wants to spend on new military hardware. Besides the fact that this raises some intriguing questions about our military intentions, how long will it take for this equipment to become obsolete, and how does the acquisition thereof support industrialization and job creation?

Honourable Speaker, I am afraid that we have, with this Budget as with previous ones, shown that our priorities are upside-down. All the billions that we intend to spend as mentioned will mean that we continue to import labour, export money and will not achieve industrialization and job creation. The current wave of Expansionary Budgets is not sustainable. When the expansion stops, we will not have laid a foundation of economic growth, sustainable job opportunities and an Industry that is self-sustaining. We will have many white elephants in our country and we will still have, as the Minister rightly said, *a narrow economic base*.

Honourable Speaker, before I conclude, I would like to spend some time on the subject that is at the core of not only this current Budget but has

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been at the centre of many heated Debates of previous Budgets. The issue of joblessness and our drive of creating sustainable jobs must be at the forefront of everything we do. The current unemployment rate is not accurately known, but best estimates put this figure at approximately 28%. The jobless rate amongst our youth, however, is still estimated to be above 50%. Yes, Honourable Members, half of our youth still remains without jobs, the very people we spend billions on for education are not able to find work to fend for themselves. Our future leaders, through a current lack of opportunities, will not be able to make meaningful contributions towards our Nation if we do not now, immediately, give this issue our urgent attention.

Joblessness amongst the youth is not only a Namibian phenomenon, but has been observed all over the world. As the Africa representative on the Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, I had the opportunity to participate in panel discussions on *“Creating opportunities for youth in today’s global economy”* in Quebec, Canada. The consensus is that Parliaments across the globe need to take urgent, concrete action to address the plight of the unemployed youth.

Terms like gender-based or gender-sensitive budgeting are not new in Namibia. I want to make a call in this Honorable House that the term youth-sensitive budgeting be introduced. That we find ways and means to urgently address this issue and introduce Policies and Laws in this House that will ensure that our youth have a better future and new opportunities. Some of the interventions might include a youth wage subsidy, tax concessions and other special employment initiatives. I will not go into more detail at this stage, as I intend to introduce a Motion in this regard in this House after the Budget Debate. But let us start talking about youth-job creation, youth-sensitive budgeting and let us give our youth a new hope and a new future. For God and my country, I thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Dingara.

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**HON DINGARA**

**HON DINGARA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, it is true that we are doing well in Namibia and no one can deny that.

I am truly in support of the *Appropriation Bill* as tabled by the Honourable Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2014 in this august House. I would thus, first of all, like to congratulate her and each and everybody who has participated in the preparation of this Bill. Her Budget Statement and all other related documents that were presented were very comprehensive, clear and informative.

The Honourable Minister of Finance in her Budget Speech mentioned four important priorities and two of those touched my heart. One of the two priorities is to **curb waste** and **bureaucracy** which in turn cost Government money and hamper development of those who wish to contribute to the economic growth and job creation. I think this should be repeatedly explained to the Namibian people so that they can understand. Whatever you want to do, if you do not look at wastage, no matter how accurate you have aimed at specific targets, it has been scientifically proven around the world that you will always miss the targets. You can budget effectively but if there is wastage during the implementation, missing the target will obviously be guaranteed. This priority is, therefore, very important, however, it is part and parcel of the priorities that are adopted by our Government.

Another priority that is equally important is the one dealing with the **expansion of the economy** with the view to achieve economic growth and to create jobs through infrastructural development in order to enhance the Industrial Sector in the country. I cannot explain this better than what is contained in our Vision 2030 document. I am also happy that this priority is specifically stipulated in Vision 2030. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Tjiuiko.

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**HON DINGARA**

**HON TJIHUIKO:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. May I please ask the Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs a question?

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, you are doing extremely well. I know that you are a very honest person and you mean what you are saying. We were crying on television about the conditions of the people in the south, especially the bucket toilets and you are now talking about priorities; where do you place the priorities of the Ruling Party? Is the interest of the Ruling Party to improve the living conditions of the poor or is it up to them to provide better lives for themselves? Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Dingara, continue.

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**HON DINGARA:** The question is Out of Order. Honourable Speaker, effective implementation of the Budget remains crucial and it can only come to fruition if the ones who are given the responsibility become honest and open to advice and positive criticism.

I mentioned this point because I realised that it is not actually about the Budget that is tabled here where things go wrong, but there may be some people who do not know their work when it comes to implementing the Budget. I was under the impression that the money is maybe not enough, but we are talking about N\$60 billion today. I can remember that in 1990, the Budget was about N\$8 billion and it is N\$60 billion now. (Intervention)

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**HON RIRUAKO:** May I ask the Honourable Member a tiny question? Do we get any improvement on the N\$60 billion we receive on our account? We are supposed to do better with the N\$60 billion than where we are today if it served the purpose of all the intended beneficiaries. But

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**HON DINGARA**

does it reach them? That is the point.

We do have that amount of money but the money is not utilised maximally to serve its purpose, are you aware of that? You are an economist (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Are you asking a question? You will get your turn to present your statement. Honourable Dingara continue.

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**HON DINGARA:** Since I joined Parliament, I did not see any problem with the Budget, however, when we go out to perform our oversight function on those who are responsible to implement the Budget, there seem to be a mixed situation on the ground. There are challenges but one of the challenges is that people simply do not want to implement and it is just not good enough to ask them which Party they belong to. But let me first read my speech (*laughter*).

People must honestly admit where they go wrong and when something is good let us give credit where it is due. Most of the people I meet at various events like to claim credit that is not even due to them and that is bad. Let the credit go to the ones who deserve it.

Comrade Speaker, it is important for us, as lawmakers, to ensure that this Bill, since it is introduced very early in the year, be passed early enough in order to address the needs of the masses. When I look at the current schedule of the Budget Session, I am happy that it is responding to some of the challenges that we used to experience two or three years ago where the Budget was approved a bit late in the year. However, looking at the current Budget we need to appreciate and be very grateful to the Minister of Finance and her Ministry for having managed to present the Budget at the earliest opportunity.

The Budget Programme indicates that towards the end of this month or the

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HON DINGARA**

first week of next month the Budget will leave this House and this is very exciting because it eliminates one of the challenges that we used to face in terms of the short implementation period. This will enable the Parliamentary Standing Committees to perform their oversight duties early enough in terms of the Budget Implementation and allow sufficient time for any follow up activities, if necessary, at the end of the Budget Year.

All along I was of the view that the money was a problem but it is now my understanding that the manner in which some of the implementers deal with the Budget remains a big concerns and not the Budget *per se*. I, therefore, want us, as lawmakers to formulate Rules and Laws that will be able to identify those who are failing us within the system because the sooner they are identified and substituted with people who are more capable the faster we will be able to move. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Tjihuiko.

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**HON TJIHUIKO:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. May I please ask the Honourable Member a question?

Before I do that, I just want to say that I concur with some of the things he is saying, especially on the point that those who do not perform should be shown the door. That is very critical. We have seen Ministries that have returned money to Treasury, do you not think that in order for us to allow action to speak louder than words; we recommend that His Excellency deals with those Ministers so that it serves as an example to others because we know them, and I think you know them as well? Do you agree with me that this Chamber can recommend that His Excellency shows them the door so that the rest can see that if you one not performing you will be fired?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Dingara, continue.

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**HON DINGARA:** Honourable Tjihuiko, you are speaking as if you are not a lawmaker in this House. You know the requirement of the Law and the problem that the Opposition creates in Namibia is that they do not want people to tell the truth. If that is the behaviour, even at your houses, that when people tell the truth you laugh at them so that they hide the truth that is bad behaviour. When a person is telling it the way it is, support that person instead of questioning him or her.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Please continue, Honourable Dingara.

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**HON DINGARA:** Comrade Speaker, in conclusion, I am proud to say that even if Namibia is the lastborn in terms of obtaining its Independence in Africa, its actions are those of the firstborn and many countries have to follow our example. I have been to many African countries and looking at all the infrastructures we have, stemming from the money that we Budget in terms of Road Infrastructure, Telecommunication and Information Technology Infrastructure, as well as in many other areas, Namibia seems like the firstborn. That is seen by the entire world and that is my pride, Honourable Speaker.

Finally, I support the *Appropriation Bill* wholeheartedly. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Ulenga.

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**HON ULENGA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker, Sir. Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly, Right Honourable Theo-

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Ben Gurirab, Honourable Members of Parliament; in the same spirit as several of my Colleagues have done, I would like to express myself on the *Appropriation Bill* tabled in this House on 19 February 2014, by the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila.

Traditionally, the Budget presentation, as much as it gives us a glimpse of the artistry, creativity or brilliance the particular Minister applies to the figures, graphs and numbers at hand, it is more the result of consultations, compromises and decisions of the Cabinet as a whole, and not necessarily the impositions of the Minister of Finance alone.

Whatever either censure, or commendations we express with regard to the financial propositions on the Table, therefore, and there are quite a lot of the former, yet not so much of the latter, are directed to President Pohamba's Cabinet, and not to the Minister of Finance; at least not to her alone.

Having said that, let me hasten to admit that Minister Kuugongelwa-Amadhila really tries her bit to make good of a bad situation. She has tried, and in many ways succeeded to show some aspects of light in a very dark configuration. Configuration in the sense of some kind of financial and economic arrangements she presents.

In her Budget Statement the Minister refers several times to progress and I would like to quote; *"We have made considerable progress in many spheres, thanks to the pro-active socio-economic development policies that were implemented."*

Honourable Speaker, let me, before I get into more sorrowful things, commend the Government on some real progress that was achieved, and should be encouraged to continue with for the short period of time they still have left with because we have elections at the end of the year and that is up for takes.

Honourable Speaker, first of all the creation of, and a fairly efficient management of the National Youth Service is commendable. This institution needs to be expanded and actually made mandatory for every

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Namibian youth, black or white, rich or poor, short or tall. I am very glad that, yesterday or the day before yesterday another speaker also referred to the same thing, so I am not alone on this score.

Further, the expansion of the national economic infrastructure with regard to our ports, the national road and our aerial networks is a necessary prerequisite for socio-economic development and we have done fairly well as a country in this regard. In the last few years the opening up of the up-graded Kamanjab-Omakange-Okahao road has expanded this infrastructural network, and so has the Rundu-Nkurenkuru-Elundu-Eenhana, and the Gobabis-Otjinene up-grading projects. It is heartening to see in this same regard that Government now takes on the Gobabis-Aranos access way, via Aminuis, as well as that short, but very irritating, strip between Oshigambo and Eenhana. I, therefore, await with good reasons, soon an announcement regarding Grootfontein-Tsumkwe-Gam, and Omakange-Ruacana, and the double carriageway between Windhoek and Walvis Bay via Okahandja and Usakos, for now at least. Air Namibia is a money-eater, but a strong moral booster, a powerful national symbol, and an essential feature of our international image as a Nation, we the Land of the Brave. However, and this is a serious, *however*, Government must make sure that these funds are successfully re-couped from tourism, and other aspects of foreign trade.

Honourable Speaker, further on the issue of Education; the Minister and Deputy Minister of Education are trying their best to bring a hopeless and disastrous situation under control, and I can only wish them strength and courage. However, as a whole, Government has clearly de-prioritised education, and this is revealed in the fact that whereas other Sectors such as Defense are getting increased allocations in terms of percentage of the whole Budget, Education allocations are actually falling gradually, related to other Sectors.

The digitalisation of broadcasting and the introduction of live Parliament coverage by the NBC are also commendable, as in so doing we may promote and democratise Parliament to a greater extent than before. With regard to Trade and Industry, it's heartening to see that we have a guiding policy which we have not had for more than 20 years all of a

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sudden but very good, and there is a great emphasis on industrialisation, especially with regard to that which we ourselves produce, such as fish processing, diamond cutting, polishing, and the manufacturing of jewelry, the polishing of other gemstones, the smelting, processing and further purification of copper, gold and uranium, and more.

As a matter of fact the Mining Sector has produced a strong infrastructure, and has build up a core of local, skilled artisans and other skilled or semi-skilled Namibians who are the heart of the Mining Industry. At Namibia Institute of Mining Technology, NIMT, in Arandis, Tsumeb, and Keetmanshoop, a number of well-trained artisans have been produced and absorbed into the Mining Industry.

Honourable Speaker, nothing inspires me more than watching this tiny young lady even with the Kwambi number 11 on both cheeks climbing on a ladder and get into the driving seat of this huge truck at Rossing Uranium, start it up, and work this gigantic earth-moving machine. So far, so good!

However, I do not commend Government for the creation of a number of overnight millionaires, some of whom are now required to answer in Court for acts of fraud and theft that they committed, right under the nose of Government. And further, with regard to the strengthening of democratic institutions, Comrade Speaker, may I say this; it is a crying shame that the Ruling Party continues to take the lion's share of about 80% of funds given to all Political Parties represented in Parliament. There is simply not a single justification for dealing with State resources in such a biased and one-sided manner. This money belongs to the State, and not to the Government; or to a certain Political Party for that matter. And, what is worse is that the Government, which was supposed to be referee in a supposedly fair competition between equally able players, comes and awards one side the trophy, without the game even starting, simply because the referee is also a player. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Kawana.

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Honourable Speaker, on a Point of Information; there is no objective and credible formula than the formula that is applicable now regarding the financing of Political Parties. It is based on the proportional distribution per votes obtained and there is no other formula which is more credible and objective than that.

In addition, I am surprised to hear from the CoD, even if they get more money, they start going to the High Court for some of those cheques to see who has access to this or that cheque as we have experienced in the past.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Ulenka, continue.

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**HON ULENGA:** Honourable Speaker, if I may continue, I can only say that is wrong and must be corrected.

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**HON SPEAKER:** One speaker at a time, Honourable Ulenka has the Floor.

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**HON ULENGA:** Comrade Speaker, if this matter is not arrested and a more equitable formula introduced, then there is no way that democracy shall flourish in our country.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Iilonga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Comrade Speaker, on a Point of Order and Information; Honourable Ulenga, I think it is the best formula, it just says the first one passes the post and the winner takes all! Then there will no longer be problems of complaining about why who gets what.

I think that will be the best solution; do you agree with my suggestion so that we will never hear about those complaints again? You are here because of that formula and you are just alone; imagine how much money is given to you alone.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Ulenga, continue.

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**HON ULENGA:** Honourable Speaker, if I attempt to respond to that, I will openly say I do not see anybody in this House who is more credited to be here than myself. If you can be here, why can I not be here? (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Justice.

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**HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Can I provide Honourable Ulenga with some little information?

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**HON ULENGA:** Yes, you may.

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**HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Honourable Ulenka, when you were the biggest Opposition in this House, I never heard you complain about the money Political Parties receive.

Now that you are almost at the end of your demise, you are now complaining. You were responsible for your own downfall and you have yourself to blame. You were the biggest Opposition and you may not even be here next year.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Ulenka.

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**HON ULENGA:** Comrade Speaker, let me continue to refer to how the Minister spoke, on behalf of Government, I mean the Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, not the other Ministers, and I quote; *“Today I am glad to report that we have made good progress to achieve the outcomes anticipated under the Budget.”* Progress again.

However, the Minister also picked up some courage, and looked the beast right in its nightly face and mentioned the serious challenges that this Nation faces. She says; *“But, in reality, we know too well that Namibia is still grappling with glaring social and structural economic challenges. These challenges include, but are not limited to:-*

- *a jobless growth trajectory, with a lopsided distribution of income and resource ownership;*
- *substantial skills deficit and a narrow economic base with primary commodities still serving as the engine of export-led growth;*
- *low Human Development Index (HDI), which calls for rapid progress in the areas of education and health;*
- *susceptibility to climate change; and*

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- *moral decay which manifests itself in, among others, increasing violence against vulnerable members of the society, especially defenceless women and children.*

*Honourable Speaker, we must build a new common purpose so that we can use all of our talents, skills and resources to confront our economic and social challenges.*

*So, we have to do things differently – we have to act swiftly and decisively to strengthen the institutions through which public services are delivered, and to transform the structure of our economy, so that all Namibians can share in the opportunities that our country offers.”* This paragraph has also been read by the previous speaker.

However, it is very significant that the Minister is talking about doing things differently, I agree with her 100%. Comrades, we have to do things differently, we need to act swiftly so that we can transform the economy. It is an issue of transforming the economy.

Comrade Speaker, let me just assist the Minister in painting further the picture she left unfinished; surely she could not finish this picture of so much sadness in just a few hours. Neither shall I be able to; I shall just add a few more of the miserable details she left out.

Emphatically, I do not support, and I must emphasise this, I have already the creation of instant millionaires over-night by literally handing into the pockets of the so-called “*well-connected*” or “*politically connected*”, by giving them tenders which they again tender out to other people.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** Which is rubbish!

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**HON ULENGA:** I am also glad to hear, that this wailing is even coming from the Ruling Party benches. You give me N\$2 million to build 5

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houses; I rush to M&Z Motors and buy myself a new Mercedes Benz costing N\$1 million. I drive around in it till I bump into a Chinese fellow, whom I give the remaining million to build the 5 houses, finish!

Comrade Speaker, as far as **Education** is concerned, it is a crying shame to note that: Never since Independence have we been able to provide sufficient, reasonable and efficient opportunities to the majority of our youth. Every time, year upon year, we fail the majority of the Grade 10s and Grade 12s and sent them onto the streets. Honourable Speaker, in this country the kids talk about, *I failed Grade 10, I could not finish* or *I have failed Grade 12, I could not finish*. When I ask them, *what was the problem at school?* They will tell you, *no, I was not serious*. Then I ask them, *who was your Biology teacher?* They would respond, *no we did not have a Biology teacher, the teacher only came in September* and if I ask, *what textbook were you using for English?* They would say, *no we did not have a textbook, we were only writing notes from the blackboard*. If I further ask them, *what about the laboratory?* They would say, *no we do not have a laboratory*. And the child says she failed, in this case having been failed by somebody and this somebody is us the State and of course the State is run by the Government, that Government.

Honourable Speaker, I have already commended the Honourable Minister and Deputy Minister in the way they are really trying their best. We see them pulling up their socks all the time. While it is true that Government finally, from last year at least, have started providing more or less free primary education to Namibia's children, at a closer inspection of the scene, things still look very ugly indeed.

For one; there is no punitive regime to ensure compulsion provided for in our Constitution, and what I mean is that it states that education at primary level must be free and compulsory but it does not say, this is what will happen to you if you do not do what you are supposed to do, therefore, there is no compulsion, so many parents still have their children out of school without facing any consequences.

Many parents are so poor that they cannot afford a school uniform or school shoes.

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Many cannot put up a meal every morning for children to eat before they travel to school. Honourable Speaker, the worst of these examples is in a place like Tsintsabis. In Tsintsabis the parents can just not wake up and make fire because as soon as they put up the fire, children think our mother is going to cook. Therefore, the one thing that you do not do as a parent in Tsintsabis, you do not go to the fireplace and make fire because there is nothing to cook unless there has been a round of drought relief food distributed. Parents would even start out very eagerly putting their children into schools at the beginning of the year but by March they start falling out because there are bigger problems than just putting the kids into school. These are the kinds of problems that we are faced with and I am sure, the challenges that the Minister is talking about.

Many children defect from school because of the long distances they have to walk on hungry stomachs while many others go to school only to find that there is no class room, no teacher, or there are no text books to study from.

Honourable Speaker, many parents, at the secondary level can simply not afford to pay whatever amount is required, Government still allow for the continuation of that illegitimate extortion called the School Development Fund because Government does not want to look into alternative ways of funding a free and compulsory education system. That is what we need to do, we need to look into alternative ways, it has been done in other countries and I think we can also do it. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Kazenambo.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Thank you Honourable Speaker. Comrade Ulenga, you have described the situation according to how you have observed it.

Some of us, not all of us, know the situation in areas predominantly

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surrounded by farms. However, you are portraying the situation unimaginable way, even in the refugee camp where I once lived, it was not like that.

What are you recommending and what actions have you taken, after you have observed their situation, to alert the stakeholders, including your own Party, rather than coming here because the situation as you describe it is dire and very serious? What remedial actions are you recommending?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Ulenga.

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**HON ULENGA:** Honourable Speaker, these are serious matters and we all know about them. However, if the Honourable Member wants a detailed discussion and I am allowed to divert a little bit from my presentation, I am ready to sacrifice five of my minutes.

In 2001, that is about 14 years ago, I went to the place called Bravo where I observed the same situation and came back to this House and spoke about it. The current President at that time was the Minister of Lands and amongst other things; he stood up, denied it and actually called me a liar. I later went to the same area again and I was told by the people that, *the Minister was here and he said we should not listen to you because you are telling us nonsense*. However, later, the situation changed a little bit because as you know there is now a Programme in Government which at least tries its best to cater for this kind of people but I must say it is not yet satisfactory because you do not find this situation at this place only, I only mentioned it as an example. Go to Keetmanshoop, go to Havana here in Windhoek, you will find exactly the same situation.

Honourable Speaker, if I can continue, I want to talk about this without reading from my statement. I see Honourable Iivula-Ithana, Honourable Nghimtina over there and others I will not mention, we went to the same school. The first day and first period I sat at a desk in a secondary school, all the textbooks of that subject were on the table. The

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practice in Namibia right now is that children take 2 weeks just playing around. The teachers come to school one week before the school opens, you do not know what they do and still 2 weeks after the opening schools the kids will tell you, *we do not have any homework yet, we are still doing athletics*. What kind of athletics is done instead of teaching children? The values and standards have just gone down. I am not blaming them on you, I am just saying that we need to change the situation and recreate a situation at least where people are working. I can tell you that many of you, and I am saying many of you because I did not get education, went abroad and received education that they did not pay for, it does not mean that it was not paid for but there were other means of funding that kind of education, and there are many people with doctorates here.

How can you come back and start to implement the so-called School Development Fund here when you have not experienced it at your own school? And how can we tell people that if they do not pay for their education they do not value it while you are seated here having had an education and you valued your education, yet you did not pay a cent? I do not understand that kind of mentality.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Iilonga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker. When Honourable Ulenga and I came back on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 1989, we found the so-called School Development Fund here. It was not brought by the SWAPO Party Government.

Honourable Ulenga, you did not get your facts right, the School Development Fund was here and was never created by the SWAPO Party.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** You are saying before Independence, you should have been careful when you took power after Independence.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Ulena, continue.

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**HON ULENGA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I do not blame that on the SWAPO Government or I am not saying the SWAPO Government started that because I cannot distort facts like that.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** But you said it!

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**HON ULENGA:** No, I did not say that. Honourable Speaker, further, it is sad and regrettable, to note that EDUCATION is not the priority of priorities, and that Government has been pretending otherwise while actually neglecting this most essential of all priorities:

Since Independence, Education has taken about 22% of the National Budget. However, while it rose to 23.7% in the previous Financial Year, this time it has again fallen to 22.6% but the needs of Education and the crisis therein have been escalating.

So when I compare the allocation of the Education Ministry to that of Defence, I am asking; why does Government see defence as more important than education? The allocation to Defence has grown from 5% in 1990 to about 11% in the current year. I think I made my point on Education.

Let us talk about Land and Housing: (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** What point are you rising on because he said he is done with the education part?

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**HON TJIHUIKO:** Before he concluded on Education, I (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** But he concluded, Honourable Ulenga, you have the Floor.

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**HON ULENGA:** I have finished the point of Education and now want to talk about **Land and Housing:** This is only another aspect of this sorrowful picture the Minister chose, perhaps she did not choose but it was too much, but she left it unpainted.

To start with, the budgetary allocation to this important Ministry has remained, for the past quarter of a century, between 0.5% to 1% of the National Budget, not more than that. Even as we speak, and I am aware of the fact that this Financial Year the Ministry's Budget has actually doubled from N\$300 million to N\$600. It is still a meager N\$600 million, especially if one takes into account that a single farm in Namibia can cost up to N\$1 billion. If a farm can cost up to N\$1 billion dollars, what does the Ministry or the Government do with N\$600 million?

I have taken note of the much orchestrated Mass Housing Project, and I must say this, namely that to many Namibians living in shacks across the country, this is like a drop of cool water on a parched, thirsty tongue. I really wish it would be brought to fruition. I would, however, like to caution the Minister and Government, especially given the fact that this project came as lightning from the blue sky, after 25 years of neglect by Government, that they should ensure that this is, and remain a genuine effort to supply social housing to the poor, and not just another millions transferred to the accounts of the SWAPO elite and the *politically well-*

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*connected.*

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**HON MEMBER:** Tell them!

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**HON ULENGA:** The reports in the media recently do not seem to bode well for this project, and we really wish it would be carried out without the usual corruption, nepotism and the stealing from public coffers.

Comrade Speaker, the only achievement is that the majority on the other side have now migrated, from the landless majority to the landed elite minority. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Point of Order.

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**HON TJIHUIKO:** *So moet 'n man praat! (That is how a man should speak!)*

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Honourable Speaker, on a Point of Information; if you want politics, we are all politicians in this House, elected by our respective Parties. Anyway, let me not delve much on this, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Ulenga worked in the Housing Sector in his capacity as the Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing, I think it was under Dr Libertina Amathila. If Honourable Ulenga is saying that since Independence Government neglected then he is the guiltiest person because they are the ones who started the whole neglect, he was sleeping

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on duty again.

I will be brief because it is just a Point of Information. Comrade Speaker, Honourable Members and the public out there, the Government of the Republic of Namibia has done a lot in terms of housing, be it in terms of Policy Formulation or Reforming the Housing Programme. We found people in this country who did not qualify for housing, they could not go to the bank and obtain a loan to buy a house but the majority of the Civil Servants today, can access loans to buy houses and some of them are housed as we are talking now.

Again, I also worked in that Sector, the Government of the Republic of Namibia (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Please be specific on your Point of Order.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Yes. To be specific in my Point of Order, there is no truth that Government has neglected the Housing Sector. In fact, the Government has got Programmes in place, such as the one where it is working with the Shack Dwellers Association that deals with informal settlement, the Build Together Programme, you can go to various Regions it is there, the National Housing Enterprise (NHE) and so on. I wonder who are the elites benefitting from the Build Together Programme in Okakarara, in Gam, Bravo, Keetmanshoop and in *Pongula*.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Ulenga, continue.

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**HON ULENGA:** Honourable Speaker, my speech is still long and time is of the essence.

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I was talking about the migration from the landless majority to the landed elite minority. I wonder whether the people of Namibia who are listening will be surprised to find that instead of Government representing the landless, they now protect the landed minority because they become part of that. One hears from the Ruling Party benches that the “*willing seller-willing buyer*” policy is not working. But why is it still policy?

Comrade Speaker, when this Ruling Party first came to power or when we came to power we promised that we would move the infamous Cordon Fence (*die Rooi Lyn* in Afrikaans) to the Angolan and Zambian borders. And without reading, I must say here that this has been one of the most hateful features in Namibia, to me personally. I know that some people feel slightly different about it but to me that is the one thing that always cuts to my heart. Up to now, the people are waiting. But clearly this Government has no intention to remove the “*red line*” and integrate the agricultural community. How can I say it otherwise if this is the 24<sup>th</sup> year and the lines still stand? Honourable Kazenambo, must I tell you how I climbed over that line in the night?

Comrade Speaker, I want to talk about land in the communal areas, apart from saying that the “*red line*” and the integration of the agricultural community in Namibia is not yet on the Government’s agenda. In the communal areas there is no land management. Soil erosion through rain, wind and overpopulation of both man and beast has done and is doing incalculable harm, but we are not taking any action.

Comrade Speaker, for more than 10 years we have been promised action against the illegal fences in communal areas, I was shocked to find out recently that some of the Government *big heads* have a farm or a plot somewhere close to town and believe me or not, again a large plot in the communal area. Some even both in Kavango and Ovambo.

Honourable Speaker, however, instead of the promised action, Ministers and Government Officials themselves appropriate to themselves what belong to the entire community, without action from Government. But we are told, even by the Minister also that we are enjoying peace. What kind of peace is this?

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Unfortunately, Comrade Speaker, there is no acceptable parliamentary language to describe a policy that does not work in practice but is still in place, nor is there acceptable language to describe such a Government that keeps such a policy.

Yet we are told to register for 20 hectare of land in that uncared for, arid world. What are the implications of 20 hectares, what happens after that? When are the land fencers going to be punished? And I will be very careful not to mention any name.

The grinding poverty affecting Namibians is not limited to the Agricultural Sector or the rural country side only. As a matter of fact, abject poverty exists in towns, and those miserable villages which look like they were abandoned in a hurry in the middle of construction. Sometimes it looks like there was news or rumour of an earthquake or perhaps an eruption of a volcano. I am talking about places such Dordabis, Otjimbingwe, Kalkrand, (intervention)

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**HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT:** Honourable Speaker, I did not want to rise on a Point of Order but I am rising because of the remarks of my good friend Honourable Ulenga when he mentioned that there is a total chaotic situation.

If I would interpret his statement correctly with regard to communal land allocation in our country, I beg to differ in the sense that, subsequent to similar pronouncements, Honourable Speaker, Sir, I rose last year where I put the situation in perspective with regard to the legal provisions in terms of the *Communal Land Reform Act*, (Act 6 of 2002), where there are laid down procedures aided by the Communal Land Boards and the Traditional Authorities in terms of which allocations in communal areas are made.

Now, for my good friend to stand up and again, intentionally and deliberately distort the position is very painful to take. I do not expect it from him because I know him as someone who is factual and someone who is able to stick to his guns but I think he is missing it this time

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around. There is no Government leader who can apportion land for himself or herself in communal areas without the blessing of the structures established through an Act of Parliament, in this case the *Communal Land Reform Act* of the Republic of Namibia. I wanted to state that so that the public is not exposed to some one-sided, non-factual propaganda. Thank you.

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**HON ULENGA:** Honourable Speaker, as I was saying, I talk about places such as Dordabis, those are places which are so-called villages and towns. Otjimbingwe, Kalkrand, Stampriet, Uis, Opuwo or Karaburg.

Many inhabitants of these towns are third and fourth generations of our dispossessed forefathers whose land was taken away from them more than one hundred years ago. (Intervention)

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Honourable Speaker, I am rising on a Point of Order and Information.

Honourable Ulenka is one of the senior Members of this Parliament. When the *Communal Land Reform Act* of 2002 was passed he was a Member of Parliament and we never heard him objecting to what he is now accusing my good friend and capable Minister of Land and Resettlement here. As a footnote, I also want to give information regarding the 20 hectares. Honourable Ulenka as a Member of Parliament was one of those who passed that Law, the *Communal Land Reform Act* of 2002 and that Law says; if it is 20 hectares, the applicant starts with the Traditional Authority and the Land Board, however, if it is more than 20 hectares, the applicant starts with the Traditional Authority, the Land Board and ends with the Minister. Therefore, those 20 hectares are not really the maximum. On the contrary, if it is above 20 hectares, it has to come to the Minister for approval. I thank you.

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**HON ULENGA:** Honourable Speaker, these people that I am talking about now never knew a piece of land they could call their own, yet they never enjoyed sustainable employment or training either. When resettlement comes, they are left out, why? Because they are in towns, and when drought relief food is there, they cannot get it, as Government argues that they are not farmers. Honourable Angula is not in today but I shared an anecdote with him last year when I went to one of these places and I was told a story by a lady who at 03:00 in the morning heard a suspected burglar moving in her kitchen. When she woke up she could not believe where the person came through. She gathered courage and went to the kitchen only to find a tiny girl. She shone the flash light on her face and recognized her as one of the children in the neighbourhoods. She asked her, *what are you doing here* and she responded, *I am trying to get some food. How did you come in*, she answered, *my brother brought me here. How did you enter*, and she responded *through this tiny window. Are you not going to school today?* No, *I had to come here and try to get something before I go to school.* The woman did not know whether to call the Police or not, but she eventually called the Police. And when it was about 07:00 o'clock the child told them it is almost time for her to go to school. But she was told that she was arrested. This is a true story!

Honourable Speaker, some people from this section of our population have drifted into the bigger cities, and now sit in the darkness, on the verge of the city, "enjoying" the lights from a respectful distance. These are courageous folks; they are heroes! Enter their shacks on the verge of town and you will see what commendable job they have carried, outbuilding those shacks from the flimsiest of materials! Watch them when the rains and stormy weather come, and wash the cooking place and the *kooi*, away. They have to raise families and take their children through school every God's day. The kids go with neither breakfast nor lunch box every day, competing with the well-to-do. Many have the physical signs of kwashiorkor. These people's lives and their communities must be turned around. It is not achieved through the current economic policies of the current Government. Therefore, my agreement with the Minister when she says we need to start doing things differently. Meanwhile Government bulldozes the shacks of the landless people in

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various towns everywhere. How can you call that peace, and why should this be tolerated? I, therefore, call on Government to stop bulldozing houses of the houseless and landless, that is really undue provocation. Stop thinking about it and even stop mentioning that you are going to bulldoze houses like 1959 in the Old Location. Make land available to the landless in a sustainable and affordable fashion. That is the only way.

Some Colleagues have called for a second Land Conference. But I believe a second Land Conference shall only be an opportunity for Government to soothe the wounds and calm the fears of the landless while they all go back to their farms.

The people, the landless, us who do not represent the landed elite must call for our own Land Conference and decide what to do with the land that we have fought for more than 100 years, and for which the blood of all our people have been shed so generously. That is the kind of Land Conference I would like to propose.

Comrade Speaker, finally on **Labour Relations**; it is really lamentable to see how the SWAPO Party has destroyed the labour movement in this country, it does not exist anymore.

The year before last there was a strike by some teachers for what they saw as legitimate reasons for action. Unfortunately, the slogan "*an injury to one is an injury to all*" could not be heard anywhere, there was no organisation that could offer solidarity. Government threatened imprisonment left and right, and workers demands are suppressed everywhere. Meanwhile workers everywhere are exploited, suppressed and humiliated on a daily basis to the extent that they have to carry faeces in their hands, this is done with such cheek contempt and impunity, as the backbone of the workers is destroyed.

Comrade Speaker, the opposition to the building of a new Parliament is the reflection of the anger of the people at the lack of land and housing for the masses. (Intervention)

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HON ULENGA**

**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Point of Order, Comrade Ulenga. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

Honourable Ulenga, you talked about the faeces and other things that were seen on TV but did you not see any action from the Ministry of Labour on that specific issue?

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**HON ULENGA:** I did.

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Then why are you mentioning it? In fact, the person was deported and he apologised. Do you want us to follow him and crucify him where he is? Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Ulenga, you better wrap-up, you have very few minutes remaining.

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**HON ULENGA:** On that note, I should have commended the Minister because she took visible action.

I was saying, while there is nothing wrong with building a new parliament, it is very wrong for us to build a Parliament now, while for 24 years the same Government sat quietly, watching the mushrooming of shack cities and the so-called informal settlements without building houses for them. In other words, attend first to the masses before you build palaces. That is my stance with the building of a new parliament, as it was with the new State House, which cost more than N\$1 billion.  
(Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Parliament takes note of that. Your time is up.

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**HON ULENGA:** I have made my case. Thank you very much.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Limbo.

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I am not going to be long. I think 5 minutes will be enough. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to contribute to the *Appropriation Bill* on the Floor of Parliament.

Firstly, let me take this opportunity to thank the Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and her team for tabling an elaborative 2014/2015 National Budget.

My contribution dwells on mainly, three topics, namely: Land, Housing, and Job Creation. I have seen that almost everybody who spoke before me touched a lot on the land issue, so I am not going to dwell much on that.

**1. Land**

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 1990, every Namibian, young and old, celebrated their new found freedom. A new National Anthem was sung, and for the first time, Namibia proudly hoisted its National Flag while the apartheid flag was lowered, with all that it stood for.

Hope was restored to many Namibians, as at last their prayers had been answered with the end of colonialism. On that day many Namibians believed that they could finally have access to land, private housing and good schools for their children. Both young and old began seeing the

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possibility of better jobs being available to them as apartheid drew to an end.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** On a Point of Order; you are doing well by demanding land but are you aware that the Honourable Members sitting there, who possess the land that you are complaining about are there because of the votes? Did you ask your members what they are saying about the land since they are in the majority?

We want to take the land that is why I ask for Article 100 of the Namibian Constitution to be revisited. What are they saying?

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**HON SPEAKER:** If you know them, you can ask them. Continue, Honourable Limbo.

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**HON LIMBO:** Honourable Member, I think, I do not have much time. As I am supposed to be the second wife, we will discuss that at home.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Yes, privately.

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**HON LIMBO:** However, as the years have passed, the hopes of many Namibians have begun to fade. And many started asking themselves various questions like, why did Namibia go to war? While others asked, when will we receive a share of the land we were fighting for?

Whether it is from this side or that side, there are many who did not go to the war we are talking about. Some of us in this House were the people

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who were fighting against the liberation freedom of this country. Therefore, let us be honest with ourselves and not just look at the side of the Opposition, there are such people, even in the ranks and files of SWAPO.

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**HON MEMBER:** Name them!

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**HON LIMBO:** I can name them but not this time. (Interjections) can we just listen, the time has been given to me. Whether you went to the war or not is not my business, my business now is to read my speech. Thank you very much.

These are some of the critical questions Namibians have started asking themselves upon seeing that the prices of land and housing have continued to escalate, making these resources only available to the few elite, and various foreign nationals. We have been hearing about these few elite in this House, it is time for us to start asking ourselves who they are. Quite a number of the Colleagues were mentioning the same issue of a few elites.

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**HON MEMBER:** No, they are many.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Can you please allow Honourable Limbo to make her case?

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**HON LIMBO:** We were told that some of our cities and towns are owned by foreigners, three quarters if not half of the houses are owned by foreigners. Now, we start asking ourselves; is this what we were dying for

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or what were we trying to do?

The current Government came up with the idea of land resettlement, an idea that was wonderful on paper, but failed to reach its full potential when implemented. Land was bought by Government, but instead of giving it to the less fortunate, land was given to those individuals that are deemed well connected. Failure to adequately deal with the issue of land could result in an uprising by the Namibian people. Categories should be made with regards to those who have communal land and those who have lost their land entirely, and distributions made on these lines. It is worrisome that the City of Windhoek Municipality is willing to give national leaders, who can afford housing, gross discounts on land.

However, the same Municipality has failed to provide free land to cater for low cost housing to the escalating poor population in the city.

## **2. Housing**

Honourable Colleagues, I was one of the people who were in this country before I went into exile. At the time, I was told that apartheid was causing people to live in what was called “*match boxes*.” That is why we became brave enough to say, *let us go and maybe when we return we are going to hopefully get houses that we can call homes that can accommodate the big family of an African person*. Unfortunately, African women like me have more than five kids.

With Independence, we were under the impression that the situation would change; instead it remained the same in most cases. The poor Namibians are forced to continue living in shacks, while the *well-connected* continued to exploit them by building cramped flats all over the country. The current Housing Scheme announced at the end of last will not help in any way. This is because it does not address the issue of the high costs, nor are the houses big enough to accommodate the average Namibian family.

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**HON MEMBER:** Who told you that?

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**HON LIMBO:** Because I was already there to hear that the houses are very small and the bedrooms are too tiny. Fortunately, I am in a Parliamentary Standing Committee and we are going to inspect some of these houses.

The quality of these houses is under a question mark because some of the companies that won the tender to build these houses were only registered recently, so one will question, do they have a track record for the type of quality they claim to provide? Namibians are now worried that these houses will not only be too small, but may also be of such a low quality that the beneficiaries might be required to seek alternative housing within the next few years.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, you know that we were very proud of our City, Windhoek. Everybody we met within Africa was talking about Windhoek being the cleanest city in Africa, unfortunately the picture is changing and now we have a new name; people are referring to the City of Windhoek as the silver city due to the number of shacks that are mushrooming all over the city.

The beautiful image of the city has further been tarnished by the lack of open spaces or "*green parks*". (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister responsible for Housing.

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**HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,  
HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Honourable Speaker, a Point of Information to the Honourable Members, through you, on this Mass Housing Scheme.

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HON LIMBO**

Mass Housing has been talked about so much in this House based on all the misinformation. You read from newspapers, you never asked the Ministry to explain what is happening; you convert mere rumours from newspapers into real issues.

I would also like to ask the Honourable Members, what if something you said in this Honourable House turn to be untrue. What will we, and the public at large think of you? Why are you wasting more time talking about shacks while a Programme was launched to address these shacks? Why should we talk about something that is already being addressed?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Limbo, continue.

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you, Honourable Minister but the fact remains, if we do not talk of our problems we might forget some of these problems. Therefore, it is better to always remind ourselves that we have a problem we need to address and the shacks is not something we can run away from, it has become a serious issue that needs to be addressed. You are addressing it but we have to continue talking about it because it is something that we see on a daily basis.

I said the beautiful image of the city has further been tarnished by the lack of open spaces or “*green parks*”. We tend to forget creating parks even in our new towns, to create the greenery and also to have places where our children can go and play. You now find that our kids are forced to turn our streets into football grounds and if we hear that a kid is killed by a car what do we say? It is our fault as leaders of this country. Therefore, Honourable Minister, this was for you. Thank you very much.

In conclusion, I just want to say that we are having quite a number of challenges and I am so happy that all of us are acknowledging the fact that there are challenges. We must, therefore, stop saying; *you are the Opposition, you are the one delaying this*, while at the same time we are

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called upon as Namibians (intervention)

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**HON TJIHUIKO:** Comrade Speaker, before the Honourable Member concludes, may I ask her a small question? I did not want to disrupt your time and now that you came to your conclusion I just want to ask you something.

You were talking about Windhoek, are you aware that the City has gone bankrupt according to the Auditor-General's Report?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Limbo.

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you very much, I did read the newspaper before we went for our prayers, so I will leave that to the Minister concerned to inform the Nation about the status of the City one day.

Honourable Colleagues, what I was trying to say is that the time has come for us to acknowledge that we do have problems. There is this issue of always wanting to blame the Opposition when there are problems but you are forgetting that whatever you are going to say the people out there are not going to believe you. I am saying this because Ministers are the ones responsible for the Budget that we are talking about here and they are the ones who are given the money. Even if we say that some of the Permanent Secretaries and Directors are not performing, it is not going to hold water to the people out there, they will think it is the Minister because they do not know. (Intervention)

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Comrade Speaker, the Honourable Member is correct to a certain extent that this is the



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perception.

However, you were the Chief Executive Officer of Katima Mulilo, look at how you were responding to your Councillors; *according to the Company Act, you have no right to question me*. In the same vein, we have our officials here and when I made my contribution here, I said things which they do not write about in newspapers. Comrade Dingara rightly said that when you say the truth it is not published.

I said that Ministers must be accountable and the Parastatals that fall under them must be answerable to them. They should, therefore, be the ones who are corrupt; we cannot be corrupt while we are not the ones. You were a Chief Executive Officer and know exactly how you were dealing with the Budget. You were the one dealing with the Budget and tenders and not your Councillors. The same applies here and for the people out there, these are the true facts and not the ones she is trying to present.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Limbo.

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you very much. I think my Colleague was not listening to what I was saying; I am actually defending the Ministers. What I was saying is that it was said here that some of our Permanent Secretaries and Directors are not performing and as a result money is returned to Treasury. Even if we say that the Executive Officers or Directors are at fault, the people out there will not see it the way we see it because the most important person who matters to them is the Minister. They will, therefore, just say; *Minister so and so is failing*, while the Minister is not even responsible for the implementation of the Policies and Programmes. This is what I am saying.

Lastly, before I conclude, Honourable Colleagues, something was said yesterday or the day before that and I did not have time to intervene because I wanted to let the Debate flow. It is an issue that my brother

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over there is talking about by saying that; *whatever you do, I want to tell you that the Opposition is our enemy*. Honourable Colleagues, that word is very deceiving because we were told today, when we went for the National Prayer (intervention)

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**HON TJIHUIKO:** Honourable Speaker, I just want to tell the Honourable Member that the point that she is raising is critical. If an Honourable Member stands up in this Honourable Chamber and says the Opposition Parties are the enemies, it is like the people in Ukraine, what does that mean? Is it the official position of the Party that he is representing or is it his own opinion?

Now that this has been said in this Honourable Chamber and the Secretary-General of the Party that the person belongs to sits here and says nothing; can the public out there take it for granted and accepts that that is the position of the Ruling Party that regards the Opposition Parties as its enemies?

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you very much. Honourable Tjihuiko, you are right, however, what I want to say is that... I did not say anything yet (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** I want all of you to be careful about the vocabulary you are using; *Opposition and enemy* are not necessarily synonymous words. Therefore, just clarify what you exactly mean.

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**HON MBUMBA:** I apologise for disrupting my sister and fellow combatant there.

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If it was the policy of the Ruling Party that you are an enemy, we could lift you up right now and send you outside, how can that be a policy? We are elected members of this Parliament and you cannot attribute such a thing to the Ruling Party as a policy. Therefore, take that back wherever you got it.

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**HON SPEAKER:** I am getting lost. English is the official language. Honourable Limbo still has the Floor.

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. What I was saying is that we listened to our different Pastors this morning until the afternoon, and what they were saying is that we need to love one another. We can differ in so many aspects but that should not make us enemies.

I, therefore, want to appeal to my “*second*” that you will never be my enemy and the best way to have your enemy closer is to love that enemy, only then will you be in a better position to understand and follow in the correct footsteps.

My appeal to the Honourable House is that as Honourable Members, we need to love one another in order to allow Namibia to prosper. We will never fight again because we have done enough and nobody in this House will make me feel that I am a second citizen, never! I will always be a number one citizen like any other Namibian citizen. Thank you very much.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Swartz.

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**HON SWARTZ:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, before I make my contributions to the *Appropriation Bill*, I would like to thank and congratulate the Honourable

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Minister of Finance and her team for the preparation of this Bill. It was indeed, a job well done.

I further want to congratulate the Minister of Finance for the establishment of the Semi-Autonomous Revenue Agency which is a very important body for the administration and operation of the revenue division.

We, the Namibian Nation, must also give our cooperation in paying our outstanding taxes and adhere to our tax regulations to make work easier for the Ministry.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, we also appreciate the increment of the grant to orphans and vulnerable children, however, I want to inform the House that we do have children with disabilities in some of our Regions where the mother should provide care for 24 hours which makes it very difficult for these mothers to look for extra income due to the circumstances of the child. Is it not possible in the future to accommodate these mothers with a small grant to help them cope with this situation and also to make ends meet? Some of these children use nappies and also need special medical treatment, so the money is not enough to cater for all the needs.

**Energy**

Honorable Speaker, Honorable Members, let us make it a priority to accommodate our schools in some parts of our country, for example, in the North, North East and North West, through the Rural Electrification Programme.

**Education Sector**

Some schools do not have electricity and, therefore, make use of solar panels, however, companies that are responsible to install solar power systems make use of unskilled personnel. At the end of the day useful equipment go to waste, they must, therefore, make use of people who do have proper skills to install these panels at our schools in the various

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Regions.

Schools need internet facilities in rural areas, as we all know we have moved to an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) knowledge-base Nation. This is the only way we can assist our rural schools to have access to information. This will in turn help to improve the passing rate of learners at rural schools.

Children in rural schools must not be left behind, we want children in all the schools to perform and this can only be done if they also have access to information. The criteria used to distribute computers to the schools must be clear in order to accommodate our rural schools.

**Ministries at Borders**

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, proper security systems must be put in place, however, we do appreciate that we do have scanners at some of our borders. When it comes to some of our borders like Buitepos, Ariamsvlei and Ngoma there are no surveillance systems in place to detect the movement of people and as a result unwanted criminals may cross our borders illegally and cause harm to our people on the Namibian side.

The procedure at some of the borders and the airport is such that, when visitors enter the country, the personnel at our passport control need to look at the passport and the face of the visitor but if there were passport scanners, immediately the passport is scanned the face is displayed on the screen, this would make work much easier for our people working at the borders.

We will appreciate it if each and every Line Ministry at borders can have systems in place that will be able to communicate to each other in the future because the current situation is such that each and every Line Ministry of the same Government operates in isolation which makes the operation at the borders very difficult.

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**Local Government and Housing**

Regional Councillors and Local Authority Councillors, let us not work in isolation in our respective Regions. Let us create a platform to plan development in our Regions; this is the only way to make work easier and curb the waste of resources, avoid duplication of functions and overlapping of responsibilities.

The Ministry must have a proper monitoring and evaluation system in place to foresee mismanagement of funds. In the future, Regional Councillors and Local Authority Councillors if there are plans for new building and roads, before construction starts, must invite Telecom to the consultative meetings because those buildings need to have communication systems in place. As it is now, they first complete the building and then call Telecom afterwards and it cost them a lot of money in the end. The same also applies to roads; please invite Telecom to lay the communication cables.

Honourable Speaker, I am done almost.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Speak, continue.

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**HON SWARTZ:** Honourable Speaker, we must make a change. Give light to our society at large. If you turn your back on the sun, your shadow will fall in front of you and you will not see in front of you.

Leaders, Governors, Regional Councillors, Local Authority Councillors, and Public Servants let us do what we can to serve the Namibian Nation and our people will find light. I support the *Appropriation Bill*. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Nehova.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members of this august House, at the outset, permit me to express my sadness and sympathy to the families and relatives of the victims of the so-called "passion killings." As a man brought to life by a woman, a mother, I am disgusted at imagining and witnessing the agony of fellow compatriot women at the hands of heartless and barbaric men-folk. Secondly, many citizens of our Nation are being robbed of their relatives, properties and productive time due to road accidents caused mainly by reckless and irresponsible driving. In this regard too, I wish express my grave concern and sympathy to all affected families and communities. It is my hope that both Parliament and the Executive will soon adopt measures aiming at putting a stop to this type of sadistic savagery and recklessness.

Honourable Speaker, I must emphasize the point that the Opposition Parties, as usual, were not offered the opportunity to make any input in the formulation of this Budget. Needless to state that in most effective parliamentary systems, money bills are normally submitted to Parliamentary Budget Committees for preliminary scrutiny before they are tabled in the Chamber for final discussion and adoption.

Honourable Speaker, to expect a back-bencher of Parliament whose parliamentary office has no staff at all to scrutinize, within a week, five (5) huge volumes containing all budgetary information including figures is to expect that Honourable Member to perform miracles. This is unfair, unjust and indeed unnecessary. As representatives of the people we ought to be given ample time to deal with the National Budget through proper and adequate consultations with the electorate country-wide.

Having made these few remarks allow me now to address myself to the Budget before us. (Intervention)

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I remember very well this issue of staff members to assist the Members of Parliamentary Committees. The

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Honourable Colleague was a Chairperson of the other House and we had the same cry at both Houses, why did he not help the Honourable Colleagues on the other side to get staff members so that he could as well help here? He failed on other side and now he is trying here. I am failing to get his point. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Nehova.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Honourable Speaker, on a Point of Information also, the Honourable Member is a member of the Executive now. When I was the Chairperson of the National Council and when late Honourable Tjitendero was here we formulated a programme, just like a housing programme (intervention)

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**HON MEMBER:** Mass Housing Programme?

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**HON NEHOVA:** No, not *Mass Housing*, it was actually the establishment of an effective Parliament which we do not have at this time.

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**HON MEMBER:** What happened?

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**HON NEHOVA:** Some of the people are crying about the N\$700 million to build a new Parliament; I am in support of that because we need staff



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and probably as we move on Parliament may have to change. Therefore, I am in support of obtaining staff members, I cannot do my work because I do not have staff members. Thank you very much.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Nehova.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Honourable Speaker, the first impression that I drew when I read these Budget books is that there is more than enough money in this country that can enable us to successfully tackle the socio-economic problems that confronts the Nation in the Land of the Brave.

According to the Financial Statement by the Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa Amadhila, we will be expecting an estimated revenue of N\$52.47 billion. However, the total amount required is N\$60.28 billion.

The deficit will be covered through funds borrowed from the local market. And I always like to praise the Government for deliberately avoiding borrowing money from external financial sources; like the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, African Development Bank and etcetera. We should continue doing business this way and steer away from financial troubles.

Honourable Speaker, our major socio-economic problems continue to be, and it was repeated here, unemployment, poor education, inadequate provision of health, abject poverty, and most importantly hunger and lack of decent shelter for the ordinary members of our society.

In 2012 the Government introduced a Programme well-known as Targeted Intervention Programme for Employment and Economic Growth (TIPEEG), in an attempt to address some of the above problems, particularly unemployment. At face value the idea looked noble. As such, some, if not all the Honourable Members in this august House,

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thought it prudent to give the Government the benefit of the doubt. Honourable Speaker, I shall revert to this issue during this presentation.

In this year's Budget the Government came up with another Economic Development Programme titled the "*Mass Housing Initiative*." This Programme, we are told, is intended to provide housing to Namibian citizens, mainly the poor.

It is important to mention that we arrived at this situation of a huge housing backlog due to the trend, nowadays called urban-pull/rural-push under which citizens leave rural areas for towns and cities hoping to secure employment, better education, housing and other social amenities. However, this trend is not confined to Namibia but it is more prominent in some other parts of Africa, Asia and Latin America, where above 80% of urban dwellers live in slums. In Madagascar, for example, the slum bound urban population is estimated to be 99%. This is shocking.

Honourable Speaker, we are supportive of the Mass Housing Initiative because it is the most practical way to date, of providing shelter to our impoverished citizens in both urban and rural areas. In this connection the RDP in 2009 stipulated in its election manifesto, that we shall construct annually, when we are elected of course, (30,000) thirty thousand housing units in order to clear the housing deficit over a few years and reduce the demand for houses considerably. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Kazenambo.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Yes, my brother Kazenambo.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Yes, my leader. How are you? (*laughter*)

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**HON NEHOVA:** I am fine, thank you. Put your question please.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** The Honourable Comrade is saying that, *when we are elected*, but can a Party which is leaderless be elected, if the President and Vice-President have decided to boycott?

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**HON MEMBER:** That is just time wasting!

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**HON NEHOVA:** Honourable Speaker, I think that is not really a question. However, the President and Vice-President will come here tomorrow.

Honourable Speaker, our main concern is that an undertaking of this magnitude has not been preceded by a meticulous planning, clear identification of beneficiaries and allocation of suitable land, the establishment of a competent management agency to supervise and control the implementation of the Programme.

Ideally, a comprehensive plan would have included the mobilization of communities and local Industries to supply the construction materials and ensure that more opportunities are created indirectly in the building materials supply chain. As of now, we know that apart from cement, sand and concrete aggregates, the rest of the materials like tiles, zinc sheets, window and door frames, planks, door handles and locks, nails, window glasses, paint and ceiling materials will come mainly from across the Orange River. This means that Namibia has failed over the past 24 years to plan and build local capacity to provide basic building materials, thus, losing a huge opportunity to fight unemployment and lack of housing at one go.

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Honourable Speaker, it is our considered view that the billions allocated to Mass Housing Initiative would have also covered mainly the provision of serviced land, standard specifications and building plans to enable hundreds of thousands of beneficiary families to build their own houses instead of giving construction tenders to certain individuals and companies whose main objective is to maximise their profits at the expense of intended beneficiaries, the majority of which are now bound to remain homeless for many years to come.

The same billions that are largely going into the pockets of the “*lucky few*” *Tenderpreneurs* would have further been utilised to subsidise quality building materials for the beneficiary families to be able to build decent houses for themselves. If land and material is available, people can build houses for themselves, not companies and these reckless swindlers.

Honourable Speaker, I am saying all these to emphasise the importance of planning when dealing with major national socio-economic development undertakings. Not long ago, this Nation was, specifically and categorically, promised one hundred and four thousand (104,000) jobs under the TIPEEG Programme. This Programme will be concluded at the end of March 2014. We know now that TIPEEG has failed to create the promised one hundred and four thousand (104,000) jobs. The fifteen thousand (15,000) permanent and the sixty four (64,000) temporary jobs reportedly achieved through TIPEEG are not only far below the target but there is no evidence that these jobs are any different from jobs created under the normal activities of the national economy. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Iilonga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Comrade Speaker, on a Point of Order or Information; Honourable Nehova, TIPEEG is not yet over. It was never said that 104,000 jobs will be created in one year it is still in the process.

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We have made an achievement and you are already complaining. TIPEEG is not yet over, wait until the three-year rolling Budget is over and then ask how many permanent jobs have been created, then you will be honest, *arikana (please)*.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Nehova, continue.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Thank you Honourable Iilonga for that information, however, only 15,000 jobs were created after three years.

Honourable Speaker, what we are 100% sure of now is that TIPEEG has created and or reinforced the few instant millionaires and billionaires. This state of affairs amounts to day-light robbery and shameless raiding of State coffers. The Mass Housing Initiative is at its initial stage of implementation but already we are inundated with media reports, well the Minister said they are rumours but this is the information we got, that companies and firms which popped up in recent months, weeks and even days have been awarded tenders to construct houses. We are informed that some of these firms have not even been fully registered with the Registrar of Companies.

Honourable Speaker, in conclusion, I wish to remind all Namibians that this country attained its freedom and Independence through a protracted and bitter struggle that spilled the blood of men and women in order for every Namibian to enjoy peace and economic prosperity. Therefore, all of us in this Chamber should endeavor to ensure that every Namibian is afforded the fundamental right, which is included in our Supreme Law, the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia – the fundamental right to own a house. With this understanding, we should make it unanimously clear that public funds are used for the benefit of all citizens irrespective of our political, cultural, religious and gender differences, and that any attempt to embezzling, swindling and maximising profits at the expense of the masses should be exposed, vigorously condemned and

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discouraged.

Finally, Honourable Speaker, allow me again to register my profound disappointment and dismay that this Budget has not provided for any improvement with regard to the social welfare of the senior citizens, despite the fact that this is a provision in our Constitution and this is not a goodwill gesture from the Government. I rest my case for now, Honourable Speaker. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. The next speaker is Honourable Simson Tjongarero.

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**HON S TJONGARERO:** Thank you Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I am impressed by the increase in the total allocations of this Budget.

We spent so much to overcome a serious drought condition but we are still able to continue on a high note with our Government business. I am convinced that those who classified Namibia as an upper – middle - income country were not much far from being wrong. All we need is to unite and get our house in order.

Infrastructure Development is essential. We always welcome funds allocated for that purpose. It does not matter for which division allocation is made.

Honourable Speaker, big money needs proper supervision, effective and timely implementation of Programmes at hand. Thank you for the mechanism that is in place to make sure effective oversight is possible.

In case where non-compliance is the order of the day, whereby those who are supposed to be in charge are reluctant to be responsible, the accountability component will not satisfy what we intend to achieve. Our

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country has good Laws and Legislatives arrangement. We do not need to look around for better ones. However, the problem lies with ourselves.

Annually, our Government allocates the highest amount to the Ministry of Education. We really need to allocate more for our future and we also appreciate the contributions made by the Private Sector towards Education. This only shows us how complicated it is to educate the Nation. However, the poor side of Education is the disappointing results of Grade 10 and Grade 12. The high failure rate brings an end to our children's future, how does that justify our intention and allocation?

I was shocked last year when our Honourable Deputy Minister of Education, Honourable Makgone visited one of our Regions. I do not want to mention the name of the Region. However, the report through the media was not a good one. People responsible are not properly doing what is expected from them. That includes our respected teachers and learners.

Honourable Speaker, if I can move a step forward to our Health Ministry; we are rightfully complaining about shortages. It is correct, we want to see a healthy Nation but we do not care with the warning signs of *alcohol* and *smoking* which are dangerous. In the long run, one can be affected and get ill but our future generation, the youth, is in the forefront of abusing alcohol and *shebeens* make good business because the demand is very high.

Honourable Speaker, the ethic of care is lacking. What we need is a new frame of mind, rejecting unnecessary selfishness that creates a tendency that one is better than another. We have sufficient leadership structures all around to guide and assist the Nation. Unfortunately, the people whom we are leading chose to go their own wrong way. In such circumstances, it is appropriate that His Excellency, the President called a National Prayer Day to redirect our people in the direction we want them to take. I am very happy that the National Prayer Day was a great success.

With these few remarks, I support the *Appropriation Bill*. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Deputy Minister, Honourable Haingura.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, I also rise to add my voice to the *Appropriation Bill* which was presented by Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and currently under discussion. Let me commend the Minister of Finance and the entire staff of the Ministry as well as the Director-General of the National Planning Commission for the job well done during the preparations of this Budget, because this Budget will benefit the youth, children, women and men alike.

I want to commend the SWAPO-led Government of the day because it always keeps its promises. It knows our priorities and that is why we see that in this Budget, again the Sectors of Education Health, Agriculture and Housing got billions of Dollars in allocations to ensure improvement of service delivery.

I also want to commend the Mass Housing Project because some of our people do not have shelter. That is why I believe that these companies which received tenders to build these houses will ensure that the houses are build accordingly and on time so that our women and children get these houses where they can hide when some lions start roaring.

I will not dwell much on Gender-Based Violence. I; again, want to commend our President for the prayer of today, the Nation have heard the call and came out in numbers. My hope and wish is that after this event all of us will work towards caring and avoid the beating, rape and etcetera. Love your neighbour as you love yourself because if you do that you will not beat or kill.

I also want to welcome the increase to the orphans and vulnerable children grant from N\$200.00 to N\$250.00. However, we really need to monitor



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because some of these kids get this money while the guardians do not look after them properly. You will find that they do not have school uniforms and shoes while the Government is working hard every month to give them money. I, therefore, want to call upon the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to perhaps instruct their officials to ensure the monitoring of these children of ours.

Honourable Speaker, let me now turn to the Health Sector. We want to thank the Minister of Finance for giving us these billions because these funds will help us to train more health practitioners – doctors, nurses, pharmacists and radiologists. These funds will also go towards building more clinics and other health facilities, but most importantly it will help fight communicable and non-communicable diseases where all of us here are required to adopt healthy lifestyles. We should not drink to the extent of forgetting our names or smoke excessively because smoking reduces your life expectancy and also leads to cancer. We, therefore, need to fight alcohol and drug abuse because I believe that they are contributing factors to Gender-Based Violence.

Honourable Comrades, I now want to turn to an issue that I am not happy about; during the grading of our Public Servants, some of the categories were not well re-graded and I am specifically referring to the nurses. Nurses, especially those at the management level were lumped together; whether they are supervisors at the regional level, district level or ward unit, they all receive the same salary. I think the Public Service Commission in the Office of the Prime Minister should look into this issue because it demoralises the nurses and consequently affects patient care. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** What point are you rising on, Honourable Member?

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**HON NEHOVA:** May I ask Honourable Haingura a small question? Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Minister.

I want to know whether the nurses who are under training countrywide

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also receive some kind of salary or allowance, if not why?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Haingura.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Thank you. Those who are at the University of Namibia (UNAM) do not receive any allowances. However, our student nurses, you have heard that the Ministry of Health has started with a Nursing Diploma now, which is offered in //Karas, Rundu and here in Windhoek, those nurses receive allowances because they are under our Project.

Honourable Speaker, I wish and trust that this issue of lumping all the nurses together would really get attention so that the affected nurses can be sorted out.

With these few words, I support the *Appropriation Bill*. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Nambahu.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. I want to also echo the previous speakers in supporting this very good Budget in my opinion, and also commend Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and her team, many of whom are my former work Colleagues, for a very well prepared and technically sound Budget. Comrade Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, congratulations to you and through you, your good team.

Can Honourable Chief Riruako, please be called to Order?

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**HON SPEAKER:** He is assisting you.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** I am assisting you!

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

There is one thing that I would like to suggest to Comrade Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and maybe the whole House in future. At times, we do not get the Budget implemented to the fullest and I end up asking myself why this is sometimes the case. When you attend Budget Hearings, you find people requesting for allocations to some Sectors and Sub-Sectors but I think it is time that we also ask them to attach the kind of mechanisms and structures they have in place to implement the respective Budgets so requested. Sometimes we criticise the Civil Servants and allege that they are lazy, indifferent and say all the negative things about them but sometimes it is the mechanisms and systems that we have in place that are not actually enabling people to perform at their utmost best.

The findings in the Systems Audit Report that I was reading here yesterday show that some of the systems that we have in place are inadequate. We go out and come up with new strategic plans and additional ideas yet we revert back to obsolete and unimproved structures, those systems that are still functional become a real problem. I was happy to see that provision was made in the Budget for monitoring and evaluation systems for various development outcomes. Comrade Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, I do not think that should only be limited to your Ministry but the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating should be across the board. I quite often come across that issue as far as legislation is concern; sometimes we would pass one Law and start looking forward to passing another without monitoring what we have legislated on. Some of the Laws make provision for conditions in permits and all these types

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of things but then we have a lack of people in our systems to monitor compliance with the requirements that are in our legislations. It is time that we not only criticise ourselves but also criticise the systems that we find in place and update those we put in place.

Comrade Speaker, Honourable Members, my second point is on the issue of vocational training; I am looking forward to the day when I will see private vocational training centres established in this country. I do not need to preach to the converted and I do not need to emphasise to the Honourable Members about the importance of vocational training in the development of any economy. It is a myth that we inherited that, countries are advanced and developed by white collar jobs. Vocational training cannot be overemphasised, therefore, I look forward to the day when I will see bursaries and funds catering for these kind of jobs.

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**HON MEMBER:** They are there.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** If bursaries and scholarships are there then they have to be made more available and those that are opting for those careers should also not socially be seen as *second hand* or failures but as people who can bring a meaningful contribution to the development of this country.

Honourable Speaker, when I look in internal trade I see my country being deprived of indigenous participation. I see people coming in this country making a mattress and go and sell it as well. I see shops in the Retail Sector coming here pushing out everybody who was in the trade as far as Katutura is concerned. Of the indigenous population, who else is there in the Retail Sector? And why are we allowing this situation to develop? Who of us know how much money do retailers like Spar and Shoprite repatriate out of this country? Is it really true that we only need money from the Mining Sector and not from this kind of Sector? (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Ilonga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** On a Point of Order, Comrade Speaker, may I ask Comrade Nambahu a question?

Comrade *Nambashu*, are you aware that we have some South African companies here without bank accounts but people just concentrate on the Chinese nationals? If you buy something from them and not on hire purchase, you will have a problem because they will ask South Africa *send what and what*, are you aware of that?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Comrade *Ekanda*, you remind me very much of *Shongambe* when you mention my name in that way.

It is true and that is where the problem is and we are even calling some of them investors. We create regimes for attracting them; we must also create regimes for controlling them as well as monitoring whether they are complying with our Laws or not. Some of these regimes must be that they are banking their proceeds here, that they retain a certain amount of money here and that they not only employ us but also allow us to participate in ownership because that is the best way of dumping products in this country without us being able to finding any other space for ourselves.

We should not be over dependant on diamonds, and we should really turn our attention to the Retail and the Service Sector. I personally, would like to do anything I could do to support Comrade Schlettwein so that the liberalisation and deregulation that we brought about is dealt with and the Act is reformed as soon as possible in order to bring the Retail Sector into the main fold and not just that, but that we also get ownership. Why

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should someone come and operate in a community, bankrupt everybody who was making a living there and just leave at the end of the day without us having any ownership? Our people would want to sell tomatoes to these outlets and they would tell you that they have a five-year running contract with Bloemfontein and can thus not buy anything from you. That is a problem. I can also tell you that, like you are putting it, it is not just Chinese and Indians, who are selling in my village there.

Our people, those who look like me, are now squeezed out of their space and, therefore, only have to run to tenders. And they even abuse the advantage they have over our people to an extent that they say; *give us 3 more years and no one of you is going to be in this Sector.* (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Nehova.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Honourable Speaker. may I ask my friend a small question, please?

I would like to ask Honourable Nambahu whether he has ever heard of a Bourgeois Democratic Revolution where local Industries are ruined by outside Industries?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Comrade Nehova, you probably just shied away from saying this is an epoch of the Bourgeoisie Democratic Level and the policies that are usually there are actually neo-liberal policies which we got advised by our former colonisers and we have that disadvantage of even looking at them for advice when we know that they did not even leave our country out of free will. That is the paradox. They leave in order to stay. They leave mechanisms in place that are going to condition our thinking and there, I again quote Bob

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Marley who said; “*Emancipate yourself from mental slavery.*” Have confidence in yourself, trust yourself, come up with your own research, trust your instinct and trust in your ability to do things and replace this mechanism. As long as we continue doing that our own people are going to overthrow us one day blaming us that our forefathers have not taught us properly and adopted the policies of the former colonisers.

I am very much aware of those facts and it is up to us to trust ourselves and come up with our own research and replace this mechanism that these people left us with. When you look at the system, this system must be thinking, planning, controlling and the system must be researching but most of the systems that we have in our Ministries and all over are not doing that. As a result, we operate by instinct and not according to planning and foresight. I thank you very much and I rest my case.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Mushelenga.

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** Thank you Comrade Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to support the *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

Comrade Speaker, before I start with my speech, I would like to concur with the previous speakers who commended His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia and the entire leadership of the Government of the Republic of Namibia for ensuring that this day is honoured for the respect of the people who have suffered through violence in this country. For your information, my own mother is a survivor of domestic violence.

Honourable Speaker, the *Appropriation Bill* that was tabled in this House must be commended. The Minister of Finance and the entire team that was involved in this exercise must be commended because even if I may not be able to talk to each and every individual Vote, I support all the Votes. The only issue now is implementation and on implementation

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Honourable Ministers, the problem of the appropriated money being returned to Treasury before completing the Programmes that it was intended for, need to be considered. I also want to commend the Honourable Minister of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, if what he said, that the allocation for the Mass Housing Project should not be returned to Treasury, is going to be implemented. That is the only way we are going to ensure that the service that we intent to render to our people is provided for.

Honourable Speaker, to be specific with what I have in my speech, I would like to start off with **Education**. There is a skills deficit which has escalated because there are too many students who are changing their careers at tertiary education level. A student may start this year in the education discipline and the year thereafter changes to nursing, it means that there is a problem in terms of career guidance from the secondary school level. We need to do something in order to address this problem because there are so many students doing that according to the information that I obtained from the students themselves. Our Government needs to something to ensure that when people decide on certain careers, they are sure that this is what they want to do in life, and if they have to change, it should not just be a drastic change without experiencing what one has studied.

I also want to strengthen the point that was raised by the Honourable Deputy Minister of Justice on the issue of vocational training. Vocational training gives skills and these are true skills that enable a person to develop or create something. Therefore, we need to strengthen our vocational establishments, and even create more vocational institutions. Hence, I want to strengthen the point of sustainable career choice and vocational institutions; confidence building, commitment as well as dedication to the career of one's choice to develop love and job satisfaction.

Honourable Speaker, on education experts, there is an outcry from the Namibian qualified employees or lecturers in tertiary institutions who are not given an opportunity for promotions. Once an expert is trusted by our Government and given a Department to run, what that expert does is to



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bring in other people from their own country, who robs Namibians from opportunities. I am not being xenophobic but want us to be true to ourselves. To this end, much needs to be done to encourage qualified Namibian lecturers; they too, need to be upgraded in terms of carrying responsibilities.

Literature development also needs to be inculcated amongst the Nation with particular emphasis to youth and women. We have read so many books, but very few written by our youngsters and by Namibian women. I would, thus, like to urge the Namibian youth to enhance and enrich the history of Namibia through the documentation of our oral history and traditional values that could lead to the minimisation of moral decay activities that are taking place in our country.

Honourable Speaker, the other day, I was listening to one of the Namibian women, I know this subject will be dealt with at a later stage, but she was very much concerned with the violators of other people's rights. Do you know what she said? She said; *when these perpetrators do what they do, we keep them in prison where they eat and enjoy whatever it is without feeling remorse for what they have done.* She, therefore, suggested that, and I think this needs to be thought of, these perpetrators, particularly when one person kills the other, should not just be imprisoned but be made to take responsibility of making sure the person he/she killed is buried. The said perpetrator should find people to carry this deceased person and make sure that he/she observes this person going six feet under the ground. The perpetrator must be compelled to attend the funeral because currently, he/she but mostly he, gives this burden to the family and the community without feeling the pinch of what he has done. I also suggest further that this person must find people to help him carry the coffin, including himself so that he knows that he has not done a good thing. After that they can then be taken to the place identified by the Ministries concerned, as we were informed.

I also listened to one lady this morning; and I think the problem of cohabitation needs to be addressed. These people were living together with an intention of getting married and all of a sudden the man attempted to kill the women. And you know what? These people were preparing for

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their marriage, they combined their savings and the woman contributed more money to the account they created together. She was honest and it was good that their parents knew about this. As parents we should also advise our children to refrain from living together before they get married because the problems emanate from those flats they are sharing before marriage.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Mushelenga, we chose the 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2014, to deliberate on the Motion which is on your Order Paper.

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** Thank you Comrade Speaker for reminding me.

Let me move on to **Fiscal Policy Intervention:** Comrade Speaker, I welcome the tax policy administration reforms that are lowering the tax burden on individuals because this means an increase in income to individuals and corporations. However, we need to attend carefully to corporations since they are doing some other things that are not good for the people of this country. The strengthening of Social Safety Nets help to lessen the burden of poverty and vulnerability in our Nation, and thus, boost the human integrity and dignity of our people.

On the **Public Procurement** field, I appreciate the Amendment made to regulate the *Tender Board Act*, to strengthen empowerment provisions as well as the provision for tender reservation for local SMEs and companies owned by Namibians with, emphasis on the youth and women. I would, thus, like to urge the Namibian youth and women to make use of the opportunities that enable them to be empowered with specific reference to the formerly disadvantaged Namibian communities.

Honourable Speaker, on **Property**, the Amendment to the *Pension Fund Act* that facilitates for members of the fund to access part of their pension benefits to acquire homes, including in communal areas, is long overdue. It, therefore, needs to be accelerated without any delays as this, I believe,

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will instil dignity to the working class people of our society, many of whom are currently living under deteriorating conditions while their money is rotting in that fund. I, however, wish to caution some of the members who may wish to divert from the intended purpose, that of ensuring that they use their benefits to build houses, because the intentions of the Government is for them to acquire assets for themselves and their families. I intentionally speak of this because there were people who were given money during the Build Together Programme and just built houses halfway without completing them. Some of them only dug the foundation and we do not know what they have used the rest of the money for. (Intervention)

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** May I please ask Honourable Mushelenga a question?

Are you aware that in some Namibian cultures, you do not build a house in the rural area;

1. If you are not married;
2. Where there is no *kraal*, cattle and field, *epya*?

Now if you are saying that, we should also appreciate the culture because diversion means that you must first buy cattle.

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** I am aware of that, Honourable Kazenambo, that is why I am saying that the Minister has changed that provision so that people can acquire houses including in the rural areas where there are fields. I do not know when the Honourable Member says the *kraal* he means the houses of our people or the *kraal* for animals because a house where a person lives is a house, whatever the structure is.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** No, I meant the *kraal* for animals.

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** Then you are right. Honourable Speaker, I now want to refer to our Constitution; Article 16 read together with Article 95 of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia reads as follows and I quote;

*“(1) All persons shall have the right in any part of Namibia to acquire, own and dispose of all forms of immovable and movable property individually or in association with others and to bequeath their property to their heirs or legatees: provided that Parliament may by legislation prohibit or regulate as it deems expedient the right to acquire property by persons who are not Namibian citizens.*

*(2) The State or a competent body or organ authorised by law may expropriate property in the public interest subject to the payment of just compensation, in accordance with requirements and procedures to be determined by Act of Parliament.”*

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**HON SPEAKER:** I just want to advice that there are still 3 more speakers to take the Floor so we extended the time but please try to be brief. Continue.

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Even if the Constitution provides that, some of those things that were supposed to be done by the Government have not been done. (Intervention)

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**HON MEMBER:** Why?

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** They have not been done because the Government is kind and wants peace for this country. However, those who are supposed to assist the Government to ensure that the constitutional provisions are implemented to the best interest of all the Namibian people are not extending their hands. Therefore, this has to be looked into because if these provisions were fulfilled, we may be having lesser problems in terms of violence, unemployment and many other things.

I cannot go any further without mentioning the **Grants of the Senior Citizens** because that is where the Opposition capitalises on. The senior citizens of our country are taken care of by our Government. Even though there is a problem for this year that they want to capitalise on, there will be no increment this year. Our senior citizens should remain patient enough and understand that the provision will be there next year, their pension will be increased. Therefore, and the increment to the orphans and vulnerable children from N\$200.00 to N\$250.00, is something to be appreciated and I commend our Government for that. Yes, more needs to be done and the Programmes are there.

On the **Veterans Benefits**...(intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Mushelenga, how much time do you still need before you conclude?

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** I am almost done, Honourable Speaker, only 2 minutes.

On the **Allowance and Projects of Veterans**; there is a problem with the tractors. Veterans are given tractors and most of them are complaining about these tractors, I do not know what is happening but the Honourable Minister is there to enlighten the House. Something must be done to

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correct this problem because there is no reason to give a person something that does not serve the intended purpose so this problem needs to be looked into. There are some veterans who were claiming that they know of places where they can even buy their own tractors, which they can operate and maintain but that opportunity is not granted to them and yet they are supposed to be beneficiaries.

On Page 27 of the Budget Speech, the Honourable Minister refers to environmental taxes to be introduced that carbon dioxide emission tax on motor vehicles, incandescent light bulbs and motor vehicle tyres etcetera, however, my concern is, do we also have taxes for those big Industries that are polluting our air every day?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, you are supposed to wrap-up because time is not on our side.

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**HON T MUSHELENGA:** I understand that the individuals who own cars are the ones to suffer but yet the bigger problems are not considered, I stand to be corrected, if am not having relevant information, when the respective Ministers are going to respond to this.

Honourable Speaker, to conclude, the Honourable Minister further pointed out that the VAT threshold will be raised from N\$200,000 to N\$500,000 and this is a welcome move. I would like to commend our Government for this because most our people will now at least have something to take home.

Finally, the degrading or re-grading, whatever it is called, has not done justice, particularly to the members of the Defence Force and the teachers who were also complaining. Our people are not catered for, therefore, that also needs to be revisited. Thank you, Honourable speaker. I support the *Appropriation Bill*.

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HON RIRUAKO**

**HON SPEAKER:** The time for SWAPO is up so the other SWAPO members on the list will forego their time. Honourable Chief Riruako is the last speaker.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** That is a wrap-up, now is the polemic! Honourable Speaker, I am not here to “playground” (*sic*) but I am here to talk politics and to tell the truth.

Honourable Members of this august House, the Honourable Minister of Finance prepared this Budget in a much matured way although not all of us can appreciate it. What happened is that the Minister of Finance came up with N\$60 billion although some Departments or Ministries got quite more than the others; most of the Members who stood up expressed their appreciation. I am not here to...(intervention)

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**HON MEMBER:** To “playground”!

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**HON RIRUAKO:** “playground” (*sic*) and entertain polemic things. I warn that this House is a political House but I do not want to create other political gimmicks. If your Colleague is talking, just let him talk do not take that as an opportunity to cripple him or her.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Chief, can you better stick to your speech?

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**HON RIRUAKO:** I will stick to my speech but these irrelevant issues take place in this House and they must be forbidden. You are practicing

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HON RIRUAKO**

unacceptable methods of operation. We are here to teach one another on things that we can live on and not those that you cannot live on.

A few years have passed and I think you got confused, you did not learn from the onset and now you are trying to grab things from here and there. I notice a kind of an unfortunate character from the side of the Ministry of Finance she brought in something that I cannot appreciate.

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**HON MEMBER:** An unfortunate character.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** An unfortunate character that interrupts and jeopardises the fair and honest thinking of the Honourable Minister of Finance. The National Budget Speech is where she anticipates a lot of things to explain how she put this on record as well as deliver some good news and different methods on how she is going to take care of things.

You have been taught how to do it and will be challenged on how to operate it and come up with a development plan. However, if you do not have that, how are you really going to utilise this? You are in limbo yourself and that is the reason why I am saying that it was well explained to you. You are taught to understand how you are going to apply it. That Budget is that way, I do not care how it was disputed but you were taught how to use it. Do not return that money to the Government again back. You were told to use it even if your mind is not functioning and take care of what you ought to take care of. This is where we are, we have been beating about the bush about this.

Again, Permanent Secretaries who control the Ministers. I have been pleading every now and then that the problem comes from the Permanent Secretaries and not from the Ministers, the Minister is not quite aware of that and it is where our failure comes from because you allow them to mistreat you. We have the evidence and we have been talking about this.



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**HON RIRUAKO**

This were our Government functions are chopped. You cannot give an order to your Permanent Secretary to do something and then he turns around and tells you; *look you are not capable of doing this, I have to teach you, you are a newcomer.* They are seriously failing the Government and now we are blaming the Ministers on this and the Government is not quite aware of this in order to even take action. The Cabinet holds meetings with the President where he is presiding as the Chairman but the Ministers do not tell him anything about how they are demoralised, this just something behind the scenes. How can the President come to their rescue?

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**HON MEMBER:** Page?

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**HON RIRUAKO:** I know what I am reading. What there for, to do what? The Minister tries to do something on the table but everything is misused by someone who has been there for 10 years, who says; *you are here to learn from me because I have been here.* Even Honourable Kawana who advises the President also fails to give the President a tip on what is happening. What is this, where are we now? The public is misled that it is the Minister who is doing this job but the Minister is only there to give orders and not to look at the books and find out what is happening.

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**HON MEMBER:** But why not?

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**HON RIRUAKO:** I do not know, maybe God will tell you that. (Interjections) you are one of them who has been running, you have messengers too. You have to learn from now onwards.

You must be able to review what is given to you so that you know how to *behave in certain areas or department. Workers are there to fulfil the*

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HON RIRUAKO**

*instructions given to them. The Permanent Secretary is a worker who must follow the instructions. If he/she does not understand he/she must read the instructions given by the Minister. You work under the Minister and what you do is fail him. This is what you do!*

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**HON MEMBER:** On which Vote are you speaking?

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**HON RIRUAKO:** This is not about under what Vote you are speaking, you must read your work. You do not even know the Votes. Even if you do not have work to do, you need to know the Votes. This not a joke or a toy, you must know all the Votes and how to carry out the instructions. You fail to do your job properly, things must be double checked to see and to ensure that the Ministry is run accurately.

Honourable Members, we, therefore, have to appreciate what the Honourable Minister of Finance has put on the Table. She tries to teach you how to use and not to return the money to Treasury after misusing it, you doing it deliberately. You take some of the money and misuse it because you have control over it. For 10 years you have not been challenged and you know how to do it. That is how the mess-up comes about; it does not come from the Minister. Now you have to challenge them and if you do not challenge them, we the Members of the House who gave you that authority to challenge them, are going to challenge you on why you are not doing your work properly. I want you to support and accept what I said to you.

When regional development is going to take place who is going to be involved in the management of this development? It is not you the Minister, the Minister only authorises the Permanent Secretary to do the Job on his behalf but he does not do it according to his desire. And he does not even query the Permanent Secretary why this or that is not done. That is how you do it; that is where we are now. Development will never take place if you do not monitor it, he has been there for 10 years,

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**HON RIRUAKO**

otherwise he must be reshuffled if discovery is made that something is not run according to the Minister's desire.

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**HON SPEAKER:** While you are turning to the other page, I try to find out how we look on television now that this has become live broadcasting. I was told that old habits die hard and I am not quite aware yet that we are now being broadcast live. That means everything that you said and did not want to say is broadcast live. It applies to all of us.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** I had to cut myself short in a certain way to minimise the problem. I know there are a lot of things that I came across but I could not say that. Why? Because it should not leave the House. If you have something to say that is irrelevant you must call out the concerned Minister and tell him in person.

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**HON MEMBER:** Or her.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** Yes, or her. Some of you were Permanent Secretaries of certain Ministries but I do not want to listen to you, what had happened cannot be revealed in this House. Certain things must be said in order make you aware and to discipline yourself.

Now on the land issue, my dear Comrade Iivula-Ithana came up with land reform. Why? What makes you say what you have to say now? You are carrying the weight of the people and you came to a point accepted that; so do not elaborate on it. You will create some other havoc.

Let us speak about it and come up with different norms then we implement it without any apologies. We are there to support what had

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**ADJOURNMENT  
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happened and we know what happened. We also know that we are turning against one another for nothing because of that. That is the habit that was created by the former colonial Government. This habit was created and it is there, the psychology was created and it is also there and this master-character is there, for it is only to listen, obey and do what we are told. That is what is happening but we are suffering. It is not ourselves fighting one another, somebody is behind the scenes and he sat here and told us to do it this way. Sometime, somehow, that kind of character and habit will vanish by itself. You do not tell them to go but the character changes and they hear a whistle saying *it is over*. We cannot be controlled forever.

I am here to tell you where we are missing the boat, the boat is here in front of us but we are not the driver. We are swimming in the pool but we do not know where we are. That is the point where we are today, we are not against one another, somebody created this kind of forum and he keeps on going on and provides us with feedback not to forget about our system, our character and our culture, especially. We must keep these norms, do you hear me? Yes! I wanted to say, Yes *bwana*, but I do not want to use that word. Now is the time to do better for ourselves, we have done better for other people. Now it is supposed to be us and not us on behalf of somebody else somewhere but us! I thank you Mr Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Means we have disposed of all we wanted to say during the General Debate. Starting next week we shall get into the serious Business of counting Dollars and cents. The dress code remains the same.

Tomorrow we have another Programme for those who are interested we all stand invited by the State House through the Prime Minister Office as we were informed by the Deputy Prime Minister. I shall see you there tomorrow. The House stands adjourned.

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**HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 19:23 UNTIL 2014.03.11 AT 14:30**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
WINDHOEK  
11 MARCH 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

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**HON SPEAKER**: With the concurrence of all, the Business of the House as scheduled for today hereby commences.

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Dr Amweelo.

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**TABLING: REPORT ON THE 129<sup>TH</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND  
RELATED MEETING IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND**

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**HON DR AMWEELO**: Honourable Speaker, I rise to table for note-taking and information, the Report on the 129<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly and Related Meetings which took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 06 – 10 October 2013.

The Report on the Table and other IPU Reports, seek close reading, continues recap, intervention and implementation, at parliamentary level, on issues affecting the world, the international community, regional blocks and countries including our own country.

As lawmaking and oversight institution of the State, we do not need to be experts, but we need to be mindful of the latest international and regional developments. We also need to be mindful of developments in our own country, as some of the issues, in one way or another, manifests themselves within our own countries. The agenda items and issues contained in the Report are very relevant, timely and educative.

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**TABLING OF REPORTS  
HON DR AMWEELO**

Honourable Speaker, allow me to briefly summarize the contents of this important Report.

The Emergency Item focused on the ***“Role of Parliaments in supervising the destruction of chemical weapons and the ban of their use.”*** The question put then, was what Parliaments around the world could do to support and guarantee the goals of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction and to completely eliminate chemical weapons. A resolution was adopted and the current situation in Syria, where chemical weapons are being eliminated, in some way, reflects the objectives and intention of the resolution.

IPU’s First Standing Committee on Peace and International Security held a panel discussion on the agenda item ***“Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: The contribution of Parliaments.”*** With very few exceptions, delegates underscored that, despite international commitments made, nuclear weapons continued to proliferate and several countries were pursuing, strengthening and even modernizing military nuclear programmes.

IPU’s Second Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Sustainable Development held a panel discussion on the agenda item ***“Towards risk-resilient development: Taking into consideration demographic trends and natural disasters”***

The discussion focused on disaster risk reduction and how population growth, inadequate planning, unpredictable weather and climate change patterns; and urban development heightened the risk of disaster. Our country, is no stranger to the harmful effects of climate change.

Delegates made a number of proposals concerning issues that the future draft resolution should address, including the question of political responsibility for risk governance, the importance of gender-sensitive risk-resilient policies, the role of Local Governments, and the need for formal and informal education at all levels.

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HON DR AMWEELO**

It is our duty as lawmakers to ensure that our existing Laws and policies on disaster risk management comply with the issues raised in the panel discussion.

The Third Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights held a panel discussion on the *“The role of parliaments in protecting the rights of children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, and in preventing their exploitation in situations of war and conflict.”*

Delegates referred to the vulnerability of children who had been displaced by conflict, for example in the Syrian Arab Republic. Such children often lack access to basic rights, such as education and were at greater risk of physical and sexual abuse.

Many delegates also highlighted the risks faced by children migrating between countries. Migrant children might not be accompanied or might become separated from their parents, exposing them to a variety of dangers and preventing them from fulfilling their potential. Many parliaments had enacted child protection laws, but their implementation remained a challenge.

At the Official Opening of Parliament, we were informed that the Child Protection Bill is underway. We eagerly await the Minister of Gender and Child Welfare to table this important legislation in Parliament.

The IPU President made a statement expressing deep concern at the terrorist act on Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya and extended sympathy of IPU and its Members to the Parliament and people of Kenya.

The Report also reflects various meetings namely:

- Meeting of the IPU Committee on UN Affairs;
- Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians;
- Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians;
- Committee on Middle East Questions;
- Committee to promote respect for international humanitarian law;
- Meeting of the Gender Partnership Group; and

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HON DR AMWEELO**

- Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU

A panel discussion on ***“Addressing internal displacement: The responsibility of parliaments”*** brought together men and women MPs to discuss the current crisis of internal displacement, highlighted the plight of internally displaced persons in several parts of the world and identify specific initiatives taken by parliaments.

A panel discussion was held to discuss ***“Political party control over parliamentarians: Striking the right balance”***. There was no single conclusion. However, a few could be singled out such as:

- Political parties were essential to democracy. Yet it was essential for parties to have their own internal democratic organization, and that they respect democratic principles and procedures.
- Parliamentarians were – in most cases- elected with the support of a political party and had a general duty towards voters and the party to work for implementation of the political platform on which they had run. To maintain this balance, parliamentarians needed to work permanently with their party, and not for their personal interests.

The IPU Assembly launched a Handbook for Parliamentarians, Sustaining Parliamentary Action to Improve Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. Towards the end of the 2013 Parliamentary Session, Honourable Speaker tabled the handbook in this august House.

The Post-Assembly discussed:

- Managing conflict between parliament and the Courts. A number of recommendations reflected on page 17 were made in this regard.
- A seminar on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) focused on *“National Rights”* and *“Economic Rights”* of women and children. Discussions centered on the main challenges to end discrimination against women in accessing and transmitting nationality, on recent trends and the role of MPs. On



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HON DR AMWEELO**

- economic rights, discussions focused specific issues such as economic empowerment and independence, access to land, property, credit and inheritance.

Exposure to violence, exploitation and loss of access to children who hold different nationality is increased when women are denied the protections accorded to citizens and nationals. The denial of nationality to women and children on an equal basis with men involves no non-State actor.

The recent horrific incidences of violence and murders against our women, some in front of our children, are deplorable. I salute His Excellency, President Pohamba for ordering a National Day of Prayer for our women and children. Those who have been present at Sam Nujoma Stadium last Thursday would have observed that the event was unifying, dignified and gave solace to the people of Namibia.

Honourable Speaker, may I take this opportunity to condemn the recent killings and rape in our country, of our women and vulnerable children. How many times have we said it is unacceptable and that it is enough? We shall continue to say it again and again - it is horrific and deeply worrisome.

Our State machinery, the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary; and the Namibian Society should discuss and research the root causes of this horrific evil and criminal actions manifesting itself in our society, especially among our youth.

Honourable Speaker, this is briefly what the Report entails. The outcome of this Report will now be cemented in the form of resolutions in the 130<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly that will start on 16 March a few days from today. I so Move Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, please table the Report. Any other Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Notice of Motions? Honourable Dr Amweelo.

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**NOTICE OF MOTIONS  
HON DR AMWEELO**

**HON DR AMWEELO:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I Move without Notice that Leave of Absence due to Official Business, be granted to Honourable Professor Katjavivi from 05 until 26 March 2014. I so Move Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Please table the Motion. Ministerial Statements? Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Just a very brief Ministerial Statement to provide information on one item which has created some misunderstanding on the Budget of the Prime Minister's Office.

Comrade Speaker, I am talking about a Report that was in one of the papers on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of February which portrayed that the Prime Minister is going to get a N\$600 million office and we have been inundated with calls to explain why this is happening and we thought it is important that we take the Floor to explain what is going on.

Comrade Speaker, Honourable Members, the project for the constructions of the Administrative Building for the Office of the Prime Minister started in 2010/2011 to address the critical need for office accommodation identified by the Office of the Prime Minister, and endorsed by then incumbent Prime Minister, as well as approved as viable and essential infrastructure development project under the Government's Targeted Intervention Programme for Employment and Economic Growth (TIPEEG). Meaning that the current incumbent Prime Minister, Dr Hage Geingob, inherited the commitments and obligations already entered into by the Government for the OPM's Administrative Offices, which he is

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HON HAUSIKU**

expected to not only honor but ensure that execution and completion would be on time as previously planned.

Contrary to the misleading impression portrayed in a local daily by the headline, ***“PM to get N\$600 million office,”*** and further accentuated in the intro of the same story, and a subsequent editorial on February 28, 2014, the Office of the Prime Minister does not consist of the Prime Minister as an exclusive individual, who is to occupy an Office costing N\$600 million. Neither, is this Office meant for the Prime Minister but to address a real office shortage problem which has been identified long before the current Prime Minister has come into office.

It is of importance to know that the Office of the Prime Minister has an approved structure of 415 staff members consisting of the following Departments, Directorate and Divisions:

1. The Prime Minister’s Bureau including the Deputy Prime Minister;
2. Department of Administration and Information Technology Management;
3. Department of Public Service: Information Technology Management;
4. Department of Public Service Management;
5. Public Service Commissioners and its Secretariat;
6. Public Office Bearers Commission Secretariat;
7. State-Owned Enterprise Governance Council Secretariat;
8. Efficiency Charter Unit; and
9. San Development Division, among others.

These institutions provide specialised services to the members of the Namibian public as well as to other State and non-state institutions, and

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HON HAUSIKU**

ensure that the Prime Minister's oversight function is exercised in a transparent, responsible and timely manner. Against this backdrop, the rationale for the construction of the new Office of the Prime Minister originated from the pressing accommodation needs experienced by the 415 staff of the Office who are scattered around the City of Windhoek in the following different buildings:

- a. Office of the Prime Minister;
- b. Ministry of Foreign Affairs building;
- c. United House building;
- d. Frans Indongo Gardens;
- e. EDRMS — Independence Avenue building;
- f. Old Mutual Office Complex; and
- g. Brendan Simbwaye Building;

Given that the staff members of the Office of the Prime Minister are scattered all over the City of Windhoek, there is a big challenge for the management of the Office of the Prime Minister to create, coordinate and harmonise an effective functional team. Therefore, the building project of the centralised Head Office to accommodate the Office of the Prime Minister's staff is an urgent and real sensible priority, which should have been attended to a long time ago.

To avoid negative impact on the coordination of a centralized office where all staff members are accommodated is a necessity. We believe that this project will promote efficiency, coherence, and effectiveness of the Public Sector through monitoring and evaluation exercises.

We also believe that this explanation and background will give those concerned, some peace of mind.

Comrade Speaker, Honourable Members, let me conclude by thanking you for your kind attention. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honorable Maamberua.

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS  
ON MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON MAAMBERUA**

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS  
TO THE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker and I wish to also thank the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister for the information to clear the air as it was reported in the media. I, however, wish to just ask two small questions.

1. What is the status of the construction of that building, the new Office of the Prime Minister, since in the information that was provided, the project already started from 2010?
2. Where exactly is this building going to be located in Windhoek?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON  
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you very much, Honourable Member for the question. I will give you an outline tomorrow in my Statement of the precise development but the location of the office is the plot behind the Ministry of Foreign Affairs offices. That is where it is going to be build. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

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HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

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**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON SECOND READING:  
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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**SECRETARY:** Resumption of Debate on Second Reading:  
*Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

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**HON SPEAKER:** When the House adjourned on Thursday, the 06<sup>th</sup> of March 2014, the question before the Assembly was the Motion by the Honourable Minister of Finance that the Bill be read a Second Time.

Does the Honourable Minister of Finance wish to reply?

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**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, I take this opportunity to respond to the questions and comments raised during the Second Reading of the 2014/2015 *Appropriation Bill* and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework.

I am indebted to the Honourable Members and the public at large for raising pertinent issues which will no doubt improve the budget process going forward.

As usual, I will refer to the general issues raised. My Cabinet Colleagues will provide details of the Sector Programmes under their respective Ministries during the Committee Stage.

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**SECOND READING APPROPRIATION BILL  
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**BUDGET PROCESS: PROVISIONS FOR TRANSPARENCY AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY**

Regarding the openness and transparency of the Budget process, I have in the past explained that transparency and participation in the budget process is provided for at three levels:-

**First**, in respect to participation in the budget formulation, it remains a tradition that the national budget consultation process starts at Vote level and involves all stakeholders at Constituency and Regional level.

**Secondly**, since 2002/2003, Namibia has implemented a multi-year budgeting process whereby the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) provides information on the three years of anticipated income and expenditure by Vote and Programme. This accords the legislature and the public the opportunity to scrutinise proposed budgetary allocations and provide input into the expenditure proposals before the annual *Appropriation Bill* is tabled to Parliament. I must add that in many dispensations around the world where Ministers of Finance come to Parliament to give what is called free Budget Statement, there is no Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. A Pre-Budget Statement is supposed to give an indication of Fiscal Policy and the expenditure proposals in the absence of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework but we do not take note of the fact that we provide much more details than those kinds countries that provide Pre-Budget Statements with the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework.

I, urge the Honourable Members of Parliament to fully utilise the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework by providing inputs into the proposals for all the MTEF years and not only to concentrate on the year of Appropriation.

The discussions and inputs provided during the Second Reading of the *Appropriation Bill* inform the budget process going forward.

**Thirdly**, the MTEF is based on the National Development Plans and sectoral master plans of the Offices Ministries and Agencies which were

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formulated with the input of stakeholders. Namibia is one of only a few countries which have the National Development Plans. In the past, we used to have a Development Plan that is accompanied by a Public Investment Plan where the projects are outlined for 5 years and the cost estimates as well as the allocations are indicated within the country. There is actually no surprise in the Budget because the Budget always implements the Public Sector Investment Programme as we used to call it. Now we have what are called the Medium-Term Plans which are contained in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework.

In addition, the Government Accountability Report embeds transparency and accountability in the execution of the Budget Programmes by providing detailed information on what the Public Sector accomplishes with the appropriated funds, thereby holding Offices, Ministries and Agencies (O/M/As) accountable for the outputs and outcomes.

I call on the Honourable Members of the House and the public at large to take time and read through the Government Accountability Report.

Government also goes the extra mile to publish a Citizen's Guide to the Budget which provides simplified information that is accessible to ordinary Namibians. This keeps the public well-informed about the Budget. The Citizen's Budget for 2014/2015, which is translated in various indigenous languages, is at this time now ready for distribution.

From a technical point of view, I feel that we as the Ministry of Finance have done as much as we can to ensure inclusivity in budget formulation. Perhaps Parliament as an institution should take up issues of principle and policy with the executive that may not have been adequately addressed through these measures that we have introduced from the perspective of Parliament. I am specifically referring to the proposal to have the Budget presented to a Parliamentary Committee before tabling. I think that is an issue that the Minister of Finance cannot deal with, it is an issue of principle and if Parliament wants Bills that come to Parliament not to represent proposals of the Executive but to reflect a consensus between the Executive and the Legislature, these issues need to be discussed between the two institutions. They are somehow beyond me as an



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individual Minister.

**PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC  
CHALLENGES**

I have already alluded to the socio-economic challenges that our Nation still faces in my Budget Statement. I have also indicated how the current Budget will continue to address these challenges.

However, while many challenges still remain, we have made verifiable progress in many areas.

In particular;

Our country has recorded consistent positive economic growth rates, with the economy expanding by two and a half times since 1990. Real GDP growth averaged 5.1% in the last ten years.

The national income per capita has increased by more than 60% in real terms, propelling Namibia to reach Upper-Middle Income status in 2010. In nominal terms, income per capita now stands at N\$50,234 or some US\$6,126 at current exchange rates, compared to N\$19,048 or US\$1,811 dollars ten years ago.

We have also made progress in pushing back the frontiers of poverty and inequalities. The latest National Household Income and Expenditure Survey showed that relative poverty has almost been halved since Independence, from 38% in 1993/1994 to 20% by 2009/2010.

Further extreme poverty has fallen from 9% to 2%, and the country's Gini coefficient has narrowed from 0.70 at Independence to 0.58 in 2009/2010 against the Vision 2030 target of 0.55 by 2015.

This represents significant progress and provides a solid foundation for attaining our objectives under Vision 2030, which will be further built upon by the current MTEF and the National Development Plan.

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**OPERATIONAL VERSUS DEVELOPMENT BUDGET**

The issue of the size of the Public Service while it has significant implications for the Budget, goes beyond the scope of the budget formulation. Dealing with this matter is a process that requires cooperation among different stakeholders.

Honourable Speaker, the provisions for Public Servants remunerations that are made under the current MTEF arise from the agreement between the Government and Trade Unions and include a 10% salary increase for Civil Servants effective from 1 April 2014. They also include adjustments as a result of appeals to the Job Evaluation and Re-grading (JEG) implemented from 2013/2014. Together, these measures account for some N\$2.5 or 5.2% of the Operational Budget in 2014/2015.

Without doubt, the public wage bill, standing at N\$22.0 billion in the 2014/2015 Budget or about 42% of revenue is a cause of concern.

**TRANSFERS TO STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES**

Concerning the transfers to SOEs amounting to N\$9.5 billion, this amount includes funding for infrastructure development such as upgrading of the harbour and airport infrastructure, development of the Kudu Gas to Power Project and rail transport equipment.

Support to Air Namibia is earmarked mainly for transport equipment and maintenance to ensure secure supply of services to one of the Strategic Industries in the economy.

I should emphasise that the transfers for infrastructure development form part of the strategic capital investment required to establish a basis for long-term sustainable growth of the economy and should not be seen as a bail-out of the SOEs.

Similarly, the transfers to institutions of higher education, the Veterans Fund, financial assistance to students and youth empowerment are standing commitments that form part of the expenditure of the respective

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Budget Votes. They are not transferred to SOEs to subsidise their operations or encourage their inefficiency.

Finally, transfers to Development Finance Institutions such as DBN, AgriBank, SME Bank and the NHE are necessary to support productive economic activities, including industrial development, SME support and financing for housing.

As indicated in the Budget Statement, the transfers for infrastructure development supplement other forms of support to be provided in the form of guarantees for loans to be raised by SOEs themselves and as co-financing to catalyse funding from other sources. Such is the case with the allocation to Namport, NamPower and NHE. For instance, the allocation of N\$625 million to Namport over the 3 years of the MTEF will assist the port authority in raising N\$2.3 billion for the port expansion project. Similarly, an amount of N\$1.6 billion to NamPower over the current MTEF period will assist the power utility in raising N\$6 billion in the next 5 years for investment in the Kudu Gas to Power project. The Estimates of Income and Expenditure provides a complete breakdown of the transfers to SOEs. I have also made an appeal to all SOEs to share their investment plans with Government because part of the misunderstanding that exist about the apportionment of State Funds between operational expenditures and investment is on account of the absence of this information. It is understood that whatever is provided under the Capital Budget is the totality of the State's investment in this area which is not actually the case because in some instances, the bulk of the investments in infrastructure are done through these State-Owned Enterprises.

However, the continued dependence of some SOEs on Government for operational support remains a cause for concern, as are the delays in the finalisation of Financial Statements and continued instances of qualified and disclaimed audit opinions. Government expects improved performance from all SOEs as required under the *SOE Governance Act*.

I am glad to note that an increasing number of SOEs have entered into performance contracts with their Line Ministries. O/M/As are required to

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ensure that disbursements are released in line with the subsidies agreements with specific deliverables.

Honourable Speaker, allocations to development expenditure has seen steady growth. The Development Budget has been scaled-up in recent years to serve as a key lever for fiscal countercyclicality. Since 2007/2008, the Development Budget has more than doubled from N\$2.1 billion to N\$7.8 billion in 2011/2012 and further increased to a proposed N\$9.6 billion in 2014/2015.

If seen together with the budgetary transfers for infrastructure projects under SOEs, the total Development Budget would amount to N\$10.8 billion for 2014/2015, corresponding to 18.0% of the Budget. This is in addition to the funds that are to be raised by SOEs through their own Balance Sheets and those to be raised with government guarantees.

**TIPEEG AND TRANSITION TO LONG-TERM GROWTH AND  
JOB CREATION**

Concerning TIPEEG, the House may recall that TIPEEG was designed with the twin objectives of creating jobs through an expanded public works programme and to stimulate long-term growth through scaled-up investment in Strategic Sectors of the economy.

Job creation continues to be a priority under NDP4, to be pursued through, amongst others, investment in strategic infrastructure, human resources development and the promotion of Private Sector investment.

**PROVISIONS FOR INDUSTRIALISATION AND PRIVATE  
SECTOR SUPPORT**

With respect to the support provided for industrialisation, Government provides a suite of tax incentives targeted for the Manufacturing Sector and exporters of manufactured goods. This is in addition to allocations made through the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Further, increased allocations are made to DBN, AgriBank and SME Bank

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in 2014/2015 to provide capital to Private Industry. This is in addition to the loan books of these institutions and it is further supplemented by provision for preference for local products under the Public Procurement System.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, measures to grow the share of locally manufactured goods and promote domestic value-addition and supply chains remain important areas for domestic industrial policy action.

In this regard, I will, during the course of the next Financial Year, introduce the *Export Tax Bill* which proposes a range of taxes to incentivise domestic value addition, especially in the Natural Resources Sector.

Amendments to Rules pertaining to domestic asset requirements for pension funds and long-term insurers have become effective since January this year. The Amendments oblige these institutional investors to invest a portion of their total assets in local unlisted investment opportunities. This landslide regulatory reform avails substantial domestic savings for investment in projects locally. I invite the Private Sector to take advantage of this window of opportunity.

**STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET**

Concerning old-age pension grants, I wish to reiterate our Government's commitment to continually improve the living conditions of our senior citizens.

It is for this reason that Namibia is one of only four countries on the African continent which provides old-age grants.

Government adjusts old-age grants every two years. However, increases were made in the last two consecutive years in order to strengthen the quality of the grants. In this year's Budget, the focus is placed on expanding the coverage of the grants to ensure that we reach all the qualifying beneficiaries. We have also increased grants to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC).

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Given that many of the OVCs are under the care of their grandparents and had relied on their grandparents old-age grants, the increase in OVC grants will also provide relief to many senior citizens who have OVCs under their care. Especially in the rural areas, you have some of the senior citizens taking care of up to 8 orphans and may turn out better for them if we can target each of the individual OVCs rather than trying to increase their old-age grants every year to enable them to support all these orphans.

**SKILLS FORMATION AND YOUTH EMPOWETMENT**

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, skills scarcity is the most binding constraint to our economic development, resulting in weak capacity for policy implementation and high unemployment.

It is in view of this that education has received the largest share of the Budget ever since Independence.

In order to promote improved outcomes from investment in the Education Sector, Government undertook an expenditure review to assess the effectiveness of the resources allocated to the Sector. The Ministry of Education is currently seized with the implementation of the recommendations from this review.

Given the concentration of unemployment among the unskilled and lowly-skilled, increased allocation is made to provision of skills.

The allocation to Financial Assistance for students is increased to N\$836.2 million in this Budget and it will reach an estimated N\$1 billion in 2016/2017 and a total of N\$2.7 billion over the MTEF.

Similarly, the allocation to vocational training institutions has been more than doubled in this Budget to cater for better equipment and increased intake.

The Private Sector will also actively come on board, with the training levy due for implementation in the coming Financial Year.

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Besides allocations to skills training, increased allocations are also made to the National Youth Service and National Youth Council for an expanded intake in youth skills development programmes and youth empowerment.

As I indicated previously, youth-owned companies will now receive preferences under the revised Public Procurement Rules alongside women who have also been marginalised.

**SAFEGUARDS FOR DEBT SUSTAINABILITY**

Honourable Speaker, regarding the sustainability of public debt, the SADC fiscal sustainability parameters encapsulated in the Finance and Investment Protocol require that public debt should not exceed 60% of GDP.

The Namibian Government has set itself a national debt benchmark of 35% of GDP, but Government debt has consistently remained below this benchmark. The debt level now stands at about 27.8% of GDP. This level of debt is well within sustainable levels.

However, Government is aware of the need to check the growth in public debt. The N\$14.7 billion additional allocation under this year's Budget is out of a total of N\$31.4 billion requested by O/M/As. Debt is projected to reduce to 25.6% of GDP by 2016/2017. There is absolutely no doubt that Namibia's debt levels are within sustainability. With that, we feel that there is room for Fiscal Policy to continue supporting national development and we will do just that. We are not irresponsible enough to allow this country to go into bankruptcy.

Our approach to funding the major portion of public debt from the domestic market is in keeping with our Debt Management Strategy, which is aimed at supporting the domestic capital market and hedging against exchange rate volatility. We see no risk of Government crowding out of the Private Sector, given the high level, of domestic savings.

The Public-Private Partnership Framework that is currently under

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development will enable us to catalyse Private Sector resources towards investment in infrastructure, thus providing relief on the Budget.

**CONSUMER-CENTRIC FINANCIAL SECTOR REFORMS**

Concerning the high fees and charges by the Financial Sector Institutions, I am happy to report that steps are being taken in this regard and progress is being made in addressing this phenomenon.

At the policy level, Government, in collaboration with the Financial Services Industry, has launched a Financial Sector Strategy which entails measures to foster financial inclusion by introducing products for low-income earners as well as improving financial knowledge of the population.

We have, among other successes, recorded the following progress:-

- Improvement in access to financial services as measured nationally through Finscope Surveys.
- A range of new products such as the Basic Bank Account facility have been introduced to cater for the needs of low-income earners.
- With regard to consumer financial education, a Financial Literacy Initiative was launched in 2012 and it has since taken its education campaign to 11 Regions of the country on various themes of financial discipline. On the Second Anniversary of this initiative on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March this year, I will have the privilege to launch the financial education campaign in Gobabis, Omaheke Region.

Through the Development Financial Institutions, Government shall continue to support the provision of increasing credit to the Private Sector.

As I indicated in the Budget Statement, measures are underway to put in place the *Financial Services Ombudsman Bill* and the *Consumer Credit Bill*.



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Together, these measures have a combined effect of promoting access to finance and banking services for the previously excluded persons.

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF BUDGET OUTCOMES**

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, with regard to the expressed need for improved implementation of the Budget, I can only agree.

As a Parliament, we can support the realisation of better Budget execution by accelerating the passage of the *Appropriation Bill* to allow more time for Budget implementation.

Honourable Speaker, in closing, I wish to once again express my unreserved appreciation for the support shown for the Budget by the Honourable Members and the public at large.

I may not have answered each and every question individually, but I have attempted to cover the main topics. My Cabinet Colleagues will provide detailed clarifications during the Committee Stage.

With these remarks Honourable Members, I appeal for your support of the *Appropriation Bill*. I thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. I now put the question that the Bill be read a Second Time. Any objections? Agreed to.

The Secretary will read the Bill a Second Time.

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**APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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**SECRETARY:** *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

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HON HAUSIKU**

**HON SPEAKER:** The Secretary will read the Second Order of the Day.

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**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE  
EXEMPLIFIED IN RECENT KILLING OF WOMEN**

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**SECRETARY:** Resumption of Debate on Gender-Based Violence Exemplified in Recent Killing of Women.

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**HON SPEAKER:** When the Debate was adjourned on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2014, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by Honourable Ulenga. Any further discussions? Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. I adjourned the Debate to today to make a very brief contribution.

Comrade Speaker, there is no doubt that this is one of the issues on which we should talk with one voice. That is definitely a given, and we have proved that we are able to talk with one voice on this issue. In our discussions, we have said almost the same thing and I apologise to say that as usual this are issues that you cannot divorce from emotions. It is natural that we have to express ourselves on these issues in such a way.

I personally have been following, not only the events and occurrence of innocent people who have become victims of Gender-Based Violence on a

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weekly basis, if not on a daily basis. However, I have also come to the realisation that the public at large and indeed by the Government should put some measures which will allow us to approach this issue in a more sober manner and not to talk about it because we are frustrated but to try and find what the root causes are to this type of violence and to make sure that the Programmes we put in place will address and resolve the issue in an immediate-, medium- and long-term.

Comrade Speaker, all the Honourable Members in this House were witness to the gathering at the Sam Nujoma Stadium last week on Thursday morning. Of course, that was the beginning of a structured programme that will address itself to this issue. Having been part of the prayer day myself and having been able to listen to so many spiritual leaders and indeed to the ordinary person on the street, I have become convinced that maybe the best way to deal with this issue from all walks of life is to jointly embark on a structure and premeditated programme that will address the issue to find a solution.

The President of the Republic of Namibia, though he did so some weeks ago, again last week Thursday, stood up and he elaborated point by point on the structured programme that he feels we should follow in order to address this issue. I thought that in my contribution I do not want to miss out on that. The other Colleagues I have personally consulted in this House and I, believe that it is important that Parliament goes on discussing issues of this nature. It is important that Members of Parliament go on expressing individual opinions on these issues. However, I also thought that as Parliament, a law-making institution of the Republic, we are supposed to realise that our contributions are structured in line with the proposal that the whole Nation has been calling upon to make sure that we address this issue through those structured programmes and strategies.

While we have been able to talk to the Public out there and ourselves here,

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the time has arrived for us to jointly take the structured programmed or strategy through our Committees, which is the way our Parliament functions. We should be able to tackle this behind closed doors and make our own contributions that will be part of the joint discussions by the entire Nation. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I am talking about one of the points which were raised by His Excellency, the President when he requested the Office of the Prime Minister to organise a National Conference on Gender-Based Violence. If we are able to prepare well-thought, joint discussion papers on these issues as a contribution from Parliament during the National Conference, it will make a better impact instead of going there expressing our frustrations as individuals. Indeed we may emerge from that conference with other members from the society giving proposals that will be able to address the problem and provide a lasting solution.

Comrade Speaker, I wanted to tell Honourable Ulenga, but I understand he is out of the country, that to be strategic and save time, we should refrain from discussing issues point-by-point behind closed doors and lay proposals to the Members of Parliament for approval stating what we have arrived at in terms of the proposal that we want to make on short, medium and long-term solutions, specifically when it comes to the National Conference on Gender-Based Violence.

Honourable Speaker, that is my small contribution and I would like to request our Committees to get to work and provide us with actual proposals and solutions for us to be able to make real contributions that will address the problem. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Bezuidenhoudt.

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HON RIRUAKO**

**HON BEZUIDENHOUDT:** Honourable Speaker, my apologies to the Right Honourable Deputy Prime Minister. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, before you conclude, do you have an indication as to when this conference would take place in order for the Committees to work along those timelines? Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Our officials have come together to prepare themselves and my understanding is that it should not go beyond May. Thank you, Comrade Speaker and that is the end of my contribution.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you, very much. Honourable Riruako.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** Honourable Speaker, we cannot play with our lives or other people's lives forever. Even God Himself never did that. Whoever thinks he is the only person who can do this without Him is just molesting himself. I am not here to refer to those unmerciful people who let people die every now and then. No mercy can be spared for people who allow this to happen – God forbid! We allow people to do what they want; they go to jail, provided with good meals and are well taken care of. The death penalty is required like in other countries. We are not here to play with other people's lives because we are democratic. You cannot run away from what is happening in this country. I am suggesting that the death penalty be recalled.

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HON RIRUAKO**

**HON SPEAKER:** Can I speak? I am also entitled to speak and when I speak you listen.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** You are expected to listen to me too, I cannot be made to sit down like a dog.

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**HON SPEAKER:** What you are expressing in words is that we must amend the Constitution, but for now there is nothing about death penalty in the Constitution if anything, but we are not empowered to debate that here. If the Committee that is going to be set up is going to come up with a proposal or anything along those lines we will deal with it, but do not advocate that here from the Floor, it is against the Constitution.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** I agree with you hundred percent but if nothing is going to happen they are going to kill one another. If nobody tells them not to, they will do as they please. No punishment will follow them if this is what is going to happen. You can have as many meeting as you can but the killing will continue. I thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Chief Ankama.

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**HON DR ANKAMA**

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I have not seen you for some time.

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**HON SPEAKER:** You have been gone for a long time.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:** Yes, it was quite a long time but I am eventually here.

Let me say a few things on the Gender-Based Violence discussion. I would term this as a mental illness because when you get closer to the people perpetrating these crimes, you will find out that they experienced problems during their upbringing and that is one of the root causes. I will, therefore, start by underscoring:

- Cultural issues and taboos that we no longer instil in the minds of our young ones. Culture plays a role; a culture will only become meaningful when one has a language. Nowadays children in our houses, including ourselves, no longer speak our mother tongue and that takes away the understanding of culture and taboos. Taboos in the real sense will be equated to the Ten Commandments; *do not do this, do not do that, this is not done*. That goes along with ethics. When you do not have ethics in your upbringing, you lack humanity because you do not think about others, you do not care much, animals and human beings are the same to you. This can be observed from the younger generation of today.
- Education which is supplementing the home education to an extent

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does not compliment the full growth of our younger generation - I am talking about social education, I know there are other subjects they want to bring in but they are not yet fully developed in terms of social interaction.

- Moral education is another aspect – with this, you would be able to supplement to what the child has learned at home. This is lacking. As such we have a lack of community involvement; many of the older generation will understand what is meant by community involvement. Back then a child used to belong to everyone in the community, as such children were not allowed to play with immoral things or do things that were unacceptable within a certain community. These things no longer happen in our modern societies.
- Media, because we live in a modern world, there are many things coming in that are pushing our beliefs out. They are coming in without checks and balances. For example, cell phones are good and convenient to use but they also have other disadvantages. We often give cell phones to children who are unable to read and write; what does this child see on this cell phone. They even know better than the parents. I know parents who lost money because they are using the same phones for banking and the child simply transfers money from the parent's account to his/her own account, including airtime but then we continue saying, *it is my child!*

A child is not a toy but a person who will grow up one day and you should not be surprised when this child turns against you in the end because this is the way you brought him/her up. We should be mindful of the way we bring up our children. It is no surprise that some parents are murdered by their own children, this is happening. Print media report about anything they can lay their



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hands on. They no longer distinguish between positive and negative as long as the news item is bringing them money. I expect the media to educate our people, including the youngsters, teaching them how to behave, to have respect and moral ethics. That is the reason we have people roaming around claiming that they do not have work - people who are physically able but when given something to do they cannot do it because they never learned to do anything during their upbringing.

Electronic media is perhaps the worst because they show everything without any discrimination. We are apparently living in a modern world which does not have any direction and a modern world that does not censor information. One cannot just embrace any culture from nowhere suppressing your own culture because the other one is more modern and then you start crying when the modern one becomes too difficult for you.

Then we have non-verbal media, which would refer to things like eating; there are people who want to go out eating because other people eat out. Other cultures love eating away from their houses even if there is food in the house and because other people go out to pubs, we also follow suit. What do these children observe when they eat out? The same with drinking; you go out and drink with your child because it is apparently fun. When the child gets drunk he/she turns against you and you start wondering what is happening; what is happening is what you have taught him/her to do. That is why when we were growing up, we were forbidden to associate with some people and you would listen to your parents because if they catch you, you will get a good hiding. Nowadays we are not allowed to beat children or you will be reported to the Police. *What Police?* Police who have a house within my house? The Police should go and arrest criminals. Culture should be maintained in our houses, if you misbehave in my house, I will discipline you and I promise, I will discipline you!

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If a child tells me he/she will report me to the Police, I will tell the Police to keep him/her in the cells (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** You are too general Chief. We are talking about Gender-Based Violence and not about children.

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**HON ANKAMA:** There are systems that cause Gender-Based Violence. What I am saying is that, should we take charge of the said systems early enough we will minimise Gender-Based Violence as early as possible. What we are doing is allowing this to happen and then they say, *let us go and pray*; praying (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Be careful! Be careful! Watch your words!

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:** It is good to pray but praying should have actions.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister.

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**HON DR ANKAMA**

**HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT:** Honourable Speaker, Sir, I am only rising on a Point of Order to try and bring us back because my understanding is, when the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister adjourned this Debate two weeks ago to today it was because he, like the rest of us, was aware of the plans that were on the offing so that we could look at how we as a Nation can deal with this phenomena, whatever spirit it is that is prevalent in our part of the world. Now that the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister has spoken, I thought that that would conclude this Debate. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** You thought otherwise. Honourable Ankama, are you done?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:** In conclusion, I would say that behavioural change is number one in any Nation. If you want to change the Nation's behaviour you need a revolution and this revolution should start by looking at our culture. You should also have tangible intervention programmes.

These culprits often go out of jail on bail and you tell them, *you have the right to be defended* while knowing very well that *this is the person who killed so-and-so*. If your child gets killed in this manner you would feel it. However, you tell the person, *you have the right to remain silent* – these people deserve to be severely punished. We have got a lot of places, we can even establish a farm where we put these people to hard labour and they will still eat our money because who is paying for food, water, electricity and for their up keeping? It is our money, it is the people's money, so we need to take these things seriously and take charge, and by

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taking charge I mean taking tangible actions that will make the next person feel that he has to think twice before he does what he has to do. I thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Former Prime Minister, Minister of Defence?

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**HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you. Taking into consideration what Comrade !Naruseb has said, I would, however, like to say one or two things which I feel very strongly about. Firstly, we must all express our gratitude to our President who, last Thursday, called this Nation to attention as a way of creating awareness about the problem we have in our society.

Having done that, I regret that some media have been trying to ridicule our President. They are saying he is calling for divine intervention and that was not really the purpose of the Prayer Day, the purpose was to raise awareness among our people about this problem. If there was going to be divine intervention, that is fine but that was not the primary purpose. The purpose was to raise awareness. When you have a problem, you have to create awareness about this problem and I think it is unfortunate that the media has been ridiculing the well-intended actions of the Head of State.

In today's Namibian someone who calls himself Professor Henning even went further to blame, by implication, the Government or those of us who are in Government, that we are the cause of this heinous crime of brutalising women and children. By implication, he is saying that we are depriving our people of the benefit of resources and we are actually

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accumulating ourselves and, therefore, create what he calls anomy in society. That is totally uncalled for.

The fact of the matter is that our Constitution does not even allow the State to take somebody's life. Our Constitution does not even allow Law Enforcement to harm people. Torture is prohibited but here we are; we are allowing individuals to take other people's lives. We are allowing individuals to harm others.

This is a serious matter and I thought as a Nation we should be united around it. We also create a problem ourselves by giving this crime stubborn respectability; sometimes we say it is a passion, what is passionate in killing? If I love you too much, do I show that love by killing you, what is this?

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Point of Order.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister behind the Minister of Defence.

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Comrade Speaker, thank you very much for the opportunity. I want to provide more information on the story of ridiculing the Government which you have mentioned.

There is something written in today's *Sun* Newspaper, if you could check,

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which says; *“Jesus and SWAPO”*. It reads; *“Not long ago, some Comrades of the Ruling Party said if Jesus was still around, He would have joined SWAPO. Well, He rose from the dead, so why not ask Comrade Jesus to come to your rescue in your hour of need regarding the Namibian Prayer Day? Do you see how dangerous it is?”*

I do not think that the person who has written this statement in the *Sun* Newspaper of today is really efficient, even newspapers should not allow these types of things to be published. This person was even created by God, by Jesus who even died for him or her.

This is the information I wanted to add to the ridiculing story, they are even ridiculing God. They have no fear at all. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Minister, continue.

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**HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you, Honourable Sioka. You are not supposed to read newspapers in Parliament. However, for the SMS you quoted, I blame the Editor of that Newspaper to have allowed that SMS to be published. It is totally irresponsible. (Interjections) well freedom of speech but everything has got its limit. If you allow freedom of speech to even ridicule the omniscient, how far can you go? That is Satanism.

I was saying that we are also giving this crime an image of respectability. Sometimes we call it passion and I am saying this is not passion, this is killing and this is a crime. Sometimes we say Gender-Based Violence; we are talking to ourselves, the people who speak English. If I say translate

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that in your own language, you will not do it because there is no word like that. Therefore, we are not talking to the people. We are talking about violence, about crime against women and children who are vulnerable. Call it as it is; do not try to put it in a respectable manner, *Gender-Based Violence*, what is that? There is nothing gender about it, it is just violence. If we want our people to understand what we are saying, let us tell them that we are talking against violence, any type of violence and violence against the vulnerable people, women, girls and children, in particular. Let us say it as it is so that our people understand what we are saying.

We now have a Programme that the Government has agreed upon to carry out, eventually culminating in the National Conference on Crime Against Vulnerable People. I want to add something to that Programme; sometimes we forget our customs. In my tradition, if you harm or if you kill somebody, you must compensate the family of that person. Yes, I understand that we are following the so called *Dutch* or something Law, Comrade Kawana can explain what it is but I think we should also borrow from our traditions. If somebody kills somebody, that somebody, besides going to prison, must compensate that family. The clan must do something, so that the clan feels the pain of the crime committed by their relative.

I would, therefore, like to suggest that we perhaps also look at our Customary Laws to see how this type of crimes were (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Shall we please dispense with private caucuses and listen to Honourable Angula? Honourable Minister, continue.

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**HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** That was my last point, that we should also look at our traditions and see how these crimes were actually dealt with by our Customary Laws.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Point of Order.

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**HON MWANINGANGE:** Honourable Minister of Defence, I want to give information that the so called Modern Law is misunderstood. Of course the crime against the State is when that crime harms and offends everybody. In a crime such as killing, the one who kills will be convicted by the Court of Law. However, that Law does not prevent the family to ask for redress or any compensation, including instituting or laying a claim against the perpetrator. I am just correcting there so that it is not understood that one cannot be punished through compensation. It is there in the Customary Court or Law. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you.

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**HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** That is fine but there is also something called double jeopardy in the *Dutch Law* so somebody can say that there is a double jeopardy. I know that in your society and my society we will do that because we fear some other things (*laughter*). Therefore, you have to go and do something to create peace. However, I told you that it is universal, I am only saying that, let us also look at our Customary



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Laws to see whether there is something we can borrow from there in order to really strengthen the public responsibility to protect life. That is all I am saying. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Simataa?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I am also taking the Floor to add a little bit of value to what my seniors have advanced and I would like to join the Minister of Defence in saying that it is very unfortunate that some of our fellow Namibians have added ridicule to a very noble initiative. Not only by the Head of State but by the collective called the Namibian Government, it is very unfortunate. Secondly, it is also unfortunate that the media too, has given a designation to a very terrible act to manhood, manhood meaning human being and that is to call it *passion killing*.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the question is, what is it that is so passionate in taking the life of a fellow Namibian, is there any passion in that? I think the word passion is an insult to the English language because it does not go hand in hand with the act being committed. It is also very unfortunate that as a society, Namibians are in perpetual denial that we have lost our moral fortitude. If we are to improve on the current situation, we need to move away from this denial to acknowledging. The moment we continue along this path these acts will continue unabated because we are in denial and have not acknowledged.

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Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, our predominantly Christian society has today, and contrary to our Constitution, apportioned to ourselves the right to terminate the lives of others, in my view, a right which is only vested in God, our Creator. From the assessment that I have done and I tend to identify myself with the comments made by the Honourable Deputy Speaker last week that gender-based or violent crimes is not a phenomenon which is only confined to Namibia. In actual fact, if you carry out your own studies and make your comparisons, the entire Southern African region is confronted by the same problem. However, by extension, looking to other parts of the world, it emerges that indeed the entire globe is consumed by these brutal acts. I do not want to comment on what the Government is doing because it has provided leadership, for those who are going to debate otherwise, those are your views but as Government we have taken leadership.

Let me come back to the operations of this House, it is not long ago, and I want to take this House through memory lane, that a similar Motion was Moved by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs in this Chamber and it was debated quite extensively but unfortunately the Debate could not be concluded. I will come back to that. In the spirit of trying to mould a reflective and learning legislative institution, I have taken the liberty to look at the Hansard, starting from the Fourth Parliament and this is what I was able to find out. Bear with me if I am going to take some time.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2006, Honourable Viljoen of MAG, I think this Party ceased to exist, tabled the Motion to discuss “*the sudden increase and ongoing criminal activities, violence and brutal killings and brutalisation of innocent and vulnerable Namibians.*” Honourable Speaker, this Motion was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security then under the able Chairmanship of Honourable Amathila and the Committee’s Report was adopted on the 15 of November 2006. Honourable Speaker, what happened to this Report?

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It is a question I am leaving with all of us.

Still during the Fourth Parliament, in March 2009, my dear sister and Colleague here, Honourable Kavetuna tabled a Motion “*to deliberate on the negative impact of Gender-Based Violence in our society, the effectiveness of policies and programmes of various stakeholders dealing with gender promotion on issues related to Gender-Based Violence*”. Honourable Kavetuna’s Motion submission was that “*despite the Laws and Programmes put in place by the Line Ministry and Civil Organisations, men and women in our country are still suffering in different ways*”.

Honourable Speaker, I hasten to submit that till this day my dear sister’s submission still reverberates in our minds. In July 2009, Honourable Kavetuna’s Motion was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resources again. Regrettably, I will come back to what the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister proposed. By the end of the Fourth Parliament on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2010, nothing was heard of this Motion, nor was a Report submitted by the relevant Standing Committee. I am doing this admitting that I may have missed a detail or two from the record.

The Fifth Parliament; the current one of which yours truly is a privileged Member, on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of July 2013, Honourable Iivula-Ithana tabled a Motion on “*the prevalent Gender-Based Violence against women and children in Namibia.*” Like I said earlier, this Motion elicited substantive Debate, but unfortunately it lapsed in terms of Rule 24(b) of the Standing Rules and Orders on 11 July 2013, when the Assembly went into recess.

Honourable Speaker, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2014, Honourable Ulenga tabled more or less a similar Motion. In addition to that, several studies have been conducted by the Line Ministries and other stakeholders on

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similar or other related issues. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, this illustrates that we seem to have become a Nation or an Institution, in terms of Parliament, which is galvanised into action only in the aftermath of brutal killings but weeks thereafter we slump into a coma of inaction, only to re-emerge after another spate of violent crimes.

Honourable Speaker, this is where I have a problem, therefore, I am submitting that such *modus operandi* is costly because we run the risk of leading and legislating for a Nation where violent crimes become the order of the day and where our indecisiveness will catch up with us one day. I am not praying that that day should be today.

Honourable Speaker I, therefore, submit that we have deliberated enough on such Motions in this Chamber and I also believe that if we check with the National Council, I am sure they too will have that record that at one stage or another they might have deliberated on this Motion. I believe that we have generated sufficient body of knowledge through various researches undertaken on this and many other related matters. Therefore, there is no need to delve into another frenzy of Debate. The time has come for us to dust off the Hansard, in as far as this Parliament is concerned. Indeed the time has come for us to take stock of the wealth of information that we have generated through various studies on this issue. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members for once, take decisive action by supporting the bouquet of measures that the Head of State has advanced a week ago and repeated last week.

I want to conclude by suggesting again, in addition to what the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister advanced, that we should establish a team drawn from various stakeholders, i.e. Government, Civil Societies, Religious Institutions, Academic Institutions, Traditional Leaders and task such a team to decipher, through the research done, Debates and Discussions held so far in this Chamber, in the National Council and in

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any other fora, and develop a comprehensive document that we can use as a discussion document in the intended National Conference still to be organised.

Honourable Speaker, this is the angle from which I wanted to approach this Motion because this continuous Debate after Debate (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Justice.

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**HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I am sorry to disrupt my Honourable brother here, he has been doing extremely well and I am in total agreement with him, except one thing.

The other speakers mentioned here that awareness raising is also very important in this whole issue of Gender-Based Violence because what we debate here becomes an issue of regulating the conduct of two or more people within their private domains.

How does one regulate such conduct that leads to violence and killing? That is the difficulty and that is why we say, let us ask for the divine spirit to intervene, let us tighten the Laws, let us look at our cultures and so many other things.

However, I think it boils down to the issue of, how does one regulate that relationship, the conduct between two or more individuals? That is my question, Honourable Member. Thank you.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Minister of Justice, we are in agreement, it is very difficult because these are crimes that (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Point of Order.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** Honourable Speaker, it is good to talk but talking is over. What we want is for you to allow us to beat our children. I beat my children until today, if the Police want to come, let them come. If you, as parents, want them to do what they want to do without punishing them then that is the result you get today. How do you feel about that now?

We beat our children in order to discipline them. I pity the late Dino Amaambo who died because of anger. He beat his own children.

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**HON SPEAKER:** What is the Point of Order?

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**HON RIRUAKO:** That is the Point of Order. He was tried in Court that is why he died and we cannot limit that. Allow us to beat and discipline our children. If you do not want to hang them, allow us to beat and discipline them. We are here to say that and the Honourable Speaker is not happy about that.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, it does not have anything to do with the Point of Order you want to make, you just want to say something. Can you allow the Honourable Member to conclude?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Honourable Speaker, before I conclude, I want to concur with the Honourable Minister of Justice by admitting that it is very difficult for us to legislate for crimes that are committed in our private bedrooms.

It is very difficult for the Honourable Minister of Safety and Security to force Police personnel into our bedrooms, it is impossible. There is no country that succeeded in that – I really agree with you.

Honourable Speaker, however, the point that I wanted to make at the end of the day is that inasmuch as I do not want to discourage us from debating, my principle is that whenever we debate, at the end of our Debate, something valuable and tangible must come out to assist us to arrest the situation we are confronted with.

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**HON SPEAKER:** If you want to wrap up, can you wrap up now so that we can continue?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Honourable Speaker, I think I made my point and I hope it has been appreciated.

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At the end of this Debate, as the Chamber, let us not delve into another Debate but rather go back to our records and see how we can use that. Thank you very much.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you, we will take it from there. Honourable Kaura.

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**HON KAURA:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would like to ask a few questions to us all.

Some of us are hunters and when you go hunting for a Kudu, a Sprinkbok or an Eland, you just go out there happily, feeling nothing. However, you are extremely careful if you go out to hunt for a buffalo, a leopard or a lion. What is the reason why you are not afraid when you have to hunt for a Kudu, a Sprinkbok or an Eland? It is because you know they will never fight back but a buffalo, a leopard or a lion might fight back and your life will be on the line. Therefore, you are very careful. When your life is not on a line, you can do anything or as you please; you can kill a lizard, but you will think twice before killing a black mamba.

Honourable Speaker, we have a very beautiful Constitution and the majority of us here are the architects of that Constitution. About a week ago I read about our Founding Father, I believe out of frustration because of this Gender-Based Violence, said '*bury them alive.*' This is really out of frustration because we do not know what to do with this Gender-Based Violence.

Honourable Speaker, in America, for example, when the Police say, lift up



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your hands you must make sure that you lift them up because if you drop them, you are dead because he may think that you are trying to pull out a weapon. Therefore, if the Police ask you to lift up your hands, you lift them up and keep them there otherwise you will pay with your own life. You will not joke with the American Police because your life is on the line. If a person's life is not on the line, he can do anything he feels like doing.

My son who is named after my grandfather, Kaura, was attending school at Namibia English Primary School when he was 12 years old. One day I received a letter from the principal, Ms Alveria, asking me to go to the school. When I got there, I was told that my son did not listen in class and I asked them to call him over and I asked him, "*do you not listen to your teacher?*" He said, "*yes*". I looked around and I saw a ruler there on the principal's table, I picked it up and broke it on his back. He ran behind Ms Alveria and she said; "*Oh, Mr Kaura it is enough!*" I said, "*This is the problem; because of the lack of corporal punishment these children do as they please. Kaura, if I ever receive a letter from this school again, I will do it at home where Ms Alveria will not stop me.*" That was the end of the story, from there he went to Jan Mohr then UNAM and he is now a mining engineer, planning to buy a farm next to Honourable Nujoma's farm in the North because I broke that ruler on his back. (Intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Let Honourable Kaura make his point, he has not made his point yet. Do not argue with me, please sit down.

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**HON KAURA:** Honourable Speaker, because there is no corporal punishment in school, the children are now the ones meting out corporal

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punishment against others. In 1956, at the age of 15, at the Waterberg Primary School, we heard about a white person who killed a fellow white person in Windhoek and he was hanged and this news spread like wild fire all over the country, because I was so young it stuck in my mind up to now, and I am 73 years old now, that when you kill someone, you pay with your own life.

In 1989, just before Independence another white man killed a woman on the road to Otjiwarongo and that was the last death penalty in Namibia and it still stuck in our minds.

A few years ago, eight people were killed near Rehoboth at Kareeboomvloer and I read that the two people who were convicted for these murders have been sentenced to eighty-five years in prison. I have already forgotten about it, and I think it took place in 2005 or so. It took so long for this punishment to be meted out.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy.

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**HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY:** Honourable Speaker, may I ask Honourable Kaura a question?

Honourable Kaura, I think that the times might have changed. If one listens to what you are driving at, is that you only become scared if you pay with your life. What is happening nowadays is that a person will kill another person and then kills him/herself. If you want to mete out a punishment of *pay-with-your-life* that person has already committed a crime and then killed himself. What would the death sentence then mean

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to such an incident?

**HON KAURA:** That person sentenced him/herself! He/She realised that he/she committed a heinous crime and because his/her conscience cannot take it, he/she kills him/herself.

Honourable Minister, I was shocked to hear people joking about this – there is a joke about two people who were in a relationship and promised each other that *‘till death do us part!’* After a while the young lady did not want to continue with the relationship, so the guy killed her. Now the joke is that they promised each other *‘till death do us part’* that is why he ended up killing her. How can people joke about a serious matter like this one?

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**HON RIRUAKO:** Point of Order!

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Member, please stick to your Point of Order.

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**HON RIRUAKO:** Honourable Kaura, do you know what happened to that nephew of mine and what he used to do at school? I used to beat him in front of everyone. He never repeated the offence after the beatings. And whenever he tries that again, I tell him that *my sjambok is not yet tired* and I disciplined him to the extent that he is very grateful today.

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**HON KAURA:** Honourable Speaker, when a crime like this is committed, the perpetrator must be sentenced within a week or two, maybe people would then still have fresh memories of what happened instead of a sentence that takes place after 5 or 10 years because people would already have forgotten what happened. It will not be a deterrent to a person who wants to commit a similar crime. However, if the person knows that if he commits a crime of this nature, he will be sentenced to 85 years in prison, he will maybe think twice. The way it is now, by the time the person is sentenced it has already evaporated from the memories of people. I wonder if the Honourable Minister of Justice can find a way that whenever this type of murder is committed, judgement is delivered as quickly as possible while the case is still fresh in the mind of the people, instead of taking 5 or 10 years before that person is punished.

Honourable Speaker, I do not really know what the possible deterrent could be, except if judgement is maybe delivered as quickly as possible after the commission of the crime. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister is listening to us and he told us that there is a thinking, strongly so, that out of this exercise something would come about and we are invited to contribute to that outcome. Honourable Maamberua.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I rise in the context of the information that was provided to us by the Honourable Deputy Minister of Information and Communication Technology, Comrade Simataa, to support the proposal of the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister to refer this matter to a Standing Committee.

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I support the proposal of the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister that referred the matter to a Standing Committee in order to explore and structure the strategy and come up with a position paper. Therefore, with the permission of the Honourable Prime Minister I wish (intervention).

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**HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:**

Thank you, Honopurable Speaker. May I please pose a question to Honourable Maamberua?

Yes, the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister was very articulate to convey the position of the Executive Branch of the Namibian State, in view of what Honourable Simataa has said, which I also agreed with, would you agree with me, if we slightly amend the proposition of sending it to the Standing Committee in this way; *the Executive Branch of the Namibian State has also decided that in May, a National Conference will be called where various individual institutions will be represented*, would you agree that maybe for the Legislative Branch of the Namibian State, now that we are debating this issue, that if we are to select amongst us, and I think this is what he was aiming at, whether it is a Committee or just individuals, compose an *ad hoc* Committee which will then formulate the position of Parliament so that when we go to the National Conference that we at least have a core position as the Legislative Branch of the Namibian State? Instead of just sending it to the Committee and it forgets about it. However, if we are to send it to the Committee, that Committee should be tasked to work during April and before the Conference starts, that Committee brings back that position here so that when we go to the Conference, at least, maybe through the Speaker, we have a position as the Legislature. Would you agree with such an idea?

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Maamberua.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you very much. I am not sure how you accessed the Maamberua notes because we are exactly saying the same thing, if you can just wait for me to complete what I want to say. I am saying exactly the same thing that you are saying.

What I was trying to say is, in order for the Standing Committee, because it has to be structured, it cannot just be given to all of us to do it, to explore and structure the strategy and come up with a position paper for Parliament, I wish to supplement the proposal of the Deputy Prime Minister so that we call a Special Session of Parliament in order to consider that position paper once it is done after they have consulted with experts and so on, as was proposed by Honourable Simataa, so that we discuss that position paper, that is, the position of Parliament. I propose that such Session takes place in the middle of April before the Conference takes place in May. We are, therefore, in agreement. I so submit. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Ndjoze-Ojo.

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**HON DR NDJOZE-ODJO:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. In African culture we have learned that when the elders have spoken, because they speak out of the depth of their knowledge, we should not as young people speak afterwards.

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I was very privileged to have been at the National Day of Prayers and the song that was being sung that moved us out of our seats and shifted us, is a word in an ancient book of knowledge, especially when leaders are put in a position of power, if you tap on the Holy Bible like Solomon when he was a leader, he was asked what is it you want me to do? Because David was a great man after God's own Heart; *what do you want me to give you?* He said, *Give me wisdom to govern.* In the calling of the President, I saw the wisdom to govern. We are not going to be afraid to be ridiculed when we practice what we believe.

Constitutionally, we are a circular State and very often I have heard people talk about Namibia being a circular State as if it is a religionless Nation. All it means is that minority religion shall not be oppressed but the majority in a Democratic Namibia will have the right to practice their religion without fear or favour. The Day of Prayer had proven that we are a Christian Nation because in the word of Chronicles 07:14, when it is said; *if my people, who are called by my Name, shall humble themselves and pray, it is a sense of humility, I shall hear their prayers, and especially, if they turn away from their wicked ways, so there is also a condition, then I will forgive their sins and heal their land.*

I believe that when we go together as a Nation for the first time to pray, we have gotten divine intervention, so what if we have gotten divine intervention? Every Nation has the right to call on their God to intervene in a divine way and we welcome that. We also acknowledge the President's call as a man of wisdom who listens to God, so what is wrong with that? Therefore, I do not think as a Nation we should be afraid to be ridiculed. We should stand by what we believe and we should practice what we believe.

Now that we have deliberated, especially after the Deputy Prime Minister who is also the acting Prime Minister and the coordinator of the

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Government has spoken, I would rather want, in concurrence with the people who have spoken before me, to concur with the elderly and the coordinator of the Government who has spoken, we can only give him additional ideas to to enhance his proposal. We can deliberate and do the right way through this Legislature, and also with the input that had come from the Floor that the Judiciary will take into cognisance some of the inputs on how we cannot delay justice so that justice delayed becomes justice denied.

We will work together as the three Arms of the Government because the Executive has spoken through the President, we have deliberated as the Legislature and the Judiciary is sensitised through the Minister of Justice. That will come with a very concrete way. The Laws have been deliberated, we have dusted the things that we have done in the past since 2006 off the shelves and even recently in June when I met the proposal on the ground. Let us, therefore, just go back to work and let us as the Legislature, with the support of Honourable Minister Mutorwa, get to work, to execute what our State has decided to execute and I thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Nambahu?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. I also want to just add two or three points to the discussion but first and foremost, I would like to concur wholeheartedly with the observations made by Comrade Simataa here that sometimes it really becomes a problem when you deliberate on something time and again and nothing concrete seem to be coming out of it. That should probably pose a question to all of us; where does the problem lies as far as



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implementation is concerned?

In my last contribution in this Chamber last week I was saying, as a Nation we should not be looking to the amount of Legislations that we pass in this House, for example, it is not about quantity, it is about quality, implementation and about impact.

Sometimes, we in Offices, Ministries and Agencies (OMAs) seem to feel that we are being evaluated by the amount of Legislations or Bills that we bring to this House and we get them passed and look forward to the next. I do not think that is how it should be. The same thing I asked when I joined this Parliament is, what is the status of the Reports when they are passed here with their recommendations? I do not know whether my Namlish conveys what I am intending to convey. These recommendations in the Reports are bound and several of them are there, but what status do they have in terms of implementation, if at all they reach the table of the Accounting Officer? Do they mean anything, are our Accounting Officers obliged to respect and even give feedback to this Honourable House on the recommendations of the Reports that we pass here? I think this is an area where we should really apply our minds.

Last week, when I was commenting the approach taken by Honourable Minister Kuugongelwa-Amadhila that there must be monitoring and evaluating mechanisms and I was saying it is not just in the Ministry but it must be across the board. Sometimes we do not question the systems that we have put in place; and I will continue saying that until I get out of this House.

As long as we have created a Committee and that Committee is done, we should look for the next one. Whether that mechanism is working, whether it needs updating or enrichment, we sometimes do not do that and that is the culture in the country. Honourable Ankama here, can bear me

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out, we did sit under the leadership of the Late Comrade Abraham Iyambo in the Think Tank of the SWAPO Party, that is why Comrade Katali used to call me “*Moral Decay*” because that is the topic I was given to research on.

We used to make presentations to my Honourable former Secretary-General and the Deputy at the time, on these issues. We also made a presentation at the Press Conference and it was just an abridge kind of version. These things are bound, we have a lot of research into these things but where does it go wrong?

It is now really for us to look whether we have the mechanisms in the Offices Ministries and Agencies to implement the Laws that we pass because to us as lawyers there is no crime in the book described as Gender-Based Violence and it is sometimes a language problem. You cannot equate butchery to violence; if I slap him like this it will end up that I am violent towards him but it is not the same degree of violence. Because it is English, we are now minimising the effect to make it more acceptable, *passionate*. You can say that *he did put up a passionate defence of his client, that man talks passionately* and now that word is passed on, it is *passion killing*.

Sometimes I can really attribute the choice of words to the media. They are the opinion makers. I was listening this afternoon to the Oshiwambo radio, if you could listen how they have translated the news; it was the same five hundred thousand children from Syria who are affected by violence most have lost their *limbs* and so on. But how it was passed on to Oshiwambo, it was said that these children were affected by the war and have lost their *ribs* and there was no apology, no, it was not correct and it went on and like that. I was now wondering; what did this person understand? All these kids had only their ribs missing. Our own journalists and media have to sometimes train their people in order to

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convey proper messages.

Talking of roles; the role of the media, I spoke about that, the role of the violent games; Colleagues I was in other countries and they do not play these games where you kill continuously and we should not complain if our people imitate what we are cultivating.

Sometimes it is really a problem, you have seen, for example, in the US, these guns that are pink to attract five year olds. Yes, there is a gun for a five year old and it must be put in a colour that is attractive to that kind of age and we now copy this. When we live the rehearsal of this kind of cultivation of a culture of violence, we now have these kinds of things.

It is, therefore, very important for us to, if it is rape, say it is rape and not Gender-Based Violence. We should be able to pinch it down to lawyers for a specific Legislation. If it is the combating of rape, it goes there. If it is killing or butchering of people it goes there, do not embellish it. Therefore, we should really go back and look at these things seriously. I am only saying, we are not saying anything new here Colleagues, all these things have been documented all that is lacking is implementation and we should question the systems, whether they have the systems in place and it is the systems that have problems. If we are not ready, we will continue to lead these kinds of problems. We are stuck between money, we have to advertise violence, it is where the revenue comes from and this is now the effect, we will now have to leave with the contradictions of the capitalists and market forces. You cannot choose socialists consequences and the benefits of capitalism, you one day have to make a choice, otherwise this is how you have to live and even those that have not been colonised by these kinds of market forces, you have to come up with your own. Since you are the owner of your destiny, you can change things and definitely you will be able to have a better society if you so decide. I rest my case, Honourable Speaker. Thank you.

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**

Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

Comrade Speaker, honestly speaking I did not intend to take part in this Debate because I thought that I have said my say before and probably not once, maybe not twice but more than that. However, since I did not get the opportunity to say what I wanted to say in brief, and now I am given this opportunity to say my say, let it be that way.

Comrade Speaker, maybe I have aged so much, to such an extent that my own makeup and the way I was made and groomed to be who I am today, is completely different from what I am seeing around myself and I get so frightened about the future. I am so frightened that many in our families no longer live for values. There are no values that we keep as a society. It is democracy that has become so omnipotent such that everything is now coined under democracy and you ask yourself, do we understand what we are talking about? Children in homes do not listen to anybody any longer; not the father or the mother and not even an elder in the family because they live in democracy. Children in schools do not listen to the teachers; they do not listen to the principal or to anybody because it is democracy. They have become untouchable, when you touch them; they report you to the Police and this is democracy.

Comrade Speaker, democracy has taken us so far that the amount of babies being produced by other children in our society is so frightening. And you ask yourself, what type of adults are going to grow out these children born by other children and who gives them the ropes of life, when many of them are dumped with old people who have no energy neither the

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courage to discipline these unruly children?

However, we seem to be glorifying what is happening. We even have a policy that allows children who become pregnant in school to continue; *let them just go home, deliver and then they can join the school the following day*. It has now become fashionable. If you find a secondary school in this country where there is no record of teenage pregnancies, I will reward you. It is so fashionable that girls are now throwing baby shower for other who are pregnant.

In exile, I was in charge of the SWAPO Party Women Council and there was a policy that if you become pregnant, you have 3 years to look after your child and until your child is able to go to the toilet by himself/herself, so that this student can be send to Ndalatando to be looked after by Honourable Libertina Amathila. That child must be able to speak, go to the toilet and be able to wash his/her face. That was the only time the mother could be released from her responsibilities. However, we are today saying, *she can deliver today and join her education tomorrow because she must catch up*. We do not even think about this child and here we are talking about the interest of the child. Where is the interest of the child here? The child needs the mother.

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**HON MEMBER:** And the father also!

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:** The father yes, but I am not talking about the father now, the child needs to be breastfed, needs to be fed, looked after and washed. We are allowing these kids to make babies and dump them.

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Comrade Speaker, you provoked me because I did not want to take the Floor. When we returned from exile, we found a lot of young boys called street children, they used to be somewhere here near Kalahari Sands Hotel until Dr Libertina Amathila started a soup kitchen to cater for them and some of them went back to school. They were also in Rundu, this phenomenon was common at these two places. These boys were between the age of seven and eleven and that was 24 years ago. And today, I want to know, where are these people who grew up on our streets? Are they boyfriends, husbands, back to the homes of whomever they run away from, do they have their own homes? Where are they?

Honourable Comrades, if you sit down, look at what is happening in this society and do not get frightened like I am, then we are not seeing the same thing. We are allowing the decay to continue, I do not know whether it is the inability because of the Constitution, and I will continue to fight whoever is hiding behind the Constitution. I do not want to be frightened into submission because of the Constitution. We are attributing so much of the ills to the Constitution, it is not true, the Constitution did not prevent us from disciplining our own children. Educational Institutions are not there to discipline our children on our behalf. As parents we have our own responsibilities to discipline our children. We leave everything to education but when education says, *as institutions we are not allowed to employ corporal punishment*, (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Deputy Minister.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would like to pose a question to the

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Honourable Member.

Honourable Member, I think you are doing very well; you are talking about the Constitution and corporal punishment. As the former Minister of Justice, corporal punishment is of course not allowed but when it comes to our Common Law (interjection), can I just talk Comrade, I know what I am talking about. When it comes to Common Law, there is what we call parental authority which allows a parent to apply punishment to the child as long as it is moderate and reasonable. And one can use that as a defence, even if you are arrested and go to Court. It is a defence.

Honourable Member, I think I heard people talking about the Constitution, but that specific Clause of the Common Law is not in conflict with Article 8, it is clear that you have the responsibility to bring up a child. Punishment does not only entail beating, there are also other forms of punishment that one can apply as a parent. Giving a child a hiding is not beating because you are in fact disciplining the child. There is, therefore, a distinction, Honourable Member.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Continue, Honourable Minister.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**  
Yes, Comrade Speaker.

I was not even talking about the Common Law principle that my learned Colleague is articulating there, I am talking about the Constitution itself. I want somebody to give an Article in the Constitution where it is written that parental responsibility is outlawed. The Constitution talks about

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administrative institutions, that is what is addressed by the Constitution. Your responsibility as the parent remains as it is. Maybe it is a lack of understanding too because the Constitution is in English but now it is translated in other languages. We are not doing our part as parents in our society. And let me also point out that fact, we are allowing this society to (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Kaura.

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**HON KAURA:** May I please ask the Honourable Minister a question?

Honourable Minister, is it perhaps the way it is understood? Because parental guidance is still there and you can punish your child, however, right now it is interpreted that if a parent disciplines a child, that child can go and report you to the Police.

This is how it is understood right now and parents are afraid to punish their children because they are afraid they will be reported to the Police.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister, continue.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**

Comrade Speaker, we have allowed our children to rule over us that is why they have usurp the powers of their parents to an extent of even



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laying charges against them. I cannot have a child who takes me to the Police Station, that child know right from the beginning that, he goes to the Police Station and that becomes his or her house because the house where he or she lives is my house. I am not sharing it with him/her but I am just accommodating this offspring of mine and, therefore, my rules in my house have to be obeyed. However, this is what many parents abrogated, they leave it to the children to do as they wish because they claim, *our democracy, our freedom*. We have extended the same freedom to our prisons.

Comrade Speaker, our prisons are now universities. Those who have dropped out are telling themselves that *do not worry, you just do something then you go to prison. You will have an opportunity to study*. Apparently they cannot study at the village because there is no electricity and facilities, while in prison one can study and complete your degree. And true to that, do you remember the story of Ipula?

Ipula was killed by her boyfriend, not long ago while pregnant with twins. Her murderer obtained a degree in prison and he is about to be released on parole as a lawyer. Just think of it, he has apparently spent 10 years in prison and on good behaviour he is now up for parole. Think about Ipula, think about the twins she died with, think about her relatives and think about this society. *Vakwetu*, that prison there, Comrade Ngatjizeko (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Kavetuna.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE,  
SPORT AND CULTURE:** Sorry for taking the Floor but I just wanted

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to ask if the Honourable Minister is aware that after that person committed murder by taking someone else's life, he is entitled to legal aid while others are struggling to get lawyers to defend their cases in Courts.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**

Comrade, I just get frightened when I look around myself because the rights of the offenders have overridden all the rights of the innocent people in this country. Where are we going? When the President and everybody else went on their knees, it was not by mistake, it was not a knee-jerk action as others want to term it. This Nation is sick! If the Conference Comrade Deputy Prime Minister mentioned is not going to recommend that we overhaul this system, honestly speaking, the next generation is going to inherit a wreck of a State. (intervention)

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Uutoni.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY:** Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

Comrade Iivula-Ithana mentioned Ipula was killed while carrying twins and her murderer is about to graduate, according to her. What I want to find out is; we have a Programme of Rehabilitation in prison, are you saying this Programme is not relevant, Comrade Minister?

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**

Comrade Speaker, I am not responsible for safety and security and I do not operate from the prisons but what I am talking about is what is being shared in this community. If you did not hear about it, it is very unfortunate but I shared this with Comrade Ngatjizeko here last week or the week before.

The people are in shock; they come to some of us and whisper what they are hearing out of fear. They are frightened to hear that those kinds of people are about to be released.

Now to ask me about your rehabilitation, that is not for me to answer because I am just relating what I am hearing.

Comrade Speaker, I wholeheartedly support the proposal by Honourable Simataa, which is also supported by other Members, to compliment the efforts towards the holding of a National Conference on this issue. We have said enough and the Public is talking, if we are not opening our ears to listen then we are probably missing the point. None of us has a solution but if we put our heads together and look at what is happening as a danger to this society instead of justifying here and there when we are either attacked or disadvantaged (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister Herunga.

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**HON MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM:**

Honourable Speaker, I am sorry to disrupt the Honourable Minister. Comrade Minister, since we have choices in life, do you think it is better

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for us as a Nation to choose the rehabilitation of our offenders to become good citizens of this country upon their release and to encourage the would-be offenders to do likewise and go back to their hotels and universities or should we make sure that they must tell the Nation upon their release that going to prison is hell on earth, so that the would-be perpetrators will refuse to commit crimes of this nature. Thank you.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:** I was concluding, but my young brother there posed a question, therefore, I will try and respond to it.

When we sentence criminals to a minimum sentence, we are all recalling the case of Ipula because it is just like yesterday. Not long ago, someone took another person's life and people are already talking about him going on parole. What does this tell the Nation? What does it tell the would-be criminals? *I can kill her, go to prison, improve my qualifications and I will be out the next year.* We seem to be encouraging the continuation of this syndrome.

We need to critically diagnose the problems and address them with the seriousness they deserve. This would send a message to the would-be offenders and deprive them of the freedom by tightening the screws. Such criminals when sentenced must be kept somewhere far away where visitation will even be complicated. This place must be well known in the society that when you commit a crime of this nature you will be sent to *St Helena* and your relatives will not even have the benefit of visiting you. We must convey messages that will warn our people to either behave or end up elsewhere.

Honourable Kaura was talking about the Police situation in America and it

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is true. It is not because God loves some of us so much that he prevents us from going to prison, it is because we live the normal way of life. We are afraid of prison, we do not like it! If it has become a luxury that every young person is now looking forward to go there because they eat eggs in the morning for breakfast, fish for lunch, cookies at tea-break and fried chicken for supper as well as have access to television which they cannot afford in their own houses.

Honourable Speaker, I support the hosting of the National Conference and I support the idea of this Parliament to compile our position based on our discussions here before, as well as to extrapolate all those issues that we have argued and make our contribution, research has already been done. Comrade Speaker, that was my small contribution because you invited me. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Nghidinwa.

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**HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like to request the House to adjourn this Debate until tomorrow, if possible, so that I can brief the Honourable Members on how the Line Ministry is dealing with the implementation of the Gender-Based Violence Action Plan which was launched by the President in 2012 and which will also assist the proposed Committee on how we are going to deal with Gender-Based Violence. Thank you.

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**HON KAAPANDA**

**HON SPEAKER:** Whether you speak or not, you should assume the responsibility to want to contribute. Honourable Kaapanda.

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**HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**TECHNOLOGY:** Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I could not agree more with my senior Minister of Home Affairs who said that moral decay in our country has reached a boiling point.

Honourable Speaker, so much has been said which appear to be putting the blame on the youth. There is a tendency in any generation to glorify their past; *the children of today are so bad and are so ill-disciplined but when we were young we were so good and so disciplined*, which is not correct. A child is shaped by his/her own parents and if the children of today are so bad what about their parents? We should not say all children are bad, there are children who are disciplined, obedient and law-abiding citizens and this is not through divine intervention, some children are good because their parents shaped them as such. The parents contributed to the good behaviour of their children that are so admirable.

It is a matter of fact that nowadays some parents are no longer bringing up their children as they ought to. Some parents have abdicated their responsibilities and are spending hours on end at cuca shops. They do not spend time with their children at home, telling them stories that can help them to grow up into responsible citizens.

As parents, we need to go back to the basics in order to bring up our children in the best possible way so that they can become law-abiding citizens. I think that we also need to look at the role of the parents that needs to be strengthened in terms of parental control. A bad child is a

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reflection of (intervention).

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**HON SPEAKER:** I am getting lost. Is it an issue that some parents sitting here as Honourable Members have zeroed the issue down to children and parents or is it the larger issue mentioned by the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister? Why are you talking about parents and children?

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**HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**TECHNOLOGY:** Honourable Speaker, I just want to remind ourselves that while we are experiencing indiscipline among the youth, we must also look at the role of the parents.

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**HON SPEAKER:** We are talking about grownup people who are killing one another not about how to raise children. Honourable Minister, this whole discussion is about grownups, our types, killing one another. You have the Floor, Honourable Minister.

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**HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**TECHNOLOGY:** Honourable Speaker, I feel like reminding ourselves that there is a degree of parents not performing their responsibilities by taking care of their children in the best possible way. Children, therefore, need parents in order to shape, caution, educate and encourage them to do the right thing. Children are our future, therefore, we must invest in our children (intervention).

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**ADJOURNMENT  
HON DR GURIRAB**

**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister, unfortunately you failed to make your point. The House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 14:30.

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**HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 17:50 UNTIL 2014.03.12 AT 14:30**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
WINDHOEK  
12 MARCH 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

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**HON SPEAKER**: Today is the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2014 and we start the Business of the House as scheduled.

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance.

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**TABLING: REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL**

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**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE**: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table, a Report of the Auditor-General on the account of the:-

Town Council of Helao Nafidi for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013.  
I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER**: Please table the Report, Honourable Minister.  
Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

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**TABLING: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY**

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**TABLING OF REPORTS**  
**HON MUTORWA / HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

**HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker I lay upon the Table the Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry for the year 2012/2013, for information and reference of the Honourable Members.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Can the Honourable Minister please table the Report. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs.

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**TABLING: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTRY  
OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION**

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I lay upon the Table, the Annual Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration for the year 2012/2013. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister please table the Report. Notice of Motions? Dr Amweelo.

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**NOTICE ON MOTIONS**

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**HON DR AMWEELO:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 1, 2, 4 and 30 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

interrupted if still under consideration 17:45. I so Move, Comrade Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Member please table the Motion. Ministerial Statements. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**  
Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, it is my distinct honour and pleasure to inform this Honourable House about one of the milestones the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration has reached.

Honorable Speaker, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration has been constantly investigating new and innovative ways of improving the delivery of the various services that we render to the public in accordance with our mandate which entails among others; issuance of Passports, Identity Cards, Visas, Permits, Birth and Death Certificates, etcetera.

According to the latest available statistics on mobile phone penetration and usage in Namibia, at least 8 out of 10 people have access to a mobile phone. The mobile phone in a very short period of time has no doubt become by far the most widely used tool and direct form of communication for many Namibians.

Following a successful trial period or pilot project, the Ministry is now in a position to announce the introduction of a mobile-based customer service in the form of Short Messaging Services (SMS).

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

The new SMS-based enquiry Service works as follows:

- a) For the applicant for passports; they simply sends an SMS to the Ministry's dedicated short code 10001, with the word PA, followed by the reference number on the payment receipt, for example, PA1236579;
- b) The system confirms the latest status of the specific application relating to the reference number and sends the applicable response to applicant, whether the application has been processed for collection or it is not yet ready.
- c) The possible responsible stages which indicate the status of an application according to our system will be:
  - 1) Captured; or
  - 2) Processed, Approved and Ready for Collection.

Due to the centralized nature of the current system, all passport applications are processed at the Head Office in Windhoek. This means all those applications for passport submitted at regional offices, generally take at least two weeks before they are send to the Head Office for recording and further processing. As a result of this time delay these applications can be queried within four weeks after submission, unless alternative arrangements have been put in place, such as emergency.

Honorable Speaker, Honourable Members, I am delighted to inform this Honorable House that through the introduction of the SMS enquiry service, applicants for passports are now able to query the actual status of their applications directly, in their own comfort zones, using their mobile phones.

The Ministry is, however, at an advanced stage to integrate other systems to enquiry services for example, ID and Visas/Permits system. While the ID system is already in place, the Visa/Permit system is planned to be launched next month, that is April.

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

It is in consideration of this reality that the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration has decided to launch an SMS enquiry service for Passport applications, as part of our customer service offering to the public.

This means that applicants for passport no longer need to take the time and effort to visit or call our offices to simply enquire about the status of their applications.

The introduction of this service, not only aims to improve our service to the public by making it convenient for the public, but also reduces the pressure on our staff and resources and eliminate the third parties that have been extorting the public and allows us to better serve the public.

Phone calls and congestion of our phone system and in our offices, for example, will be greatly reduced and this will give us more space and time to provide improved and quality service to the public.

The Ministry is furthermore in the process of integrating the passport system with the regional offices, to ensure that information is recorded and become available upon submission of the applications at the point of contact. It is also worth informing the public that the Ministry is in the process of providing online ID enquiry via the internet, to enable the public to receive the status of their ID applications.

The Ministry is currently in the process of looking into possibilities of extending this initiative across other services as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance public service delivery in our mandated areas and we will come back to inform you on these at an appropriate time in the near future.

It is our belief that the deployment of SMS-based communication and information dissemination can greatly enhance the service delivery to the public and assist the Ministry address operational efficiency, cost-effectiveness and generally, improve customer service. With this, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I thank you for your attention.

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON MAAMBERUA**

**HON SPEAKER:**    Thank you, Honourable Minister.    Honourable Maamberua.

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS  
TO THE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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**HON MAAMBERUA:**    Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I am pleased to note with satisfaction the information that we received from the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs.

It is really long overdue that such a system should have been put in place and, therefore, we can only express our full satisfaction that progress has been made, particularly when it is addressing issues of customer care services. However, I wish to just ask one or two questions for clarification:

1. What is the percentage of the number of eligible Namibians who do not yet have IDs?
2. What progress has been made with regard to the issuing of death certificate, is the system operating at 100% now, or are you still having some hiccups with issuing death certificates? Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:**    Honourable Minister, two questions?

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS  
ON MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON  
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would really like to thank Honourable Maamberua for his statement and questions.

The first question relating to the percentage of Namibians who are supposed to have ID cards; this is a complex question because every year we have young ones who turn 18 and, therefore, need to get ID Cards. This is one of the issues we try to address yearly by even dispatching mobile teams to register those young ones and at the same also capture those Namibians who, for whatever reason, were not able to obtain ID Cards.

There are those residents in Namibia who for whatever reason have not regularise their Namibian citizenship and are in the process of doing so and they receive their IDs as soon as they regularise their citizenship. The process is thus ongoing, so one cannot say what percentage is outstanding but I can only tell you with certainty that the large majority of those beyond the age of 18 have ID Cards. If they do not have, it is probably just because they do not intent to get ID Cards.

The second question with respect to death certificate; a death certificate is normally issued when somebody dies, either in hospital or even if it is at home, this people have made arrangements for a death certificate to be obtained. However, we are faced with a situation where, particularly Regions that are bordering other countries, people for one or two reasons find it necessary to send their patients for treatment civilly or otherwise and such people die in foreign countries. As some of them die in areas where there are no hospitals or facilities for even recording the death of a person or to investigate the cause of death as it should always be indicated, as a requirement, on the death certificate. In such situations, it becomes very difficult for the Ministry of Home Affairs to issue death certificates where the person who died was buried immediately, in a foreign country and only the relatives come to the Home Affairs Offices to seek for a death certificate because this document becomes important in some instances; for children and those who remain behind to receive their

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HON BEZUIDENHOUDT**

benefits. It is a problem which is not within our hands to address satisfactorily because some of our communities still believe in traditional medicine and they go and seek for it wherever it can be found, whether this side of Namibia or the other side of the borders. Therefore, when we are met by such situations it sometimes becomes a challenge.

I hope, I have answered your questions. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Bezuidenhoudt.

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**HON BEZUIDENHOUDT:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I normally do not react to Ministerial Statements but want to congratulate the Ministry of Home Affairs in particular and the Republic of Namibia in general for the small step taken in the right direction.

Information Technology is very close to my heart and I can see a lot of benefits to a country like Namibia. Namibia gets rated by the World Economic Forum in terms of our ICT usage and as a country we are hundred plus, simply because we do not implement the services available on our very good communications network in this country.

I would sincerely encourage all Ministries to really look at innovative ways to avail information and technology based communication services to the public so that we become more efficient and effective as well as use the tools that are currently in the pockets of the people.

The next step after the SMS system would probably be mobile applications so that you do not need to send an SMS but just make an enquiry based on your receipt number and obtain the information from the very same database straight onto your cell phone. This is just one example but what I wanted to say in general was to encourage the Government to keep improving the effectiveness of our service delivery



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HON KAZENAMBO**

and I, once more congratulate the Ministry of Home Affairs for that.  
Thank you very much.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Kazenanmbo.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker for according me the opportunity. Let me wholeheartedly congratulate my mother, Comrade and friend for this introduction, I normally do not venture much in things that I do not know.

Comrade Minister, I furthermore, only wish to bring it to your attention that the returnees from Botswana who are settled in Eiseb and Gam, especially those who turned 18 and are legally supposed to participate in the election and others who are looking for jobs are still being affected by not having access to these documents.

One will also commend your predecessor, she has been going there and this shows how Government really tried, even the Government of Botswana, their embassy use to go there to try and provide these people with documents. However, this issue remains a very big challenge for these communities of returnees who are settled in Eiseb and Gam because they already renounced their Botswana citizenship. The technicality is that the Government of Botswana requires that for one to renounce your citizenship, you must be 21 years of age, but one qualifies at the age 18 in terms of the Namibian Law. I was lucky because I left when I was 21 years old. This is affecting most of them negatively because many of them are unable to even participate in this year's elections.

This was information that was brought to me and I could not provide an answer, I, therefore want to bring it to your attention to see how this challenge can be resolved amicably. This is just a piece of information,

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON  
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

otherwise, I wholeheartedly support the effort but I must add a footnote that I am technology wise an ignorant person. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister, if you want to say something.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:** I would just like to thank the two Colleagues for congratulating the Ministry.

I quickly wish to react to the issue raised by Comrade Kazenambo. It is true that the young Namibians from Botswana are caught up in a legal wrangle. The Government of Botswana does not allow people born in its country to acquire citizenship by decent. Here they can claim decent but there Botswana wants them to renounce it themselves and not through their parents. We are in negotiations with Botswana but this is in terms of the Constitution of Botswana and there is nothing much that we can do as good neighbours.

This issue is known to our Ministry but I have no solution to this, other than the Government of Botswana changing its Law in this respect, however, we would like to help them. Thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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12 March 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: APPROPRIATION BILL  
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**SECRETARY:** Committee Stage *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

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**HON SPEAKER:** Does the Honourable Minister of Finance Move that the Assembly goes now into Committee?

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**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE:** I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Any objections? Who seconds? Agreed to. The Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee will take the Chair.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, as I am giving you the Floor to carry out your responsibility in the absence of the Deputy Speaker, a good number of the other Colleagues that usually assist you are not here, including, of course the Deputy Speaker who is the Chairperson of the Committee. Can you regroup them to return?

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**ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE**

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** The Whole House Committee is called to Order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

Vote 01 – “**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**” – **N\$614,966,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Presidential Affairs and Attorney-General.

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12 March 2013 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 01**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise once again with honour and humility to motivate Vote 01, **OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**, to this august House. In presenting this motivation, I am mindful of the need to fast-track the Debate on the *Appropriation Bill* for immediate implementation as agreed in the SWAPO Party Caucus. Indeed, our able Minister of Finance and her colleagues have produced volumes of information, including the Accountability Report. In addition, His Excellency Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of our Republic will address his Nation soon. The address will mainly centre on the *Appropriation Bill*. The purpose of my motivation, therefore, is merely to fill the gaps on the Vote of the Office of the President. I am further mindful of the fact that we are at the Committee Stage of the *Appropriation Bill* where only details should be addressed.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia vests in our President with specific duties and responsibilities. Article 32 outlines the most critical duties and roles of the President. The President is also entrusted with numerous functions under a number of Acts of Parliament, which we pass in this august House and the Upper Chamber. In addition, the Common Law and Customary Law, as recognized under Article 66 of the Namibian Constitution, impose certain functions on the President. These responsibilities place additional demands and their implementation requires both human and financial resources.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, as a demonstration of the sterling leadership of His Excellency, Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba over the years, our country continues to enjoy peace and stability. This has enabled the Government to implement Policies and Programmes aimed at advancing the National Development Agenda, and the improvement of the living conditions of our people. We continue to be rated highly in good governance. We are among the top ten and in some cases, top five on the Continent.

12 March 2013    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 01**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

In the fulfillment of his constitutional mandate, the President has engaged in consultations with various stakeholders, both inside and outside Government. In addition, our President travelled to various parts of the country to gauge the implementation of the SWAPO Party Government projects and to familiarize himself with the challenges faced by communities in our country.

I am, therefore, proud to inform this august House that due to the positive policies of our SWAPO Party Government, well over 70% of our citizens are satisfied with the performance of the SWAPO Party Government. This is consistently confirmed by the Afrobarometer results conducted by the Institute for Public Policy Research. This is indeed a big achievement that will serve as a motivation to continue to address the socio-economic needs of our Nation. We are, however, fully aware that we are still faced with many challenges such as poverty, unemployment, lack of decent housing and the need for rural development. These areas should continue to receive the attention of our Government.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, it is important to point out that Vote 01 is sub-divided into four Programmes in line with the Medium Term Expenditure Framework.

The Programmes under Vote 1 and the funds allocated to each of them are as follows:

**Programme 1: Supervision and Support Services** - has been allocated an amount of **N\$426,303,000.00 (Four Hundred and Twenty-Six Million, Three Hundred and Three Thousand Namibia Dollars).**

**Programme 2: Cabinet Administrative Support Management** - has been allocated an amount of **N\$17,931,000.00 (Seventeen Million, Nine Hundred and Thirty-One Thousand Namibia Dollars).**

**Programme 3: Protection of the National Constitution** - has been allocated an amount of **N\$154,555,000.00 (One Hundred and Fifty-Four Million, Five Hundred and Fifty-Five Thousand Namibia Dollars).**

12 March 2013   **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 01**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

**Programme 4: Democracy, Consolidation and Promotion** - has been allocated an amount of **N\$16,177,000.00 (Sixteen Million, One Hundred and Seventy-Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars)**.

At the end of the Financial Year, the Accountability Report will indicate the extent of implementation of the Programmes as well as the Challenges encountered. There is, therefore, no need for me to go into details. May I point out, Honourable Deputy Chairperson, that under Programme 4, support is provided to the Office of the Founding President in line with the *Former Presidents' Pension and Other Benefits Act* of 2004, (Act 18 of 2004). This indeed underscores the vital role that our Founding President, and future former Presidents of our Republic will continue to play in consolidating the culture of democracy, Rule of Law and constitutionalism in our country.

Technical, logistical and administrative support is also provided to the First Lady of our Republic, Madam Penexupifo Pohamba. This will enable her to carry out outreach and advocacy role for the benefit of vulnerable communities in our society, especially women and children. I have no doubt that the Honourable Members are aware of numerous international awards our First Lady has received in recognition of her social work. We, therefore, congratulate her for keeping Namibia on the world map. We can only say, thank you our First Lady for the wonderful job you are doing for your country and your people.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, we are proud that through his statesmanship, our President has steered our country with a steady hand. This has earned Namibia respect, envy and admiration among the Nations of the world. Today, Namibia is at peace with her neighbors and our international profile continues to grow, thanks to the leadership qualities of our President.

In conclusion, Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, our President is charged with carrying out important national functions. In order to discharge these duties successfully and thereby keep our country on the path of progress, development, prosperity, peace and stability, I urge all Honourable Members of this august House to give our President

12 March 2013    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

and his support staff, the means to do so.

I, therefore, humbly request you Honourable Members to support and approve the total allocation of **N\$614,966,000.00 (Six Hundred and Fourteen Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars)** in respect of Vote 01.

Of this total allocation, an amount of **N\$402,466,000.00 (Four Hundred and Two Million, Four Hundred and Sixty-Six Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is earmarked for the Operational Budget, while the remaining **N\$212,500,000.00 (Two Hundred and Twelve Million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars)** is earmarked for the Development Budget. Thank You.

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**ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** I thank the Comrade Minister.

Vote 02 – “**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**” **N\$639,436,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of the National Assembly, it is my distinct honour and privilege to present Vote 02 to you: **OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**, for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Office of the Prime Minister is requesting an allocation of **N\$639,586,000.00** for 2014/2015, an increase of **N\$282,653,000.00** compared to the Budget Allocation of the Financial Year 2013/2014.

The breakdown of the total Budget requested is as follows:

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**HON HAUSIKU**

- **N\$382,989,000.00** is earmarked for the Operational Budget;
- **N\$125,900,000.00** for NIPAM's Development and Operational Expenses;
- **N\$130,397,000.00** for the Development Budget; and
- **N\$150,000** is from the Development Partner for Support to San Development.

The proposed allocation requested is to execute the seven main Programmes and Activities as follow:

**Programme 1: Policy Coordination and Support Services.** The Office is requesting an approval of **N\$307,858,000.00**. This amount includes:

- **N\$125,854,000.00** allocated to NIPAM for Operational and Development Budgetary Expenses;
- **N\$23,761,000** for Personnel Expenditures;
- **N\$39,776,000** for Transports, Utilities, Travelling and Subsistence, Materials and Supplies, Property Rentals and Other Services and Expenses;
- **N\$12,219,000.00** for Furniture, Equipment and Vehicle Acquisitions, etcetera;
- **N\$106,248,000.00** is for Capital Projects

**Programme 2: Government Leadership Administration and Coordination.** An amount of **N\$90,624,000** is allocated to this Programme to provide support to the Prime Minister in the execution of his constitutional mandate. Included in these allocations are:



12 March 2013    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

- **N\$20,000,000.00** for National Independence Celebrations;
- **N\$4,500,000.00** for the Heroes day commemoration and Heroes Funerals Expenses;
- **N\$1,300,000** for the Disability Programme;
- **N\$300,000** for National Alliance For Improved Nutrition (NAFIN);
- **N\$8,500,000.00** for the Empowerment of SAN, Ovatie and Ovatjimba Education Support Programme and Infrastructures Development, specifically schools and mini-clinics;
- **N\$21,950,000.00** for Personnel Expenditures;
- **N\$16,410,000** is for Capital Projects; and
- The remainder of **N\$17,664,000.00** is for Travelling and Subsistence, Transport, Membership Fees and Furniture, etcetera.

**Programme 3: National Disaster Management.** An amount of **N\$62,065,000.00** is proposed for approval and utilisation as follows:

- **N\$40 million** is allocated for the Capitalisation of the National Emergency Disaster Fund;
- **N\$3,850,000.00** is allocated to Namibia Red Cross Society for Operational Costs;
- **N\$3,273,900.00** is for the Capital Projects – Warehouses; and
- The remainder of **N\$15,426,000.00** is for Personnel and Operational Expenditures.

**Programme 4: Public Service Management.** A total allocation of **N\$91,099,000.00** is requested and subdivided to Programmes as follows:

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**HON HAUSIKU**

- **N\$47,450,000.00** for Human Capital Management System. This involves the acquisition of Oracle Payroll License Module to enable Government to integrate the human resource management administration with payroll;
- **N\$2,000,000.00** for a Study on the Government Pension Benefit for Staff Members;
- **N\$3,500,000.00** for Public Service Wellness Programmes; and
- The remainder of **N\$38,149,000.00** is for Personnel Expenditures and Operational Expenditures.

**Programme 5: Constitutional Obligation of the Public Service Commission.** An allocation of **N\$21,545,000.00** is being requested for Operational Expenditure for the Public Service Commission and its Secretariat.

**Programme 6: Public Service Information Technology Management.** An amount of **N\$53,618,000.00** is allocated for E-Government Plan of Action, expansion of intranet and internet to the Regions and to cater for Electronic Documents and Records Management System.

**Programme 7: Governance and Performance Monitoring of State-Owned Enterprises.** An amount of **N\$12,627,000.00** is allocated to this Programme to:

- Promote good governance and good practices in State-Owned Enterprises; and
- Develop policies and regulatory frameworks for State-Owned Enterprises.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of the National Assembly, may I now request this august House to discuss and approve the expenditure of **N\$639,586,000.00** as set out in the schedule of the *Appropriation Bill* for

12 March 2013   **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 04**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

2014, for the Office of the Prime Minister. Thank you for our attention.

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**ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much.

Vote 04 – “**AUDITOR-GENERAL**” - **N\$97,193,000.00** put for Introduction by the Minister of Presidential Affairs. Honourable Kawana.

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIR AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I once again, rise to motivate Vote 04, **AUDITOR-GENERAL**. The Auditor-General performs important constitutional mandate, that is, to audit the State Revenue Fund and report thereon to the National Assembly. In this regard, the Auditor-General is like a Balance Sheet in the Private Sector. The State is alerted or informed through the Auditor-General about the state of revenue and expenditure. Where there is misapplication of Public resources, the Auditor-General will be in a position to report to the relevant institutions of the State.

The Office of the Auditor-General, therefore, contributes to the national objectives of our Government by assisting the Nation to make the best use of our public resources. The Auditor-General also assists to achieve proper accountability and transparency in the use of Public resources. The Office of the Auditor-General has set itself a number of targets during the Financial Year 2014/2015. The Office intends to finalise one hundred and sixty- five (165) Audit Reports.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, I am pleased to report that the construction of the new Head Office building was finalised during November 2013, and provision is made for the payment of retention fees during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

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**HON DR KAWANA**

Through its Audits Reports, the Office observed that there is a serious need for capacity building in Offices, Ministries, Agencies, Regional Councils, and Local Authority Councils. The Office has, therefore, embarked upon a Programme that renders advisory and stakeholders' education services on a regular basis to help improve public finance management. Continuous changes in Public Sector auditing as well as Government expansion has compelled the Office of the Auditor-General to revise its organizational structure and policies in order to meet the demands and expectations of its key stakeholders.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, in the Financial Year 2014/2015, the Office has set itself two main Programmes:

The **First Programme** involves public expenditure oversight, in which the Office will strive to achieve the following goals:

- Ensure compliance with international standards;
- Implement strategic plan objectives;
- Develop and implement annual plans;
- Attend promotional activities;
- Carry out quality assurance reviews on audit files;
- Reduce outsourced audits;
- Ensure that performance agreements are developed and signed by all audit staff; and
- Conduct quarterly reviews on performance agreements.

The **Second Programme** involves supervision and support services, in which the Office will strive to achieve the following goals:

- To finalize the *Audit Bill*;
- Develop and implement internal policies;
- Conduct wellness activities;
- Implement the annual training programme;
- Ensure that staff attain professional qualifications;
- Ensure that performance agreements are developed and signed by all administrative staff;

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**HON HAUSIKU**

- Conduct quarterly reviews on performance agreements; and
- Provide logistical and technical support.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, the amount requested is earmarked for the following Programmes:

**Programme 1: Public Expenditure Oversight.** An amount of **Sixty-Eight, Million, Nine Hundred and Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$68,902,000)** is required to fund this Programme.

**Programme 2: Supervision & Support Services.** An amount of **Twenty-Eight, Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-One Million Namibia Dollars (N\$28,291,000)** is required to fund this Programme.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, in order to enable this purely technical Office to achieve its goals, financial resources to the amount of **Ninety-Seven Million, One Hundred and Ninety-Three Namibia Dollars (N\$97,193,000)** will be required. I, therefore, humbly request this august House to approve the requested expenditure. I thank you for your attention and support.

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**ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Very good. Thank you very much, Comrade.

Vote 30 – “**ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION**” - **N\$54,792,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, please.

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members of the National Assembly, thank you for granting me this opportunity to introduce the

12 March 2013    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 30**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

Budget of the Anti-Corruption Commission for the Financial Year 2014/2015, to this august House.

The Anti-Corruption Commission has a separate Vote which is in line with statutory requirements that its operations should be independent. Likewise, Honourable Members, its functions are prescribed under the *Anti-Corruption Act*, 2003 (Act 8 of 2003).

The total allocation for the previous Financial Year was **N\$48,581,000.00**. For Financial Year 2014/2015, the Anti Corruption Commission has requested an increase of **N\$6,211,000.00** which brings the total amount of the requested to **N\$54,792,000.00**.

Honourable Members, the proposed allocation is to be divided between the 3 Programmes in the Medium-Term Plan of Vote 30, namely:-

- Investigation of allegations of corruption;
- Corruption prevention; and
- Coordination, management and support.

In respect of:-

- the **First Programme** an amount of **N\$2,850,000.00** is being proposed for approval;
- the **Second Programme** an amount of **N\$2,800,000.00** is being proposed; and
- the **Third Programme** an amount **N\$49,142,000** is being proposed;
- the **Total Allocation** proposed is thus **N\$54,792,000.00**.

The expected outputs under each Programme are highlighted below as follows:

**Under Programme 1:**

- Improve and extend the Commission's intelligence gathering capability;

12 March 2013   **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 30**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

- Successfully conduct and conclude investigations into alleged corrupt practices in good time;
- Recommend corruption related cases for prosecution within reasonable time;
- Continue conducting examinations into the regulatory frameworks of public and private institutions in order to facilitate the discovery of corrupt practices in such bodies;
- Maintain the Anti-Corruption Commission's Case Management System, which controls and monitors investigative work;

**Under Programme 2:**

- Improve the Commissions' advocacy and marketing campaigns on the dangers and evils of corruption;
- Continue with its advisory services on corruption prevention;
- Finalise a National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Plan for implementation;
- Launch and distribute an Anti-Corruption Manual for Teachers that will facilitate the integration of anti-corruption topics into the Life Skills Subject offered by Namibian schools;

**Under Programme 3:**

- Increase and effectively develop and manage its human resources capacity to ensure a workforce with improved productivity and service delivery;
- Ensure through the execution of regular internal audits, proper financial management, transparency and improved accountability;

12 March 2013    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 30**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

- Continue developing its regional infrastructural capacity to ensure accessible and enhanced services to the public;
- Secure a high level of customer satisfaction through improved communication mechanisms;
- Better regulate the activities of the Anti-Corruption Commission through improved legislative and institutional frameworks changes.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members of the National Assembly, I know that this is a Vote that needs our support but of course, we would like you to thoroughly scrutinise the Activities and discuss this Budget as proposed for an amount of **N\$54,792,000.00** as set out in the Schedule of the *Appropriation Bill* for 2014, in respect of the Anti-Corruption Commission. We believe that after your deliberations and proposals, you will approve the Budget as requested.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, may I now take this opportunity to thank you very much for your kind attention.

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**ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

Before I report the progress, I have two announcements to make:

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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12 March 2013

**ANNOUNCEMENT  
HON DR AMWEELO**

1. Honourable Nahas Angula, the Minister of Defence, is inviting all Members of the National Assembly to attend a mini-exhibition that will be held tomorrow, 13 March 2014, from 10:00 in the courtyard of the Parliament Building. On this occasion, the Minister will introduce to the Members, the Chief of the Namibian Defence Force and some of his Generals. The mini-exhibition will be open for the remainder of the day and the Honourable Members are encourage to undertake a tour of the displayed items and to ask questions to the stand attendants as necessary. I urge all Honourable Members to make use of this opportunity.
2. I would like to request all those Members who are going to introduce their Votes, from tomorrow onwards, to confine themselves to 10 minutes only, in order to safe time. Thank you very much.

I shall now report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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**ASSEMBLY RESUMED**

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Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole house Committee.

The Secretary will read the Second Order.

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**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE  
EXEMPLIFIED IN RECENT KILLING OF WOMEN**

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12 March 2013

**ADJOURNMENT  
HON HAUSIKU**

**SECRETARY:** Resumption of Debate on Gender-Based Violence Exemplified in Recent Killing of Women.

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**HON SPEAKER:** When the Debate adjourned on Tuesday, 11 March 2014, the question before the House was the Motion by Honourable Ulenga.

Any further discussions? If not then it does it for today. I shall see you as usual, 14:30 tomorrow. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, do your work.

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I Move that the House adjourns until tomorrow, 14:30. I so Move.

**HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 15:58 UNTIL 2013.03.13 AT 14:30**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
WINDHOEK  
13 MARCH 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

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**HON SPEAKER**: We commence the Business of the House as scheduled for today.

I would like to inform the House that the Standing Committee on Economics, Natural Resources and Public Administration will conduct an information sharing workshop on "*Renewable Energy Source in Namibia*," for Members of Parliament.

The workshop is emanating from the Committee Report titled *Study Tour to Germany* and one of the recommendations which was adopted by this Assembly calls for Parliament to organise a one day workshop on Renewable Energy Sources and to know, arising out of the workshop, how Namibia can be assisted to become a Renewable Energy producer.

The workshop will take place from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2014. All Members are requested to diarise these days and attend the workshop.

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**HON SPEAKER**: Any Petitions? Report of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance.

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13 March 2013

**TABLING OF REPORTS  
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**TABLING: REPORTS OF AUDITOR-GENERAL**

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**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE:** Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table Reports of the Auditor-General on the accounts of the:-

- (i) Town Council of Otavi for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013;  
and
- (ii) Town Council of Khorixas for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013.

I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister, please table the Reports. Notice of Motions? Honourable Amweelo.

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**NOTICE ON MOTIONS**

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**HON DR AMWEELO:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 1, 2, 4, 8 10, 25, 26 and 30 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90 (c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Any objections. Agreed to. Can the Honourable Member please table the Motion? Ministerial Statements?

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13 March 2013

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON DR KAMWI**

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

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**HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, distinguished and decorated Generals, I rise before you to brief this august House and the Nation at large on the status of the implementation of the *Tobacco Products Control Act*, (Act 1 of 2010). Please, allow me to start by citing some important issues in relation to tobacco control.

According to the World Health Organization, tobacco kills over 6 million people every year worldwide. Among these - more than 600,000 people are non-smokers exposed to second-hand smoke. Tobacco smoking is responsible for 90% of lung cancer, 70% of chronic respiratory illnesses; and 25% of heart disease. Moreover, money spent on tobacco is often money that can be better spent on vital needs such as shelter, education and food.

The economic impact of disability, lost productivity and early deaths due to tobacco contributes to the burden of poverty, hampering national development and further widening health inequities. Thus, it needs to be clear that tobacco control is not only a public health priority but also a key development issue.

Honorable Speaker, recognizing this mere fact or stark reality, Namibia ratified the WHO Framework Convention for Tobacco Control in 2005. To enable us to implement the commitments that we have entered by signing this Convention, Namibia promulgated the *Tobacco Products Control Act*, (Act 1 of 2010) which has been signed by His Excellency, the President in terms of the Namibian Constitution and published in terms of Article 56 of the Constitution.

I am delighted to report that this morning I appointed a 12 Member Tobacco Products Control Committee as stipulated in the Act consisting

13 March 2013

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON DR KAMWI**

of members from various Ministries, Nursing and Medical and Dental Councils, Civil Society, National Youth Council and NUNW.

Similarly, in terms of Section 30 (1)(a) and (b), I appointed inspectors who will perform the powers contemplated in Section 31 of the Act.

I am equally delighted to inform that I have now signed the Tobacco Products Control Regulations to come into force as of 1 April, 2014. The regulations stipulate comprehensive tobacco control measures which will be implemented throughout the country.

As I speak, there is an ongoing stakeholders meeting related to the implementation of the Act and is being facilitated by a WHO Tobacco Law Expert Advisor. For this, we remain grateful to the WHO for their continued support.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, Namibia is not the only country that has been targeted by the Tobacco Industry. At present, there is an increasing pressure from the Industry that is delaying the progress in the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The tobacco Industry is using international trade and investments as justification to increase the use of tobacco.

In many countries, the perception and scope of action of the Health and Trade Sector Ministries respectively, is largely confined to their individual mandates. This has left a dangerous gap for the Tobacco Industry to interfere in the implementation of the Convention. For the sake of a healthy Nation and for the future of our country, we must bridge these gaps by actively engaging in effective measures preventing our children, young adults and all community members in starting the use of tobacco.

And we must help those who are already addicted to tobacco products to fight their addiction and to overcome the urge to smoke a cigarette whenever and wherever.

Honorable Speaker, Honorable Members, as I said earlier, the Tobacco Products Control Regulations will become effective as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of April

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HON DR KAMWI**

2014, in Namibia. The regulations stipulate comprehensive tobacco control measures that will be implemented all over the country. The legislation regulates the following important aspects in relation to tobacco products control:

1. Pictures, warnings, statements;
2. Print and appearances of pictures, warnings, statements on packages;
3. Pictures, warnings, statements not to be removable;
4. Signs indicating availability of tobacco products;
5. Signs at the point of sale to contain warning and size;
6. Availability of the tobacco products to persons under the age of 18 years;
7. Signs indicating prohibition of smoking of tobacco products;
8. Duties and responsibilities of owners or persons in charge of public places;
9. Packaging of tobacco products;
10. Measures to prevent illicit trade in tobacco products;
11. Maximum tar and nicotine yield of cigarettes;
12. Determination of amount of tar and nicotine in the smoke of cigarette;
13. Distance of smoking of tobacco products from public places;
14. Offences and penalties; and
15. Postponement of commencement of certain regulations.

Honorable Speaker, Honorable Members, in conclusion, I wish to inform the Nation that the day to put a stop to smoking in public places, to protect our children from the effects of their parents tobacco smoking and to make a statement for all those who do not to comply with the new tobacco control rules, has finally rive. Let us combine our efforts to make our public places tobacco smoke free and our people's breath uncontaminated. Let us use these regulations to make tobacco free air anywhere in Namibia a reality.

I would like to assure the Honorable Members of the House that the Ministry of Health and Social Services will take all the necessary measures to make Namibia's public places tobacco smoke free.

However, the effort of my Ministry alone will not be sufficient. For this

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to happen, we will also depend on the dedication and commitment of all our stakeholders who includes amongst others, the Honourable Members of Parliament and the wholehearted cooperation from all Namibian citizens.

There is need to combine the strength and expertise of the whole Government as well as the commitment of the communities nationwide. We, therefore, call upon the support of other Line Ministries, organisations and most importantly the public to enforce the Regulations without fails. The Ministry of Health and Social Services would like to recognise the efforts of all stakeholders who supported us throughout the process. I would like to specifically mention the World Health Organisation for its technical guidance and support.

Honorable Speaker, Honourable Members, I thank you for your kind attention.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. We are here to save lives and we have to find some other ways to entertain one another. Saving lives is more important than anything else. Honourable Nghidinwa.

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**HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members of Parliament and the Generals up there, before I read my Ministerial Statement, I would like to respond to the headline which appeared in *The Namibian* newspaper of Wednesday, 19 February 2014, that had stated; “*Nghidinwa admits Government failed on Violence.*” *The Namibian* reporter, as usual, has grossly misquoted me for reasons only known to them. The points we discussed during that interview were very clear and it is very unfortunate that the reporter/editor chose to misquote me in order to create a catchy headline. Was there a genuine concern on reporting about the issue or was



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the interview driven by finding as is the situation now, a headline to sell more newspapers? I do not know. The questions posed and answers were provided to them in writing and I am still having the copy of that specific interview.

However, my conclusion is that Gender-Based Violence is not only about physical abuse but it also entails psychological and emotional abuse. I, therefore, believe that the manager/editor of this article must be a man and he was damned on portraying the issue in a negative light. This too, is emotional abuse on the part of *The Namibian* newspaper against women. Therefore, the headline is not my opinion but the opinion of The Namibian newspaper.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to read the status quo of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare on the progress made on the fight against Gender-Based Violence.

First of all, I would like to make use of this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to His Excellency, Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba, the President of the Republic of Namibia for dedicating the 6<sup>th</sup> of March as a National Day of Prayer towards the escalating violence against women and children and to a lesser extent violence against men. This is indeed, a milestone in the history of Namibia. Namibia as a society cannot afford to lose lives of innocent women and children as a result of Gender Based Violence, thank you, Your Excellency, President for this undertaking, the whole Nation rallies behind you in the fight against Gender-Based Violence in the country.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare as a Line Ministry responsible for gender equality and its related gender issues, has developed the National Gender Plan of Action (NGPA) which was launched by His Excellency, Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba in 2012. In 2013, the Ministry embarked upon a consultative process with all stakeholders such as representative from the Office of the Prime Minister, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs and Immigration, Veterans Affairs, Justice, Safety and Security, Health and Social Services, Labour and Social Welfare, Education, Trade and Industry, National Planning Commission, UN Agencies, the Private

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Sector, Non-Governmental - and Faith-Based Organizations to make inputs on the composition, representation and responsibilities of the proposed coordination mechanism. This was done to involve all stakeholders and to simplify the document for ease of implementation.

This document outlines the coordination mechanism for gender equality and women empowerment in Namibia. The mechanism involves overseeing the coordination of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the National Gender Policy (NGP), the accompanying National Gender Plan of Action (NGPA) and the National Plan of Action on Gender Based Violence (NPAGBV). This plan of action is envisaged to go until 2020 with a mid-term review. The coordination mechanism is an operationalisation of the NGP, which stipulates that responsibility for its implementation lies with all stakeholders. The MGE CW together with stakeholders is at an advance stage to initiate a process to implement the mechanism which among others should further refine the reporting processes and formats for the various actors, the financing of the coordination mechanism activities and the human resource requirements.

With the recent approval of the new organisational and establishment structure of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, the implementation of the National Plan of Action on GBV will be realized fully within the framework of the decentralization policy.

In 2013, several consultative meetings were held between the Ministries of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Safety and Security, Justice, Namibian Central Intelligence Services. Apart from this meeting, other meetings such as with women Ambassadors/High Commissioners and women parliamentarians and other stakeholders were also held with the last one at Otjiwarongo in 2013. The structure of the coordination mechanism for gender equality and women empowerment which is one of the instruments to reduce Gender-Based Violence in Namibia consists of four major components with roles, responsibilities and reporting channels for each of the components clearly elaborated include:

- a. The High Level Gender Advisory Committee (GAC);
- b. The National Gender Permanent Task Force (NGPTF);

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- c. National Gender Plan of Action Implementation Clusters (CLUSTERS); and
- d. Regional Gender Permanent Task Force (RGPTF), which include Regional Councilors, Traditional and Church Leaders and other stakeholders aiming to address the issue affecting women, men, and children in a holistic manner.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare has further embarked upon a second Programme which is the observance of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. Looking at the alarming rate of incidents of Gender-Based Violence across the country; the Ministry would like to extend the 16 days of activism from 16 days to 365 days which will be launched in April 2014, when the new Budget will be approved. This is to intensify awareness campaign on the danger of Gender-Based Violence through the media and other stakeholders in the structure of our society. Not only that, the Ministry is working in close collaboration with the University of Namibia through the Multidisciplinary Research Centre (MRC) for research purposes on the root causes of Gender Based Violence in Namibia and the outcome will be communicated to the stakeholders in due course.

The Ministry has a positive response from the youth organisations on its scourge to fight against Gender-Based Violence which culminated in the establishment of some youth organisations such as Namibian Youth Against Crime and Gender-Based Violence (NYACGBV) which was launched in June in 2012 in Otjiwarongo, Namibia Young Women Association (NYWA), Erongo Regional Youth Forum (ERYF) and many others on their way to compliment efforts of the Ministry. In addition, there are also Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN), the Women Parliamentarian Caucus, Traditional Leaders, Women and Men Network and Church Organisation such as “Mother Union” from the Anglican Church which are operating within the communities to do awareness campaign and counseling on the danger of alcohol and drug abuse which is affecting majority of the youth in our society. The objectives of these organisations are to work together with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to tackle the pandemic of Gender-Based Violence in

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the country.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, with regard to the dissemination of information, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare has staff members in all Regions who are working in close collaboration with offices of the Honourable Governors and Regional Councilors to disseminate needed information to the members of the public, for example, where to go and what to do when one becomes a victim of Gender-Based Violence at home or at work places. The Regional staff members are also working in conjunction with the Ministry of Safety and Security through the Women and Child Protection Unit (WACPU) to attend to the cases of women and child abuses. In this regard, the Ministry provided Social Workers, transport, accommodation and office equipments to the centres that are managed by the Police Officers as head of the unit. The social workers are dealing with counseling of victims of Gender-Based Violence and some women victims depending on their cases are taken to the Home of Safety while children are taken to Children Homes. Children who are abandoned by their parents, especially in Khomas Region, are accommodated at the after school centre in Grysblok, Katutura and be entrusted under the care of the social workers and educares and care givers. The biggest challenge is that Namibia does not have enough Social Workers. In this regard we are inviting young people to realise the importance of social workers in our communities and opt to enter into such important profession.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, on the response to the question posed by Honourable Pendukeni Ivula-Iithana on the status quo of street children that were found before Independence in the towns of Rundu, Windhoek and Keetmanshoop, I would like to respond as follows:

During the apartheid system, many of the communities migrated from their villages to towns mostly because of the war situation in remote areas. The civil war of Angola along the border town of Rundu also resulted in many people crossing the border to come to nearest towns. As a result, some children were orphans and are found in the streets. The Department of Women Affairs by then, in collaboration with the Ministry of Regional and Local Government and Housing, under the Honourable Minister, Dr

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Libertina Amathila, established children's centres to accommodate these children and they were assisted to attend school, the Programme is still ongoing in the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare. Some of them graduated from tertiary institutions and many of them are coming back to the centres to motivate others to study hard and to complete their education. I am a witness to the Grysblok After School Centre. I would, therefore, like to invite the Honourable Members to visit the After School Centre to acquaint themselves with the services provided by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to these children. I should also highlight here that there are also Non-Governmental Organisations who are complimenting the ministry to run some centres in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, their effort is highly appreciated.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, as a Line Minister, I learned that people affected by violence, especially through psychological and physical abuse, are now reporting incidents to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare and our social workers are taking regular visits to the affected homes to provide counseling services to the victims in order to harmonise the situation. In this regard, I would like to urge the nation to visit our Regional and Constituency Offices to seek counseling from the social workers. The places where we do not have social workers, members of the public are advised to seek counseling from pastors/priests and other religious leaders from various nominations. This is more advisable as they always say, "*prevention is better than cure.*" In the fight against Gender-Based Violence, two weeks ago, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare convened an urgent meeting with different women organisations with the purpose to solicit their views and opinions on how to come up with a solution to GBV in support of the call by His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba. Some of the proposals of the women organizations were:

- To come up with a Committee or a Commission to research on the root causes of GBV rather than to treat the symptoms of GBV;
- Amendments to the *Liquor Act*, as alcohol and drug abuse are major causes of Gender-Based Violence in our society;

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS  
ON MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON MAAMBERUA**

- Promotion of the ongoing awareness Campaign Programme on the danger of alcohol and drug abuse in the society;
- Strengthening harmonious relationship within the families in order to reduce the high rate of divorce which may also be a contributing factor of Gender-Based Violence; and
- A Conference for men to discuss this issue among themselves will lead to change mindset of killing innocent women and raping of children.

In conclusion, I support the proposal as put forward by Honourable Stanley Simata and Honourable Usutuaije Maamberua in response to the proposal made by Honourable Marco Hausiku, the Deputy Prime Minister, because Gender-Based Violence cannot be fought in isolation. Gender-Based Violence need a coordinated mechanism as it is proposed by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to include all key stakeholders such as Traditional Leaders, women and men groups, youth groups, Religious Groups, NGOs and FBOs to come together and support the Government of the Republic of Namibia through the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare in her implementation of its Action Plan on Gender-Based Violence. **“AS A TEAM, WE WILL MAKE IT.”** With these few words, I thank you.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Maamberua.

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS  
TO THE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker for granting me the Floor so that I can associate myself strongly in support of the statement that was just delivered by the Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: APPROPRIATION BILL  
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

I understand that the Honourable Minister in her previous life used to be a nurse or had something to do with the medical profession. I just have a small question whether it is medically permissible for individuals to exchange medical prescription, such as reading glasses, without seeking a medical doctor's advice? *(laughter)*

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**HON SPEAKER:** These ones are paper tigers, anybody can use them. The Secretary will read the First Order.

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**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:  
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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**HON SECRETARY:** Resumption of Committee Stage - *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

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**HON SPEAKER:** Does the Honourable Minister of Finance Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee?

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**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE:** I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Any objections? Agreed to. The Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee will take the Chair.

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**HON ANGULA**

**ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE**

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** The Whole House Committee is called to Order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

When Progress was reported Wednesday, 12 March 2014, Votes 1, 2, 4 and 30 had been introduced.

Vote 08 – **“DEFENCE” – N\$6,606,077,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Defence. Honourable Minister, you have the Floor.

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**HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank You, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

At the outset, I would like to firstly thank Honourable Theo-Ben Gurirab for receive me and the leadership of the Ministry of Defence here at the Parliament this morning and I also thank those Honourable Members who joined him.

Thank you, once more, for giving me the Floor to present my statement on National Defence. My statement is titled; ***“Towards a Basic National Defence Capability.”***

**ALARM**

Honourable Memebtrs, there was an alarm raised in this country; a headline article on the front page of *The Namibian* newspaper of February 21, 2014 read: ***“Defence Billions.”*** The intentions of the newspaper were clear: to cause alarm in the Nation! The readers are made to believe that either Namibia is preparing for war or the country is in arms race.



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**HON ANGULA**

It is imperative, therefore, that the public should be informed about the mission of the Namibian Defence Force in order to put the Defence Budget into the context of that mission. Article 115 of the Namibian Constitution established the Namibian Defence Force with the mandate to defend the territory and national interests of Namibia.

This mandate is further elaborated upon in the *Defence Act* of 2002 (Act 1 of 2002) and the Defence Policy. In practical terms, the Namibian Defence Force is established to guarantee the perpetual national sovereignty and integrity; safeguard the Nation against external attacks and internal subversion; and to prevent violations of Namibia's land, sea and airspace. Through defence diplomacy, the Namibian Defence Force Promotes international and regional cooperation. These goals are achieved through the adoption of a robust Security and Defence Architecture as the guarantor for economic development and political stability.

## **SECURITY AND DEFENCE ARCHITECTURE**

The bedrock of the National Security and Defence Architecture is national harmony, domestic peace and stability. This state of affair is maintained through the ethos of our Constitution. The primary responsibility on the Namibian Defence Force is to defend the Constitutional Order of our Republic. As much as we take for granted our Constitutional Order, experience elsewhere in Africa suggests that we should be in a state of permanent readiness to defend our Constitutional Order. Retired Admiral Olutunde Oladimeji of the Nigerian Navy, writing in *African Defence* of December 2013, aptly observed: *"There is desperation in Africa. The ordinary people are ranked by poverty. Hunger is rampant. Environmental degradation is rife. The political leaders, in most cases, have lost their radar and are, therefore, directionless."* Such a situation threatens national and individual security on our continent.

The second layer of the national security and defence architecture is our neighbourhood. Our aim is to promote good neighbourliness. We promote this goal through Joint Permanent Commissions on Defence and Security. This year we shall participate in the meetings of the Joint

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**HON ANGULA**

Permanent Commissions on Defence and Security in Botswana, South Africa and Zambia. Next year Namibia shall host the Joint Permanent Commission on Defence and Security with Angola.

In addition, since Namibia is the current chair of the SADC Organ TROIKA, the Ministry of Defence participates in the deliberations of the SADC Interstate on Defence and Security Cooperation Committee.

The third layer of our security and defence architecture is the African Union. Currently, Namibia is a member of the African Union Peace and Security Commission. The Ministry of Defence has posted an officer to the African Union in order for Namibia to cover the activities of the AU Peace and Security Commission for a period of two years when Namibia is serving as a member of the AU Peace and Security Commission commencing on 01 April 2014.

The fourth layer of our security and defence architecture is the United Nations. As a member of the United Nations, Namibia is expected to contribute to peace building and peacekeeping operations of the United Nations.

Currently, the Namibian Defence Force has Military Observers and Staff Officers deployed to the United Nations Africa Hybrid Mission in Darfur, United Nations Mission in South Sudan, United Nations Operations in Cote d' Ivoire, United Nations Mission in Liberia and United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei along the border of Sudan and South Sudan. We have posted a Defence Attaché to the United Nations in New York for the purpose of coordinating Namibia's input into peacekeeping activities of the United Nations.

The fifth layer of our security and defence architecture is our bilateral relationships. In order to promote defence diplomacy, the Ministry of Defence has posted military attaches to some of our embassies and high commissions, namely to Angola, Botswana, Brazil, China, DRC, Ethiopia, Germany, India, South Africa, the Russian Federation and Zimbabwe.

We are in the process of posting a Defence Attaché in Zambia. Some of

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**HON ANGULA**

these defence envoys are accredited to other countries in their areas of deployment.

Maintenance of such security and defence architectures is costly. However, Namibia as a small country needs to maintain this security and defence architecture as an assurance for its own peace and stability. The Nation should, therefore, be prepared to allocate sufficient resources to the security and Defence Sector. It should, however, be appreciated that it is not enough to build up a security and defence architecture. The Nation should strive to achieve a basic National Defence Capability in order for the country to protect itself from dangers and threats of insecurity.

**A BASIC NATIONAL DEFENCE CAPABILITY**

Honourable Members, our Nation is at peace. Our country is stable. Our neighbourhood is friendly. However, the Namibian Defence Force is at permanent readiness to respond to any danger, threat or conflict. Danger is ever a looming shadow in human relations. The Namibian Defence Force must at all times be in a state of readiness in order to protect the country against any danger. Since danger is ever present, one cannot anticipate when danger can change into a threat or when a threat can escalate into a conflict. Hence, the need to maintain a Basic Defence Capability.

A Basic Defence Capability should be informed by geographical size and demographic challenges facing Namibia. Namibia is a large territory with a small population. The territory shares borders with four countries. In addition, Namibia has a long coastline. The defence of the land, air and maritime domains is a big challenge to the Namibian Defence Force. The Namibian Defence Force has to strive to find a logical correlation between its size and the size of the population of our country. The Namibian Defence Force strives therefore to be lean, agile and technologically enabled.

Due to our small population, our Defence Force shall be lean but agile. This means that in the future the Defence Force shall only recruit fit and well-educated young men and women. Training and professional

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**HON ANGULA**

development shall be key to develop an effective and competent Force. In order to achieve this goal the Council of Defence adopted the Namibian Defence Force Development Strategy 2012-2022 last year. The NDF Development Strategy articulates the strategic needs of the Force. It provides guidance on the development of human resources, the creation of Defence infrastructure, the acquisition of Defence assets and provides guidelines for Force design.

Due to lack of accommodation, recruitment into the Defence Force was put on hold for the last three years. Considerable progress has been made in renovating the accommodation infrastructure in bases. The Programme of construction continues this year and into the future. We are, however, now in the position to start recruitment into the Force.

Future recruitment into NDF shall be very strict. Our goal is to build a professional Force. Those who volunteer to be recruited in the NDF should be fit, healthy, well motivated to serve their motherland with honour and dignity.

A lean Force must be supported by technology. Protecting a large territory requires technological capabilities for surveillance, detection, mobility and response. The Defence Force needs, therefore, young men and women who are able to learn and develop expertise in their fields of specialisation. Technological capability and specialisations are costly endeavours.

In order to prevent the brain drain in the Defence Force, the Ministry of Defence must improve the condition of service in the Force. I am happy to note that the Budget of the Ministry of Defence has provided for the re-grading of lower ranks in the Force. Like other Public Servants, members of the Defence Force shall benefit from 10% in salary increase this year. The Ministry is investigating the possibility of designing a retirement package for the members of the Defence. The aim is to ensure that members retiring at different rank s shall have earned a reasonable pension to take care of their social and economic needs.

In this way, the Force shall keep capable members, fit for their specific

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missions. In this regard, I would like to quote Lieutenant General Andrew Gutti, the Force Commander of the African Mission in Somalia writing about the future of African Armed Forces in Africa Defence of September 2013, he correctly observed: *“Future inextricably lies in light, agile forces that are costly to train in the short term but easy to maintain in the short and long term.”* This is the situation we are faced with in the Namibian Defence Force. A sizeable amount of our Budget is for training and the development of professional competence of the Force.

Honourable Members, besides the defence of the Motherland, the Namibian Defence Force plays many other critical roles such as assistance to Civil Authorities and taking part in SADC, AU and UN missions.

**NDF AT THE SERVICE OF CIVIL AUTHORITIES**

Honourable Members, disasters befall Nations unannounced. They hit Nations in different forms and shapes. They occur at sea, on land and in the air.

Last year, Namibia experienced a number of disasters. The major one was the devastating drought. The second was the Air Mozambique crash in Eastern Kavango. The third was the disaster at sea during Exercise Welwitschia. Recently, the Namibian Air Force was called upon to rescue people threatened by floods in our sister Republic of Zimbabwe.

When disasters strike the Defence Force is called upon to assist the Civil Authorities. The Defence Force is the only institution which has the organisational capacity to respond to emergencies and disasters.

When cholera hit the Kunene Region last year, the army mobilised water tankers to supply fresh water to the villagers affected by water shortage in that Region.

At the time when Namibia was hit by the devastating drought, the Ministry of Defence seconded senior military officers to the Office of Prime Minister to coordinate relief efforts. The Defence Force mobilised trucks and helicopters to ferry supplies to Regions. The Force also

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assisted the Electoral Commission of Namibia with manpower, trucks and helicopters during the recent Voters Registration Programme.

When the Ministry of Health and Social Services is conducting immunisation campaigns in remote areas of our country, the Namibian Air Force is usually called upon to provide transport.

The Namibian Defence Force must, therefore, acquire appropriate equipment to have the necessary capacity to respond to emergencies and disasters.

It is rather unfortunate that some of our media and individual citizens have a wrong perception that our soldiers are not contributing to the welfare of our people. Our soldiers are in a state of permanent readiness to respond to emergencies and disasters as demonstrated during the Mozambican Airline disaster and floods in Zimbabwe. We must all support our Defence Force in rendering services to Civil Authorities at home and in the neighbourhood.

**NDF SERVICE TO SADC AND AU**

The SADC is grooming its Standby Force. Namibia is part of this effort. Since Namibia is the chair of SADC Organ Troika, a Namibian Defence Force representative chairs the SADC Organ. Interstate on Defence and Security Sub Committee. Through the SADC Secretariat Planning Element, Namibia and other members of the Troika are coordinating the holding of various Field Training Exercises of SADC Forces in order to ensure inter-operability of equipment and SADC Forces multipliers.

Last year, the Namibian Air Force took part in Zambezi Azul Exercise which took place in Angola. The Exercise aimed at training SADC Air Forces in disaster rescue operations. The Namibian Air Force, small as it is, attested its capacity in Zambezi Azul Exercise. Similarly, last year Namibia hosted Exercise Welwitschia in the Namib Desert. The exercise involved SADC Special Forces. The aim was to expose the SADC Special Forces to desert warfare. We regret that two lives were lost at sea during this exercise and one person is still missing. However, the

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Namibian Navy deployed its assets and launched search and rescue operations. The Namibian Air Force on its part transported the remains of the Malawian soldier to Malawi who lost his life in that sea accident.

With regard to the African Union, Namibia as a member of our Continental Organisation has to contribute to the concept of “*Finding African solutions to African problems.*” In this regard, Namibia is committed to the early operationalisation of the African Standby Force and its Rapid Deployment Component. In November this year, Namibia shall participate in AUC AMANI Africa II Field Training Exercise in Lesotho.

An Exercise like this at the Continental level requires appropriate equipment, strategic airlifting capability and appropriate Command, Control and Communications equipment.

In terms of our contribution to the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, Namibia has been requested to replace a Nigerian Battalion in Darfur.

Once a final decision is taken, this august House shall be informed as per the requirement of our Law. Since Namibia’s struggle for freedom enjoyed international solidarity and that our Independence was midwived by the United Nations, as a Nation we are morally bound to make our modest contribution to international peace and stability.

The Budget of the Ministry of Defence should, therefore, be understood from the myriad of responsibilities the Namibian Defence Force is tasked with. For the Namibian Defence Force to efficiently and effectively, carry out its Constitutional mandate, the Defence Ministry must make resources available to NDF for training and professional development of the Force; to enhance the welfare of the members of the Defence Force; to strengthen the health services of the Defence Force; to clothe and feed the soldiers; and to acquire Defence assets, among other cost items.

Let me also hasten to say that through our budding Defence Industry, the Ministry of Defence is determined to contribute to employment creation

and economic growth in the medium and long-term perspectives.

### **DEFENCE INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECONOMY**

The Defence Industries the world over have been used by Governments to grow the economies and to promote technological advances. In the United States of America they talk about “*military industrial complex.*” Defence research has been used to enhance that country’s technological edge.

Namibia, as a developing country, can enhance its industrial development through the growth of Defence Industries. For example, the August 26 Textile and Garment Factory can be expanded to produce military uniforms, police uniforms, school uniforms, nurses uniforms and other working uniforms. When adequately funded, the Textile and Garment Factory can enter into partnerships with major garment producers and kick-start the Textile Industry in the country. For backward linkages, farmers can be encouraged to produce cotton. If that could happen, unemployment shall become a history in Namibia.

The August 26 Holding Company has established a number of subsidiaries in Sectors such as Communication, Garments, Footwear, Construction, Machine Fabrication, Agriculture and Logistics. Through the promotion of Defence Industries, the country can move from Small and Medium Industries to military industrial complex. To achieve this goal the Nation must make a commitment to financially support the Defence Industries.

### **THE DEFENCE BUDGET**

Honourable Members, The Ministry of Defence budget performance for the year ending March 31, 2014 is reported in the **Government Accountability Report 2012/2013 on Pages 107-116.**

Similarly, the document on the **Estimates of Revenue, Income and Expenditure 01 April 2014 - 31 March 2017** provides the detailed information on the Defence Ministry during the Medium Term Framework. For ease of reference the **Defence Budget is described on pages 88-98.** Moreover, the Appropriation Bill provides the global figure



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for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Furthermore, the document titled Development Programmes – **Estimates of Expenditure: Medium Term Expenditure Framework 2014/2015-2016/2017** details on Pages 106-120, the allocation to the Ministry of Defence for infrastructure development. In addition, detailed targets for the **Medium Term Expenditure Framework** are contained on Pages 74-81 in the document titled **Medium Term Expenditure Framework 2014/2015-2016/2017**.

We thank the Minister of Finance and the Director-General of National Planning Commission for their generous consideration in favour of the Ministry of Defence. The Nation should be assured that these resources shall be put to optimal use in the interest of the security and defence of our Motherland.

I submit and thank you all for your unflinching support to the Budget of the Ministry of Defence.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable *Katusha*.

Vote 10 – “**EDUCATION**” – **N\$13,068,166,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Education. Honourable David Namwandi.

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**HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION:** Thank you very much. I hope the Honourable House will bear with me, I am introducing a Budget which is over N\$13 billion.

**Introduction**

Firstly let me express our sincere thanks to the Minister of Finance as well as the Director-General of the National Planning Commission together with the experts who helped drawing up this Budget. Congratulations on a job well done.

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Before I share with you the priorities and plans for the Education Sector, allow me to express my appreciation to His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia, for the support extended to us over the past four years in making critical investments to the Education Sector. Whilst we still have some challenges to overcome, I assure the Nation that the lift will no longer be a lengthy one as the investments we have made are beginning to show some efficient functioning in our schools system. It is just a matter of time before these investments will begin to pay off.

To my fellow Cabinet Ministers and Members of Parliament, I thank you for your continuous advice and support. Education is indeed a collective endeavor, a solid investment one can never regret having made. The bright future belongs to those Nations who invest heavily in education. Namibia, therefore, is on the right track. The global village is all about a stiff competition and without sound education certainly no Nation can make it to the top. We owe it to ourselves and generation yet unborn to rise to the very top.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the question is not just whether we should continue to invest in education, but also how we can make smarter investments in education. How can our education system become more productive?

This afternoon, I will share with you the Education Budget Estimates for the next three years. I shall discuss the major challenges facing the education system. I shall then present you with an outline of the estimates to enable us overcome these challenges for the Financial Year 2014/2015, Programme by Programme in presenting the annual estimates, I shall outline major achievements and proposed Activities to which we shall deploy the funds for which we seek approval.

**Allocation for the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework 2014/2015 – 2016/2017**

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, we have estimated the total education expenditure in the Medium-Term Plan for 2015/2016 - 2016/2017 at **(N\$42,104,134,000.00)**. An amount of **N\$2, 7**

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**billion**, representing 6.6% of the three year estimate of the **N\$42 billion**, is earmarked for development expenditure.

ALLOCATION	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
<b>OPERATIONAL BUDGET</b>	12,297,565,000	13,438, 405,000	13,605,189,000
<b>DEVELOPMENT BUDGET</b>	770,601,000	691,232,000	1,301,142,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,068,166,000</b>	<b>14,129,637,000</b>	<b>14,906,331,000</b>

**Budget of 2014/2015**

With regard to the allocations for the Financial Year 2014/2015, I am delighted to inform the house that the estimates for the Ministry of Education increased by 21% (**N\$2.3 billion**) to **N\$13 billion**. This represents an increase of 22% (**N\$2.1 billion**) in the estimates for operational expenses to **N\$12.2 billion** and 19.6% increase (**N\$126 million**) in the estimates for development expenditure.

The requested funding will support nine Education Sector Programmes as follows:

Programme	2014/2015	Previous Year's 2013/2014
<b>1. Pre-primary</b>	339,248,749	312,819,177
<b>2. Primary</b>	5,826,835,896	5,858,780,310
<b>3. Secondary</b>	3,427,393,000	2,034,984,567
<b>4. VET</b>	509,471,000	382,709,841
<b>5. Higher Education</b>	2,211,714,000	1,663,866,109
<b>6. IALL</b>	432,806,000	321,724,187
<b>7. Policy Coordination</b>	249,262,355	109,290,380
<b>8. Research &amp; Science</b>	61,430,000	Part of Prog. 10
<b>9. HIV/AIDS</b>	10,005,000	Part of Prog. 10
<b>10. Functions Associated with Education</b>	Prog. Discontinued and Activities Renamed	63,285,429
<b>11.Total</b>	<b>13,068,166,000</b>	<b>10,747,4,600,000</b>

### **Major Challenges Facing the Education Sector**

Of the **N\$9,6 billion** that is to be allocated to pre-primary, primary and secondary education, **N\$7 billion** goes towards remuneration expenditure. These funds will remunerate 24,660 teachers and school administrators for the time they devote to the teaching and learning environment. However, with repetition rates averaging 16% overall and as high as 13% at Grade 8, it becomes evidently clear that the **N\$7 billion** that goes towards the core activity of teaching is not well spent. It either means that the 195 days set aside for teaching and learning are not fully utilised for this activity or that teachers are not sufficiently prepared for the teaching and learning environment.

It is becoming increasingly clear that we have to closely monitor and supervise the teaching environment to ensure that every minute is devoted to teaching and learning. *'Time on Task'* is the key theme for this year. Secondly, we need to closely observe the learning environment and continuously strive to ensure that teachers utilise the most effective teaching and learning methods.

We observe that the cost of services associated with education continue to rise and constitute a significant portion of our expenditure. We spend **N\$500 million** annually on catering for 57,935 learners who are accommodated in 217 Government school hostels. This is in stark contrast to **N\$80 million** that we spend annually on textbooks and learning guides and the **N\$770 million** earmarked for Development Programmes during 2014/2015. We shall have to critically look into more cost-efficient and cost-effective ways of running our school hostels.

In addition, over the last year, we spent **N\$100 million** providing one midday meal to learners as part of the National School Feeding Programme. The figure again overshadows the amount that we spend on textbooks and learning materials. With the declaration of the Drought Emergency in 2013, we had to expand the school Feeding Programme from the targeted figure of 270,000 beneficiaries to 310,000 learners at both primary and secondary levels.

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We vow to closely monitor the School Feeding Programme to avoid possible wastage and to keep education costs within the available Budget Allocation.

Estimated expenditure for development programmes will amount to **N\$770 million** compared to the 2013/2014 allocation of **N\$640 million**. The 2014/2015 allocation on Development Programmes represents 6% of the overall estimates. The allocation to Development Programmes is an insignificant amount in light of the 1,300 traditional structures and 344 open air classroom recorded in 2013, therefore, this remains a major challenge to the education system.

Estimating the cost of a large variety of Tertiary Education Programmes has been a recurring challenge over the years. The adoption of the Funding Framework for Public Tertiary Institutions to be implemented in the Financial Year 2015/2016, will result in a more efficient, transparent and equitable allocation of resources to tertiary education institutions. We shall, however, need to ensure that input costs are closely monitored and that we get value for every dollar we devote to higher education.

Given the importance of the Vocational Education and Training Sub-sector, we have proposed a significant increase in the allocation of resources to this Subsector to increase the number of graduates. The proposed allocation to Vocational Education and Training for the Financial Year 2014/2015 amounts to **N\$509 million**. The additional funds allocated to this Programme should result in a comparable number of outputs in terms of graduates. We shall monitor the Sub-sector on a quarterly basis to ensure that the system trains artisans in sufficient numbers and relevant fields as this is the main remedy to our challenge of unemployment.

### **Education Programmes**

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I shall now share with you our most important achievements during the last financial year. I shall provide this house with an outline of the major activities to which we shall deploy the funds we seek for the Financial

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Year 2014/2015. I shall also highlight urgent educational challenges that still need to be addressed.

**Pre-primary Education**

With increasingly competing priorities, it is essential that we seek smarter ways to invest in education. Research has proven that high-quality early learning can improve young children's health, social, emotional and cognitive outcomes. Investing in pre-primary education is the best education investment we can make. High-quality pre-primary education reduces grade repetitions and drop-outs. It reduces placements in special education. In the long-term, it boosts access to tertiary education and graduation rates.

In the Financial Year 2013/2014, we exceeded the target for pre-primary school enrolment of 22,000 by enrolling 24,659 children.

Parents have realised the benefits of the pre-primary school phase. They have noticed that children who attend the pre-primary classes tend to succeed more easily at the primary education level and further education than those who do not. In addition to the drive from parents, the increase in learner enrolment at pre-primary level can also be attributed to the implementation of a fee-free environment at our schools.

For the Financial Year 2014/2015, we are likely to enrol 35,000 learners at the pre-primary education level. 180 additional teachers are to be recruited to manage education at this level.

We have requested funding to the tune of **N\$339,248,749** for pre-primary level for the Financial Year 2014/2015 (compared to the **N\$312,819,177** allocated in the last Financial Year). Funding will be utilized for the salaries of pre-primary teachers; the construction of pre-primary classes; and learning materials.

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**Primary Education**

Namibian children, regardless of their socio-economic situation, should be able to complete primary schooling. It is not just enough for children to be enrolled in school, but it is crucial that these children learn. Therefore, Government needs to ensure that there is a sufficient number of qualified teachers and classrooms.

The introduction of universal primary education not only assured compliance with Article 20 of our Constitution, but is also in line with UNESCO Education for All. It is our view that this introduction has resulted in a 3% increase in learner enrolment.

This was a timely intervention. The Ministry is most grateful for the support accorded to it by the Nation.

Phasing out fees at primary education level goes hand in hand with ensuring that schools are provided with all basic necessities. During the Financial Year 2013/2014, we disbursed **N\$135 million** to schools for this purpose. The disbursement benefitted 449,243 learners. The funds provided at school level were utilised for minor maintenance of school buildings, school excursions, photocopying of learning materials and the purchase of stationery and other day-to-day school necessities.

992,802 textbooks to the value of **N\$85 million** (for both primary and secondary levels) were purchased during 2013/2014.

We continue to assess the performance of the primary education system by administering the Standardised Achievement Tests (SATs) for Grades 5 and 7 in English, Mathematics and Natural Sciences. These tests provide diagnostic information regarding learner performance on the assessed competencies. The Standardised Achievement Tests carried out in 2013 in Grade 5 indicate an overall national performance at 46%. This is exactly the same level of performance achieved in 2009. In Mathematics, learner performance remained at 43%, the same level of performance as in 2009. To me this stagnation is not favourable or acceptable. The lack of improvement in the Standardised Achievement

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Tests is a matter of great concern to our Ministry. Failure to achieve basic competencies in Grade 5 and 7 is bound to affect good performance at Grades 10 and 12 levels.

Unlike in 2013, the 2014 Standardised Achievement Tests will be administered to Grades 5 and 7 learners simultaneously at a cost of **N\$5 million?**

Poor performance of learners in the Standardised Achievement Tests is a reflection of inadequate mastery of the assessed competencies by the teachers themselves, poor teaching methods or failure by the teachers to cover the assessed competencies in the syllabus. These shortcomings are addressed as part of the Continuous Professional Development Initiatives.

Implementation of curriculum revision efforts will be a major development initiative during the Financial Year 2014/2015. We shall train pre-primary and primary level teachers to implement the revised curriculum in 2015. Preparations for implementation will include the printing and distribution of supporting teaching and learning materials to the value of **N\$100 million**. The revised curriculum will be implemented through a phased-in process. It will commence with the lower pre-primary and primary levels in 2015 and continue with implementation at upper primary level in 2016.

Other initiatives to be implemented during the Financial Year 2014/2015 include in-service training for teachers by the Continuous Professional Unit. **N\$15 million** is earmarked for this activity. Training will primarily focus on weaknesses in learner achievement as identified through the diagnostic tests.

The Ministry has also realised that the teaching of reading in the mother tongue poses a challenge to teachers. Teachers will be trained on strategies and methodology to teach reading skills in the mother tongue through the implementation of Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) techniques at a cost of **N\$10 million**.

The English Language Proficiency Programme (ELPP) will be rolled out



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during the Financial Year 2014/2015 at a cost of **N\$20 million**.

A combined investment in textbooks by the Ministry and MCA-Namibia has yielded the desired results, reducing the learner/textbook ratio to at primary level. The purchase of textbooks during 2014 will provide each and every learner at primary level with a textbook in the key subjects.

An amount of **N\$5,826,835,896** is required to manage and bring improvements to the provision of education to 449,243 learners at primary level.

**Secondary Education**

Namibia had 187,547 learners enrolled at the secondary phase country wide. Compared to the 449,243 learners at the primary education level, this illustrates an alarmingly low transition or retention rate from the primary to the secondary level and depicts a system in need of an overhaul.

Efforts to expand secondary education saw an increase in the net enrolment rate from 55,7% in 2012 to 58% in 2013.

On the national examination front, the performance of Grade 10 learners who met the basic admission requirements (23 points in six subjects) to enter Grade 11 improved from 52,1% in 2012 to 54.6% in 2013. A comparison of the Grade 10 results in 2013 and 2012 indicate that more learners performed well than in 2012.

Of the 54,589 learners who sat for the National Senior Secondary Examination, ten thousand eight hundred (10,800) fulltime and part-time learners qualified for University admission in 2014. The vocational and technical education system is geared towards taking up its role in the training of Namibia's artisans, to avoid a bleak future for Namibian learners who have completed secondary education it is my conviction that the current curriculum review, which includes vocational subjects, is a step in the right direction.

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The revision of the curriculum of basic education is a major initiative during Financial Year 2014/2015. Panels of experts in various subjects will accelerate the pace of the process of preparing content and teaching and learning materials. As I indicated earlier the revised curriculum will be implemented through a phased-in process commencing 2015.

The amount of **N\$3,427,393,000** requested under the Secondary Education Programme will be utilized for salaries, in-service training of teachers provision of learning support materials, textbooks and other teaching materials as well as additions or improvement of teaching infrastructure.

Administratively, the National Commission for UNESCO is budgeted under for general education. Its purpose is to manage relations between UNESCO Member States and UNESCO by providing advice on all UNESCO related matters. This Programme is allocated the amount of **N\$10,329,800** for 2014/2015. The funds will be utilised mainly for participation in the sessions of the UNESCO Executive Board and other UNESCO activities. Namibia is a member of the Executive Board for a period of three years, i.e. from 2012 to 2015. The funds will further be utilised for the management of the Office of the Namibian Deputy Permanent Delegate to UNESCO. It must be noted that, due to low salary notches, it is a challenge to staff the National Commission with high-level professionals at the appropriate seniority levels. These officials interact with the UNESCO Secretariat and other professionals in UNESCO Members States.

### **Vocational Education and Training**

This Programme is implemented by the Namibia Training Authority and seeks to establish and manage a demand-driven Vocational Education Training System. The main objectives are to ensure access, quality and equity in order to deliver the technical and vocational education and training skills required for productive work and accelerated social and economic development.

The Programme aims to coordinate the entire Training Sector within a

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national competency-based training, assessment and qualifications framework to deliver the needed skills for the national economic development cause.

The Vocational Education and Training will come into effect on 1 April 2014. Registration of employers already commenced on 27 January 2014.

In order to expand access and improve vocational training, the upgrading of Eenhana and Rundu VTC has commenced, while construction of two new centres at Gobabis and Keetmanshoop is also underway.

The fundamental challenge for this Programme is the lack of critical human resources in key areas. In this regard the VTCs have embarked on recruiting qualified staff to prevent adverse impacts on the quality of training services rendered. My visit to Cuba has helped us to acquire seven qualified instructors from the Cuban Government who are due to arrive any time soon.

In the 2014/2015-2016/2017 MTEF period the Vocational Education and Training Programme is allocated **N\$1,570,396,000** compared to 2013/2014 allocation of **N\$297,698,000**. Major achievements include a 17% increase in enrolment, or an increase from 9,872 trainees in 2012 to 11,515 in 2013.

The increase in enrolment over the past two years has resulted in marginal increases in the total number of trainees funded in the VET system. The unit cost for every trainee a provider enrolls is **N\$11,000**. This allocation has been in place for over 10 years and has never been revised due to financial constraints. Currently, the cost per trainee is in excess of **N\$31,000** per trainee. It is thus clear that the current allocation, much as its appreciated, still fall short of the reviewed level of funding.

Additional resources will be mobilised to enhance the quality and quantity of skills development and to address constraints hindering enterprise development. Funds generated through the VET Levy can assist with providing more training opportunities to meet the needs.

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**Higher Education**

The Higher Education subsector witnessed significant developments in the last year. Achievements during the year under reference include the approval of a Funding Framework for Public Higher Education Institutions. With the introduction of this framework there will now be a transparent, just and equitable system for determining the resource allocation to public higher education institutions. The system will be implemented as from the Financial Year 2015/2016.

The new funding framework requires a functioning Public Higher Education Management Information System. The system is currently under development and the required human resources will be trained to manage it.

A National Quality Assurance System for Higher Education and the associated manuals for Programme Accreditation and Institutional Audit; were also approved.

Other major developments include the de-linking of the Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF) from the Ministry of Education. The NSFAF now functions as a state-owned enterprise.

In the Financial Year 2013/2014, the NSFAF was allocated **N\$621,136,000**, for student financial support. The Fund supported 8,953 under-graduates and 224 post graduate students. An amount of **N\$836,146,000** is required for the operations of the Fund.

The proposed allocation of **N\$2,211,714,000** for 2014/2015 to the Programme Higher Education is broken down amongst the implementing and coordinating institutions as follows:

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<b>Institution</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>University of Namibia</b>	870,535,000
<b>Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF)</b>	836,146,000
<b>Polytechnic of Namibia</b>	449,034,000
<b>Namibia Council for Higher Education</b>	27,371,000
<b>Namibia Qualifications Authority</b>	15,272,000

In the next Fiscal Year, Higher Education Institutions will focus, amongst others, on the implementation of the Cabinet directives - in particular the transformation of the Polytechnic of Namibia into a University of Science and Technology.

Emphasis will also be placed on the implementation of the recommendations of the review of the empirical research, infrastructure and other resources of higher education in Namibia to address areas of critical importance to our economy. This initiative recognises the importance of research and development in higher education.

In order to expand access, infrastructure will be developed with emphasis on facilities in fields where Namibia experiences shortages of human resources such as engineering and medical personnel. To further expand access, student accommodation and libraries will be developed at the UNAM Southern Campus, Henties Bay Fisheries Faculty and the former Colleges of Education.

Due to the shortage of pre-primary and lower primary teachers, the Ministry directed UNAM to develop a three-year Diploma. It will be implemented in 2015.

Institutions of higher learning are directed to make higher education more accessible, especially to learners from disadvantaged background who qualify and aspire to attain qualifications at institutions of higher learning.

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**Adult and Lifelong Learning**

The Adult and Lifelong Learning Programme has an immense potential for contributing to the attainment of our National Development Goals. The Programme strives to open doors to knowledge, information and lifelong learning, especially for the poor for whom Government information facilities is the only means of access. It further targets out-of-school youth and adults through open and Distance Learning Programmes at the Namibia College of Open Learning (NAMCOL).

This Programme enables the Ministry to provide free public ICT access to communities through public/community libraries and Community Learning and Development Centres.

**N\$432,806,000** is budgeted for Adult and Lifelong Learning opportunities for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the number of libraries providing the public with computers and internet access increased from 42 to 52, bringing the percentage of Government Libraries offering free public ICT access to 83%. During the period under review 108,104 people accessed ICT through libraries.

Lack of professional staff continues to be a constraint in improving the library network and its contribution to education, research and economic development. It also hampers the preservation of national documents and records. During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry addressed this problem through an enlarged structure which includes staff with IT competencies. This new structure will help facilitate the expansion of ICT through community libraries and the free Regional Study and Resource Centres.

During the year under review, the library network accommodated 998,828 users across the country. User numbers continue to increase. This demonstrates that more people are accessing information for education and development.

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Three Regional Study and Resource Centres (regional libraries) will open to the public in 2014: Ohangwena (April), Oshakati (July) and Omaheke (August). The construction of Regional Centres in Omusati and Khomas will commence during 2014.

Namibia's literacy efforts continue to receive international recognition. Namibia received an award from UNESCO in 2013. The International Literacy Prize was awarded for Namibia's efforts in improving the quality of life of both disadvantaged adults and out-of-school youth. This UNESCO Confucius Prize consists of a Diploma, a silver medal and **US\$20,000**.

Insufficient funding to this Programme has hampered expansion and has delayed the implementation of a new bridging year programme to enable Adult Upper Primary Education graduates and Formal Education Grade 7 School leavers to progress to Grade 10. This bridging programme will be the focus of work in adult education during 2014/2015.

The Namibia College of Open Learning continues to be a significant role player in efforts to provide out-of-school youth with life skills. In 2013, 10,278 part-time candidates sat for the Junior Secondary Certificate national examination, an increase of 2.1% compared to the previous year. In addition, 23,360 part time learners sat for the National Senior Certificate Examination. Between 82% and 93% subject entries for the Junior and Senior Certificate Examination were graded. Twenty four percent of the subject entries for both grades achieved higher grades (D and above) compared to the twenty percent recorded in 2012.

As part of the College's Programme Diversification Initiative 631 students registered for the Technical Vocational and Training Programmes in disciplines such as the International Computer Driving License, Automotive Mechanics, Welding and Metal Fabrication, Plumbing and Pipe-Fitting and Office Administration. An increase is expected in 2014 as the third intake for TVET will commence in June 2014.

Currently, the College has 1,678 students enrolled in Professional Programmes, in disciplines such as the Certificate in Early Childhood

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Development, the Certificate in Business Management, the Certificate in Education for Development, the Certificate in Local Government Studies, the Certificate in Community-based Work with Children and Youth, the Diploma in Education for Development, the Diploma in Youth Development Work and the Diploma in Early Childhood Development and Pre-Primary Education, in 2013. The College anticipates enrolling over 2,000 students for its professional programmes during 2014.

**Coordination and Support Services to Education**

Coordination and Support Services comprise of the systematic collection, analysis and use of education data from all Programmes for accounting internally and externally for the resources used and the results obtained. It also takes decisions on the basis of the available information.

Financial and Human Resource Management of the Ministry, including the functions delegated to Regional Councils, fleet management, provision of security services as well as general maintenance resort under this Programme.

The Programme further comprises of management and coordination of IT services and support to the mainstreaming of ICT in Education.

Significant efforts will go towards training, monitoring and audit functions in relation to the delegated functions at regional level.

An amount of **N\$249,262,355** is required to support the provision of Public Education Services.

**Science, Research and Technology**

This Programme is executed by the recently established National Commission on Research Science and Technology (NCRST) established in accordance with Research, *Science and Technology Act* (Act 26 of 2004). The main purpose of this Programme is to coordinate, facilitate, promote and develop research, science and technology/innovation for social and economic benefits of our country. This is in line with our



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Vision 2030 and NDP 4 goals envisaging Namibia to become knowledge based society.

A key deliverable from this Programme during 2014/2015 is the development of the National Research Strategic Plan. Once completed, the Strategic Plan will set the strategic direction of research, science and technology/innovation while providing funding targets and operational mechanism including monitoring and evaluation of its activities.

Further, the National Council on Science, Research and Technology will commence with the construction of the National Research Science Technology and Innovation Valley which will house the following national facilities: NCRST Headquarters, the National Innovation & Incubation Centre, the National Biotechnology Genetic Modified Organism Research & Training Laboratory and the National Science and Demonstration Centre, amongst others.

An amount of **N\$62,340,000** has been allocated for research science, technology and innovation Activities in 2014/15, while the capital development allocation is estimated at **N\$3,314,000**.

### **HIV/AIDS Management**

Notwithstanding the decline, thanks to the efforts of my brother Honourable Kamwi and the entire Nation, we shall continue to spread knowledge and skills on HIV/AIDS as well as the provision of psycho-social support to orphans and the vulnerable children. The funds required for training activities, development of information material, as well as counselling support, amounts to **N\$10,005,000**.

### **Conclusion**

Despite the disturbing news that this continent has been losing 20,000 professionals to the developed Nations and notwithstanding the fact that there are more African scientists, engineers and architects in the USA and elsewhere, we must not disengage. As we continue to invest as a Nation at this speed, the brain drain shall be turned into brain gain. I firmly

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believe Namibia has the capacity to do just that.

On behalf of Team Education and the entire education fraternity, allow me to humbly request this House to pass Vote 10 for the amount of **N\$13,068,166,000.00 (Thirteen Billion Sixty Eight Million One Hundred and sixty six thousand Namibian Dollars)** in totality. I thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much.

Vote 25 – **“LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT”**, **N\$590,026,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Lands.

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**HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT:** Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I rise before this August House with deep sense of appreciation and privilege to introduce **Vote 25 for the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement for the Financial Year 2014/2015** for support and approval.

I also want to support the Budget that was presented by the Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila earlier in this House and appreciate the efforts of the Director-General of the National Planning Commission, their Permanent Secretaries and the entire team of dedicated staff for what I believe to be a job well executed.

At this juncture, before I proceed with my statement, I would like to say land matters have in recent week become a centre of focus, as evidenced by the Debate generated on the issue in this august House. I have

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followed the Debates with a keen interest, while I do not want to repeat what was already said by the esteemed senior Honourable Members, I think the discussions are due to the importance of the Sector to our development agenda, the current work being implemented in the Ministry in testimony to the initial foundations laid down and the sterling work that was done by those who came before me who were part and parcel of the inception phase in the initiation of the policy and legal framework of this Ministry, in whose legacy we now operate. Their guidance led to the building blocks that contribute to the historical legacy of this Ministry and we acknowledge their immense work.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, whilst tabling this Vote, the Ministry acknowledges the various initiatives embodied within the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4) that are earmarked to address the socio-economic development of our country through improved project implementation and the targeted efforts to mitigate the challenges of unemployment. The Ministry's four key Programmes are premised on the national understanding of the need to create employment opportunities, the reduction of inequality in the distribution of economic benefits and to contribute towards a sustained economic growth. The Ministry has made significant strides in these areas by fast-tracking the development of communal areas; acquiring land and allocating it to farmers and communities under the Land Reform Programme. The Ministry also provides Geographic Information System data from orthophotos that was used as basic data in the National Census.

Having said the above, I now have the pleasure to present the 2014/2015 Budget for the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement, together with the highlights of achievements. The 2014/2015 Budget as expressed in its Medium-Term Plan will focus on four key Programmes namely:

**Programme 1: Land Reform Programme**

The Land Reform Programme encompasses the following activities

- Land Acquisition;

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- Land Allocation;
- Valuation, Property Taxation and Estate Management; and
- Land Management and Administration.

**Land Acquisition and Allocation**

The redistributive Land Reform Programme continues to be a priority as the demand for land is still acute. In order to respond to this present need for land the Ministry has acquired 2.3 million hectares of land to date. To meet the set target of 5 million hectares by 2020 the Ministry is still to acquire 2.7 million hectares which translates to an annual acquisition target of 280,000 hectares, between now and 2020.

During the period under review the Ministry acquired 18 farms with a total area of 101,252.5381 hectares at a cost of **N\$142 million** and 73 families were resettled during the same period

*Land Acquired under the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme*

The Ministry supports the acquisition of land by formerly disadvantaged Namibians under the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme Programme that is administered by the Agricultural Bank of Namibia (Agribank). Since the inception of the Programme, a total of 649 farmers have benefitted under this Programme.

*Water Infrastructure*

During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry developed and rehabilitated Fourty Three (43) resettlement farms in //Karas, Omaheke, Oshikoto, Kunene and Otjozondjupa Regions. Work on Thirty Eight (38) boreholes in //Karas, Khomas and Kunene Regions was completed and these farmers have water.

*Fencing Infrastructure*

During the same period, the Ministry rehabilitated fencing on Five (5) farms in //Karas, Oshikoto and Hardap Regions respectively. To

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implement the above stated Sub-programme the Ministry requires an amount of **Three Hundred and Ninety Four Million, One Hundred and Ninety Five Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$394,195,000)**.

**Valuation, Property Taxation and Estate Management**

The Programme involves the provision of valuation, property rating, taxation and estate management services to OMAs. Valuations are done for land acquisition and other purposes as required by OMAs.

*Provision of Valuation Services*

The Programme besides the inspection and valuation of commercial farms that are offered for sale to the State also assess compensation claims in communal land and provides valuation services as requested by OMAs. During the reporting period, a total of 790 properties were inspected and valued throughout the country, while 54 farms were inspected and valued, and 16 were successfully negotiated for acquisition by the State.

*Land Taxation*

The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement is mandated to impose tax on commercial agricultural land. During the review period, the Ministry collected revenue amounting to **Twenty Two Million, Three Hundred and Seven Thousand, Three Namibian Dollars, Twenty Nine Cents (N\$22,307,003.29)**. This amount will be transferred to the Land Acquisition and Development Fund to support land acquisition and development of infrastructure on resettlement farms. Notwithstanding the revenue collected, it is worth mentioning that the Ministry received 1,250 applications for land tax exemption amounting to N\$4.5 million.

I would also like to bring to the attention of this House that the 2012-2017 Provisional Valuations Roll is still to be approved by the Valuation Court since its sitting had been nullified by the High Court. The Valuation Court will be reconstituted to preside on the Provisional Valuation Roll for its approval during the current Financial Year. As a mitigating factor to farmers against the severe drought the Ministry intends to exempt all

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farmers from paying land tax during the last Financial Year of 2012/2013. Currently, there is a case before the High Court where a farmer is challenging the constitutionality of the Regulations that regulates the operations of the Land Tax in the country. To implement the above Sub-programme the Ministry requires an amount of **Fourteen Million, Four Hundred and Eight Six Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$14,485,000).**

**Programme 2: Security of Tenure**

*Security of Tenure Includes Registration Real Rights*

This Programme involves the maintenance of a credible Land Registry that affords the registration of real rights and thus provides secure tenure for the development of our country. The registration of properties all over the country is a statutory process which is done in accordance with the *Deeds Registry Act* of 1937, we are in the process of revising that legislation, however, we are currently using the one of 1937, which I am not even very proud to mention it. The Ministry has made positive strides to register all properties through the Windhoek and Rehoboth Deeds Registries.

Further to this, the Ministry is in the process to consolidate the current *Deeds Registries Acts* to provide for the registration of communal land in Namibia. This process is at an advanced stage. Efforts to computerise the Deeds Registration process is on-going and is supported by the Office of the Prime Minister, we thank you so much Comrade Deputy Prime Minister, through the Business Process Re-engineering (BPR). The objective of computerisation process is to reduce the number of days taken on property transactions and bring efficiency to the system.

*Development of Small Scale Commercial Farming Project*

The objective of this Sub-programme is to develop the under-utilised land in communal areas into Small Scale Commercial Farming Units. A total of 1,537 Small Scale Commercial Farming Units have so far been identified in seven (7) Regions namely Zambezi (82), Kavango (513), Ohangwena (24), Omusati (113), Oshikoto (205), Otjozondjupa and

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Omaheke (600) with the total size of 109,055,200 hectares. It is, therefore, important to mention that Small Commercial Farming Units in Kavango and Ohangwena have been gazetted.

From the Appropriation Budget, an amount of **Thirteen Million, Five**

**Hundred and Thirty Four Thousand, and Thirty One Namibia Dollars (N\$13,534,031.00)** was allocated for the infrastructural development of the project in the small scale commercial farming units. An amount of **Thirteen Million, Four Hundred, and Fifty Two Thousand, Seven Hundred Namibian Dollars, Sixty Nine Cents (N\$13,452,700.69)** under the Targeted Intervention for Employment and Economic Growth was utilised for the fencing and marketing infrastructure in Otjetjekwa and Okongo. A total of 48,000 hectares at Otjetjekwa was developed at an amount of **Six Million, Seven Hundred and Two Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty Six Namibian Dollars, Ninety Nine Cents (N\$ 6,701,846.99)** with the fencing and marketing infrastructure for a registered cooperative benefiting 100 families. In Okongo, 30,000 hectares was also developed with the fencing and marketing infrastructure at an amount of **Six Million, Seven Hundred and Forty Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty Three Namibian Dollars, Seventy Cents (N\$6,749,853.70)** with 15 leaseholds approved. The project was complimented with funding from KfW in support of the Local level Participatory Planning Process and other activities to realize the intended objectives.

### **Land Registration**

The Land Registration Sub-Programme has the objective to ensure security of tenure to all Namibians living in communal areas. Communities residing in communal areas have a statutory obligation to have claims over their communal land for farming, residential and business purposes recognised and registered as provided for by the *Communal Land Reform Act*, 2002 (Act 5 of 2002). In the preceding Financial Year, this Sub-programme was allocated an amount of **Twelve Million, Eight Hundred and Ninety Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$12,890, 000)** under the Targeted Intervention for Employment and

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Economic Growth (TIPEEG) for the registration of customary and leasehold land rights. From this amount the expenditure was as follows:

- **N\$4.5 million** was spent on salaries;
- **N\$4.4 million** was spent transport and the procurement of six (6) vehicles for the project, four (4) vehicles were four wheel drive (4x4) for fieldwork and two (2) sedans (2x4);
- **N\$1.4 million** was spent on training of Communal Lands Boards (CLBs) and Traditional Authorities (TAs) on the required legal application and interpretation of the *Communal Land Reform Act*. Communal Land Boards across the country were also trained on the guidelines for the removal of illegal and unrecognised fences, appeal procedures, dispute resolution skills as well as on effective leadership and land management skills.
- **N\$1 million** was used for Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)
- **N\$500,000** on stationary;
- **N\$730,000** was spent on communication activities on registration of communal land rights which includes the on-going NBC and One Africa TV and Radio advertisements which ended on the 28 February 2014.
- **N\$250,000** was spent on equipment, such as GPSs; and Computers, and
- **N\$200,000** for allowances of appeals by Tribunal members.

In total 11,788 existing Customary Land Rights were registered; 4,285 new Customary Land Rights registered and 85 leaseholds were registered during this Financial Year. It is also important to mention to this august House that the deadline of the extension period for recognition and registration of existing Customary Land Rights in terms of Section 28 and Regulation 7 and Section 35 and Regulation 17 (PTOs) of the *Communal*



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*Land Reform Act*, 2002 which was supposed to have been the 28th of February 2014, was extended indefinitely because there is still high demand for registration of rights.

Through the Targeted Intervention Programme for Employment and Economic Growth (TIPEEG), the Ministry has managed to optimise production of land, rights registered thus allocation of more funding is required to procure vehicles and other technical equipments for the projects and resources to intensify communication on land registration for the majority of citizens to participate fully in the Programme, and ultimately realise the roll-out of the registration of existing customary land rights.

**Flexible Land Tenure Project**

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure security of tenure in terms of the *Flexible Land Tenure Act*, 2012 (Act 4 of 2012) to persons in informal settlements or who are provided with low income housing.

During the current Financial Year, an amount of **N\$525,000** was allocated to this Programme. It is, therefore, important to inform this august House that the Flexible Land Tenure Project is still in its infancy. During the same period a Regulations Committee was constituted. The Programme also realised the printing of 170 copies of the enabling legislation which is the *Flexible Land Tenure Act*, 2012 (Act 4 of 2012) at a cost of **N\$5,721 00**. Currently, the project is coordinated by one staff member and, therefore, requires sufficient funding to absorb the necessary skilled staff component comprising of the Land rights Registrar and Land Rights Officers as provided for in the *Flexible Land Tenure Act*, 2012 to roll-out the implementation plan.

To accelerate this Sub-programme, an amount of **Fourteen Million Three Hundred and Ninety Four Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$14,394,000)** is needed.

**Programme 3:    National Spatial Data Infrastructure and Establishment of Fundamental Datasets**

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Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the use of geospatial information is increasing rapidly. In order to provide this geospatial framework, the Ministry embarked on a number of activities;

**Geodetic Network**

Geodesy, among other things guides the establishment of the national geodetic infrastructure. The geodetic infrastructure is the foundation for the precise location of objects on the earth surface. To identify precisely the location of land with the right quality for redistribution, a proper geodetic network consistent with the satellite technology being used by land surveyors needs to be in place.

A road map for the modernisation of the Namibian Geodetic Infrastructure has been drawn up. Preceding this, was the establishment of 22 zero order geodetic controls and 129 first order controls. In 2013, the Ministry with the assistance of GIZ, procured five Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) equipment. This equipment has been installed as part of a network of Continuously Operating GPS Reference Stations (CORS) located in Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop, Oshakati, Gobabis and Swakopmund. Data obtained from these stations will be used by surveyors, engineers, geophysicists, meteorologists, planners, scientists, and others in support of a wide variety of applications.

The cadastral infrastructure includes a unique identification of the land parcels deriving from the cadastral surveys. This is commonly referred to as Unique Parcel Identifier (UPI). The cadastral identification is then seen as the core component of any land information system. The digital cadastral system has been developed and would be implemented in the next Financial Year, God willing. Its maintenance is estimated to cost **N\$1.5 million** annually.

The Ministry requires an amount of **Thirty Six Million, One Hundred and Fourty Nine thousand Namibi an Dollars (N\$36,149,000)** to implement the above Programme.

**Programme 4. Policy, Supervision and Support Services**

This Programme encompasses the following activities;

- Policy Supervision;
- Coordination and Support Services;
- Planning, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects and Programmes; and
- Acquisition and Maintenance of IT Equipment and Systems.

The purpose of this Programme is to provide support to the entire Land Reform and Resettlement Programme. The main focus is to supervise and coordinate the Ministry's Activities and Operations which include the development, application, interpretation, implementation, execution and formulation of relevant policies in accordance with legislative requirements and national objectives. The Ministry requires **Seventy Seven Million, Three Hundred and Twenty Seven Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$77,327,000)** to implement the above Programme.

In conclusion, Comrade Deputy Chairperson, I would like to acknowledge and re-emphasise the importance of the Land Reform Programme to the overall development objectives of our country and to this end, I reiterate my appreciation to the Minister of Finance Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila for responding to the request by the Ministry for additional funding as premised on the resolutions of the SWAPO Party. The increase saw the Ministry's allocation increase from **N\$299 million** to **N\$590 million** in this Financial Year. Finally, I am requesting the approval and support of this august House, for an amount of **Five Hundred and Ninety Million and Twenty Thousand Namibian Dollars (590,026,000.00)** only, to carry out all the 4 Programmes in the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement for the Financial Year 2014/2015. Thank you.

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**HON DR KAWANA**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Vote 26 – **“NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION”** - **N\$233,749,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Presidential Affairs. Honourable Dr Kawana.

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I rise to motivate **Vote 26 – “NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (NPC).”** Just like the Auditor-General, the NPC is a technical institution which does not require detailed motivation. The Accountability Report contains the activities of the NPC during the current Financial Year.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, during the current Financial Year, the NPC undertook several activities, some of which are still ongoing. A comprehensive analysis and review of the global and domestic economy was undertaken. This culminated in the compilation of the Annual Economic Development Report. The Report highlights Namibia’s average economic growth since Independence. Other research areas that were undertaken are poverty mapping, logistics, energy, an impact study of the Targeted Intervention Programme for Employment Creation and Economic Growth (TIPEEG), and the analysis of the skills gap in the labour market. The NPC is also assisting Regions to develop Regional Development Profiles. The profiles will include the features and characteristics of the Region, and contain information such as population, poverty level, economic activities, potential areas of investment, social and economic infrastructure, and many others. The purpose is to have a clear picture of each Region and be able to guide regional planning and equitable national distribution of public resources.

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Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, I am pleased to inform Honourable Members that the NPC managed to mobilise resources in the form of grants and loans as well as technical assistance from Development Partners (DPs) to the amount of **N\$2.517 billion**. This amount constituted grants funding of **N\$2,131 billion** and concessional loan financing of **N\$386 million**. The Namibia Statistics Agency is entering its third year of operations. It is currently producing reliable statistics that is useful for the country. I have no doubt that some of the information produced by the Agency will assist policy makers both in the Public and Private Sector to make informed decisions. The distribution of public resources to the Regions will partly be informed by information produced by the Agency.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, I now present to you the four (4) Programmes of the NPC.

The **First Programme** will involve: **Macroeconomic Planning**. The Programme will produce one (1) Economic Development Report; four (4) research papers; and eleven (11) policy briefs as part of the Fourth National Development Plan implementation. In addition, the following activities will be undertaken:

- Mid-term review of both Vision 2030 and Fourth National Development Plan;
- Convene a National Consultative Conference to discuss current developmental issues;

In collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Bank of Namibia, to work on Macro, Econometric, and Human Resource Development modules; and Participate in regional, continental and global level interactions on issues related to regional integration and developmental global agenda.

An amount of **Fifteen million, Six Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$15,6000,000)** is requested for this Programme.

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The **Second Programme** involves **Regional and Sectoral Planning and Policy Coordination**. The activities under this Programme will include the completion of Regional Development Profiles.

It will also carry out assessment of policies particularly in Sectors that are identified as priorities in the Fourth National Development Plan to ascertain their relevance towards achieving the National Development Goals.

An amount of **Sixteen million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$16,500,000)** is required for this Programme.

The **Third Programme** involves **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Development Partners Coordination**. This Programme aims to mobilise, coordinate and manage external development resources and to develop and maintain a national integrated monitoring and evaluation system for the Government. The Programme will concentrate on the following:

- Completion of the National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework;
- Fourth National Development Plan - Bi-Annual Reporting;
- Capital Projects Monitoring;
- Millennium Challenge Account-Namibia Post Compact Monitoring and Evaluation; and
- Development Partners Coordination.

An amount of **Thirty-One million, Eighty Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$31,800,000)** is requested for this Programme.

The **Fourth Programme** involves **Supervision, Coordination and Support Services**. The activities of this Programme will include rendering human resource management and development function; auxiliary services; financial management services; maintenance and safe

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HON MAAMBERUA**

keeping of computerised information system; and public relations.

An amount of **One Hundred and Sixty-Seven million, Seven Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$167,700,000)** is requested for this Programme.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, Honourable Members, I humbly request this august House to consider and approve: an amount of **TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THREE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$233,749,000)** for the Programmes of the National Planning Commission. I thank you for your attention and support.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Dr Kawana. We are now done with the Introduction of the Votes and are going to start with the discussions.

Vote 01 – “**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**”, put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Maamberua.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. This is actually not a full discussion but I just want to seek some clarifications from the Honourable Minister of Presidential Affairs.

Honourable Minister, in your statement under **Programme 4 – Democracy, Consolidation and Promotion**, you are requesting **N\$16,177,000.00**, I trust that you have the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework book; when you look on Page 26, under that Programme the expected outputs are noble. The Programme is indicating that it is expected that the output would be social development enhancement, economic development promotion, democratic governance improvement

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**HON MAAMBERUA**

and also to coordinate the work of Cabinet. Those are the expected outputs.

Now, on the same page, the Main Activities that are going to translate into those outputs are:

1. Carry out other functions as indicated in the Sam Nujoma Foundation – I just wonder how that relates to social development enhancement, economic development and so on.
2. Attend official functions inside and outside Namibia. Again, how is the attendance of such activities going to enhance economic development and translate into those outputs.
3. Attend official functions inside and outside Namibia. Carry out other functions as indicated in the Sam Nujoma Foundation.
4. Performing of ceremonial functions as per invitation from Public and Private Sector.

If those are the Main Activities for which you are requesting **N\$16,177,000.00**, how are those main Activities going to translate into those expected outcomes of economic development and so on? They do not seem to be relevant and I suspect that the Offices, Ministries and Agencies will actually take these things seriously and when this information is provided, it is information that has been crosschecked again and again.

In the same way, under the Office of the President, on Page 11 under the Development Budget, there is a project under the name **Construction of Residence**, towards the end of that Page, under **Project Activities**, it says, Activities completed during the Financial Year 2013/2014; and the answer there is - **None**. However, it is in the next activity plan in the first Financial Year of 2014/2015 of this MTEF – **Construction of Residence**. My question is, if in the first year there has not been any activity, nor feasible studies not even planning or design of the project, how is it possible that during 2014/2015 you allocate money for construction of the



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**HON MAAMBERUA**

residence? How do you construct a residence that you did not plan for, designed and for which no feasibility study was carried out?

I would suspect that in this regard, your answer would perhaps be that those things were done earlier on.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Maamberua, just ask without predicting what he is going to answer. Just ask your questions.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** I am motivating my question. If you look at the Budget Allocation for 2012/2013 – 2013/2014, there is zero allocation, meaning that feasibility studies, planning and design were not take into account during those years because those are zero allocations.

On the next page, there is a project called – **State Security Infrastructure**; under that project, the project description, objectives, components and target beneficiaries reads partly as follows: “*To accommodate the President,*” that is to say construction of accommodation for the President in several Regions. However, if you look at Activity B, it says, “*Activities planned for the first Financial Year of this MTEF is to construct or renovate office accommodation in the several Regions mentioned there.*” The question is when are the residences that are going to accommodate the President going to be constructed if what is described there, are actually offices in terms of actual Activities which is not is not meeting the project description because under the project description, we are talking about accommodation for the President but under the Activities you are referring to office accommodation? What exactly is happening with the project called **State Security Infrastructure**? Are you constructing accommodation for the President or are you constructing office accommodation as per the Activities described there? Thank you.

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**HON DR KAWANA**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. If there are no further discussions, will the Honourable Minister, please reply?

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. I thank the Honourable Member for asking the questions to seek clarity.

I will start with **Programme 4: *Honourable Maamberua***, there is absolutely no contradiction. The aims and objectives of the Sam Nujoma Foundation are charitable in nature. If you read newspaper and watch television news, you will see scholarships being granted, sometimes blankest being distributed to the poor communities and so on. Therefore, that function is a social function and as an economist, you should know better than me who is a lawyer by tribe what is meant by social activities. That is what is meant in terms of that Programme.

For Activities inside and outside Namibia and enhancement of democracy; let me first take this opportunity to thank the Political Parties, especially the Opposition. Sometime in 2012, we passed an Amendment here regarding retirement residences of former Presidents and there was unanimity after consultation with the Member of the Opposition, and this is to enhance democracy in our country.

Honourable Maamberua, in a number of countries, especially developing countries, when a Head of State leaves office, they relocate somewhere in Europe or America. In fact, former Heads of State constitutes one of the largest immigrant population outside those countries and we should not allow that in Namibia. In Namibia, whoever becomes a President, regardless of political affiliation, this country belongs to him/her because it is his/her country of birth and after retirement, they must stay here to play some other roles in different capacities. That is what we want. And that is why I am saying, I really want to thank the Members of the Opposition, when we passed this Law unanimously, also including the

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residences of retiring Presidents or former Heads of State. I was also very much moved by some of the remarks made by some of our leaders from the Opposition who were even saying that some of the benefits of the sitting President must be improved. There is a time, when it is a matter of national interest, all of us regardless of political differences, must move together because Namibia belongs to all of us. If Namibia is in a mess, all of us are going to lose.

(Interjections) I am responding to your question as to how it enhances democracy. I want to respond to the sentiment of some of our citizens; Honourable Maamberua, you know that you and I only have one country, that is, Namibia but there are some of those people who carry two passports. One, a citizen of economic convenience which is Namibia and the other, a citizen of allegiance which is somewhere else, when Namibia is burning, you will see aircrafts coming, some even without permission to come and rescue people and when you run with them to where they are going, you become a refugee and they become citizens. We need to avoid that experience in Namibia. All Namibian citizens must be Namibian citizens by allegiance and not by economic convenience.

Now coming specifically to your question, Honourable Maamberua, when a former Head of State leaves office, he can still play a role in a different way. You see our Founding President addressing meetings, particularly on Gender-Based Violence. This is to enhance democracy because he was our first citizen after Independence. Now he is preaching peace, unity, democracy and the Rule of Law. This is what we mean by enhancing democracy.

There is an organisation in Africa called the Committee of the Wise, meaning the Committee of the former Presidents, whenever there are problems in some of the countries, they select a few to go to those countries and calm the situation. That is what we mean by enhancing democracy, not only here at home but also in other countries. They, therefore, play a vital role for the stability of our country and also in assisting many other countries. This is the policy that we have to preserve and support.

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HON DR KAWANA**

Some of that money constitutes some of the salaries of the staff members employed in the Office of the former President under Programme 4. That money is not only used for other purposes but it also includes the salaries of the staff.

On the construction without feasibility studies, Honourable Maamberua, to answer your question, come 20 March 2015, that residence will be ready. As you know, it is a residence that is required by an Act of Parliament which was passed here unanimously and I am a very proud citizen of this country. It even prescribes the size of that residence so that our former Presidents must still enjoy the fruit of Independence in a free and independent Namibia, their country of birth. They should not be like in other countries where each and every former Head of State go somewhere else after leaving office. We do not want that culture in Namibia.

Honourable Maamberua, what I can assure you is, come 20 March 2015, that residence will be completed and the Head of State will occupy that once he leaves office.

When it comes to State Security, there are certain things which I cannot divulge in public and as I am standing here, I am live on NBC 3. Let us thus, discuss those issues at a different forum. I do not know if you are a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security but if you want I can also engage our colleagues from the intelligence service to brief the Honourable Members who want to be briefed because that is the culture we have developed, that from time the intelligence service will brief Members of Parliament. That is working very well and I think Honourable Kapia is indeed the Chairperson of that Committee. Honourable Members are even invited to conferences and workshops, we have nothing to hide in Namibia. Our only objective is that Namibia must be a free, democratic and peaceful country that must go forward as one of the winning Nations of Africa.

On that part, Honourable Maamberua, please bear with me because there are some security implications that I cannot divulge in public. I have taken an oath to protect and defend the security of this country.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Shixwameni.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chair of the Whole House Committee.

I did not want to talk on this Vote because I think it is straight forward but the Minister of Presidential Affairs raised something that is being mentioned recurrently that we have leaders with two or three passports: Those with economic convenience and those who would run away should there be trouble. I have serious problems when these things are being mentioned on the Floor of Parliament.

I am saying that we know that some of our leaders are not in their hearts in Namibia. This issue has been mentioned to me several times and I do also not need to reveal for security reasons. It has been said on several occasions that we are feeding leaders who have two passports in this country and I would like to challenge those ones who are responsible and those ones who know the leaders with two passports, that those leaders one day be mentioned and shamed because we cannot have leaders who have allegiance to other countries and at the same time allegiance to Namibia.. I think that is a betrayal of the Nation. I would, therefore, like this matter to be cleared one day and be put aside completely. Even the Deputy Minister of Agriculture said the list is endless.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Shixwameni, let us concentrate on the details please.

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**HON MOONGO / MAAMBERUA**

**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Yes, I am talking about what he was saying that the list is long, therefore, SWAPO must come out clearly and explain which long list do they have of leaders whom they suspect of dual citizenship in this country? Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Moongo.

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**HON MOONGO:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. I would only like to ask a small question on what he just mentioned as a senior lawyer who advises the President.

Is he the one who advised the Founding President to say, those who are killing women should be buried alive?

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Maamberua, please be very brief.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** I will be very brief, indeed, thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

When we talk about the Budget, we talk about the Budget, when we talk politics, we talk politics and when we talk security, we talk security.

I have to be on record that I am not interested in security matters right now. My question has got nothing to do with security as a patriotic Namibian. I am looking at the figures as provided here. If the Honourable Minister has not seen what is contained in this books then I

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**HON MUHARUKUA**

am sorry. Here we are talking about figures, so please you can direct your answers to answering what is contained in these very important financial books instead of wanting to intimidate people with your talks of State Securities and things like that. Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Deputy Minister of Gender Equality.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Members, I rise to give thanks to people of Kaoko, particularly to Vote 01 of the Commander in Chief, Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba for the good things he did in the Kunene Region, for Kaoko in particular, on two things:

Firstly, it was drought; and the Honourable Minister mentioned how the Ministry of Defence assisted with transportation of food to the community in Kaoko. This were instructions from the Office of the Commander in Chief.

Secondly, came the cholera outbreak, it was the Ministry of Defence which supported the efforts of the Ministry of Health because the Commander in Chief gave instructions. The people of Kaoko are grateful and this also opened their eyes and ears because during the dry season the Ovahimbas travelled and they were asking me, *is this the SWAPO Government we heard about?* I said *Yes*. And they asked again, *from which President did the food come?* And I said, *Comrade Pohamba*. They enquired again, *did he inform you to give the food to us?* And I responded, *Yes*. The Ovahimbas, particularly the ones in *Epumbe* – in Epupa Constituency, have changed their minds and I want to inform this

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 01**  
**HON KAZENAMBO**

Honourable House that they are in full support of Vote 01.

I just brought this message to this House. Thank you and I support the Vote.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Kazenambo.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I was initially not intending to speak on this Vote but after hearing the repeated rhetoric, I am forced to speak on this Vote and I will try to be brief.

Comrades, I wholeheartedly support this Vote, a Vote of leading institutions of peace. Countries, especially African countries have been going to war, conflict are generated because of presidencies. Since the attainment of Independence, Namibian has seen peace. I still remember because I would rather fight or cry. I was crying the day the Founding President of this Republic stepped down.

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**HON MEMBER:** Why?

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** And then I also cried when President Pohamba took over. I was listening to a phone-in programme on the Otjiherero Radio Station and it was specifically on Vote 01 which deals, either with his residence or the State Security.

However, the ordinary people of Namibia on this Otjiherero Radio Station



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**HON KAZENAMBO**

were thanking the Founding President and welcoming the incoming President. I will repeat their words in English, they were saying *bye bye Founding President Sam Nujoma, we may have slept with hunger, we may have suffered but we have not ran with babies on our backs*. That is what they said in Radio Otjiherero; *Tate Nujoma kaende nawa, munane uetu. Matutja ndangi kove menarokutja kanaa tua tupuka novanatje komatambo*.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Kazenambo, please stick to the Budget and it is also the Committee Stage which requires details.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Yes, it is the Budget. I am talking about what the ordinary people were saying. (Interjections) it is the Committee Stage, you were rumbling here, the detail is about the residence of the President, it is the peace of the President which has nothing to do with President Pohamba as a person and it has got nothing to do with the *persona* of former President Nujoma but it is about systems and institutions.

And they were saying that, *President Pohamba we welcome you in the Presidency but remember that, under the leadership of former President Nujoma, we have not ran away with kids on our back!*

These talks are cheap, let us support the institution, let us build institution, let us build systems and let us not personalise institutions. It is a trend, when it comes to an African leader, he is expected to be nothing but go to the village and work. We will no longer make them go to the village, this is our money, it is the tax payers' money; that is why the people refuse.

When most of these people retire, they become Directors in big multinational companies that are exploiting the African continent. None of the African countries has the same in Europe, therefore, the Budget is worth it, I support and it deserves to be treated with respect. Thank you.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 01**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Will the Honourable Minister please reply?

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

*Honourable Shixwameni*, I just want to repeat again for the sake of clarity that I never said leaders in this House, I said in this country and I am going to repeat it again.

There are citizens of economic convenience in this country and there are citizens of allegiance. You and I are citizens of allegiance and we only have one country. Those who are citizens because of economic reasons, their allegiance lies somewhere else. And tomorrow, you will see aeroplanes coming from Europe to rescue them, if there is only one space left, you will be the last to be considered in that aeroplane, and when you reach your destination, you become a refugee while they become citizens.

For your information, Honourable Shixwameni and I am not going to mention a name; sometime during the earlier years of our Independence, there was a Parliamentary delegation that went to one country and I am also not going to mention the country, for diplomatic reasons; when they reached there, there were queues for various passport holders and the Colleagues were very surprised when one of their Colleague joined the citizens queue and presented a different passport. It happened! That Colleague was a Member of Parliament here, for your information.

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**HON MEMBER:** You must mention the name!

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON MUHARUKUA**

**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** No, I am not going to do that. *Honourable Maamberua*, I am still going to engage you, we are talking about figures but what I can assure you, read my lips, come 2015 that residence will be ready.

My mother-in-law, *Honourable Muharukua*, thank you very much and please pass our regards to our citizens that side and ensure them that we are with them. Like any other citizens, the President said, *no Namibian must die of hunger while there is a SWAPO Party Government in this Republic*.

My younger brother, *Honourable Kazenambo*, you said it all. I will say you have passed with flying colours, please keep it up and thank you very much.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much Honourable Kawana. Any objections? Agreed to.

Vote 02 – “**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**”, put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Muharukua.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Thank you once more, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Muharukua is not always talking many things. I only want to thank the Office of the Prime Minister for the assistance they render to the Ovaherero and Ovambo on the mountains of Kaoko. Through the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister – *Comrade “Remember Cassinga,”* I would like to invite my Colleagues outside there and particularly the Opposition Backbenchers, to go and see what happens at Otjomurru,

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**HON MAAMBERUA**

Ohaihua, Otjikoro, Otjijandjazema.

I want to thank you and the Office of the Prime Minister for all the initiatives created in my Region. The people understand and appreciate, I cannot promise but you are going to see the results of the SWAPO Government during the elections. Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** I thank you very much. Honourable Maamberua.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I had questions earlier on (interjections)

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**HON MEMBER:** *Ove haama!* (You sit down!)

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** No, I am not going to sit down. I am a Namibian citizen, you cannot invite me to Otjomuruu, I have been there before. Do not say sit down, I am not going to sit down. You do not invite fellow citizens to places where they come from.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Maamberua, please concentrate on your questions.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Now please stop that provocation. I was

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

satisfied by the exchanges we had with the Deputy Prime Minister, however, I only have one question.

Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, you referred in one of the Programmes that you run mini clinics, unless if I misheard you but I think that was the case. My question is just to seek clarification. Under what mandate does the Office of the Prime Minister run clinics? Is there any Memorandum of Understanding between yourself and the Ministry of Health which actually supervises and monitors the standards of such clinics?

We are asking these questions because we want to improve on our accountability. Therefore, it is important we get clarification as to how some institutions actually function, particularly when it comes to their mandates. Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Shixwameni.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I have a few things that I just want to have clarity on as well as a couple of comments that I wish to make.

On Page 4 of the Deputy Prime Minister's Speech, he talks about the **Disability Programme**, I am quite aware that there is also a Disability Programme under the Ministry of Health and I want to find the connection between these two Directorates, how they communicate to one another because as I said last year, the Disability Programme in the Prime Minister's Office is basically underfunded. I do not know what functions they are carrying out, maybe the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister can try and explain to the Nation as to how these two Programmes talk to one another.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

Of course, the **SAN, Ovatie and Ovatjimba Education Support Programme** is a good Programme that is running as alluded to by my elder sister who keeps talking about Opuwo. It should not only be about people in Opuwo or people around a certain vicinity. I think there are people around Ohangwena there called *Omathaka*, who also need to be incorporated in to this Programme. It needs to be extended to other (intervention)

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Point of Order.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** On a Point of Order, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee; I am not talking here in my capacity as Honourable Muharukua but bringing the message from my community.

I am also not talking because they are surrounding me, I am just conveying their message. Why do you not want to hear what the people from Kaoko says? Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Shixwameni, proceed.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Yes, we are not quarrelling about messages from the community but we are talking about representing the Nation as opposed to only a single community.

The other thing I want to talk about is on Page 5, the **Oracle Payroll License Module** to the tune of **N\$47,450,000.00**, is it being purchased

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

from Oracle itself or is it via an agent because it sounds exorbitant? On the same Page, there is mention of **N\$3,500,000.00** for **Public Service Wellness Programmes**, I would just like to find out what this Public Wellness Programme is exactly.

Coming to the Government Accountability Report, I have always been interested in the long titles of Transformation Economic and Social Framework (TESEF) and New Equitable Economic Empowerment Framework (NEEEF), last year, if my memory serves me well, it was withdrawn here by the Minister of Presidential Affairs. TSEF was implemented 10% and withdrawn and now NEEEF was also withdrawn apparently going to the SWAPO Policy Conference. Are we likely to see these documents before the end of President Pohamba's term of Office or what is exactly happening? Because the Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) Policy in this country is muddled, it only benefits a handful and we cannot continue to be without a policy framework that guides our empowerment policy in this country. I would, therefore, just like to hear from the Deputy Prime Minister as to whether we will see one of these documents coming back to this Chamber for discussion and approval during the course of this year or not.

Talking about State-Owned Enterprises, I think we really have a serious problem in terms of running State-Owned Enterprises in this country. I would like to know how this State-Owned Enterprises Governing Council Secretariat really functions; maybe the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister can also update us, because if State-Owned Enterprises continue to rely on taxpayers to finance their lavish expenditures, then we really have serious problems about that. Therefore, I would even propose, and the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister can probably take it to the President, that instead of having the State-Owned Enterprises Governing Council Secretariat, we should probably have a Ministry for Public Enterprises that will be in charge of controlling these runaway State-Owned Enterprises in this country. We cannot afford to just be throwing money into a bottomless pit. I would just like to have clarity on that, Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02  
HON MOONGO / HON IILONGA**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Moongo.

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**HON MOONGO:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. First of all, I would like to support Vote 2 for the Office of the Prime Minister.

I happened to have doubts when I read on Page 3 about the National Independence Celebrations, what does National mean? As I am a traditional lawyer, I do not understand National Independence; I guess it was suppose to say SWAPO Independence. It seems like the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister is not sitting comfortably, he is afraid to allow the Opposition to address the Nation during the National Independence Celebrations.

If it is National Independence, why do you not also invite the Opposition to address the Nation? You rather call it SWAPO Independence. From now on, if you sit in that position uncomfortably, you must resign. I want you to sit comfortably and allow democracy to flourish and all Parties, including Opposition Parties, should address national issues or else change the word National to SWAPO.

With this few words, I support the Vote. Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Iilonga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.



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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON IILONGA**

I rise to support Vote 02 – **“OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER.”** Firstly, on the Programme covering our people, who were left to be on the mercy of nature, Comrade Deputy Prime Minister, you took over from Comrade Libertina Amathila and we really want to see this Programme expanded to all the marginalised communities, especially that we provide this people with training that enable them to produce their own things. I also think that entire Government should provide more tender opportunities to the communities because the school are well-build with strong bricks made by the communities themselves, under this Programme. I really thank the Office of the Prime Minister under the leadership of the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

Coming to the issue of SOEs, what we need to do is to just take a position as a business because public property or services need to be protected. I already made my recommendations here, although the newspapers did not like it, they only chose the word enemy and made it a theme but I remain Iilonga no matter what they write.

On the issue of the Independence Celebrations, I am not responding to what was mentioned but speak as a citizen, the Honourable Members are never prevented from delivering speeches, if their members do not invite them, however, we are invited by our members to go and address them. If you are not invited by your members to address them how can you now blame the Office of the Prime Minister? That is National Independence.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Iilonga, can you please stick to Vote 2 of the Office of the Prime Minister?

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** No, I am just providing a footnote that we are invited by our members to address them. The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister is going to provide the answer, I just said that we are invited by our members and I do not think Comrade

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**HON KAZENAMBO**

Deputy Prime Minister will say that I answered on his behalf, he is going to answer in the way he deem fit, that is only my own contribution.

With that, I support Vote 2. Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Kazenambo.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson. I am again, rising to support this important Vote, like any other Vote. In fact the truth is that I am supporting all of them.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am rising to comment on the issue raised on Page 27 of the Vote of the Office of the Prime Minister – to promote good governance in State-Owned Enterprises; to be honest, I am sharing the same sentiment with what Comrade Shixwameni has said, I support what he said with regard to State-Owned Enterprises, hundred percent, kill me or leave me alive.

If we are to promote State-Owned Enterprises, we must do justice to this entire approach; Comrade Ilonga has spoken about it but maybe in a more civilised manner. I am not saying that Honourable Shixwameni is not civilised, however, this issue is of grave concern. Whether you like it or not, this country has got poor people and we should not personalise politics, our people are eating from dustbins. Therefore, to have a few incompetent people for that matter, who are receiving millions and we come here to bail them out, is unfair. It is my tax and I am now talking about my tax, if you want. We must stop this. We must define these institutions and subject them to evaluation and monitoring because millions are pumped into these institutions and these colleagues just remain there, defended by their Ministers. It is our lives that suffer while they are careless and drive X5 BMWs, not that I am jealous, I drive my own Range Rover out of my own sweat.

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**HON KAZENAMBO**

Colleagues, let us also listen to each others with respect, when we are talking about these institutions, they are our institutions, there is no doubt about that, and those people working in those institutions are our brothers and sisters, there is also no doubt about that but these are business or commercial entities. If we mix business and politics, we will follow the same foothold of many other African countries and other countries across the globe that are failing States because one has got somebody who is messing up with millions and is not accountable but we come here and defend them. We must bring a stop to it.

Therefore, let us define these entities as business entities, let us justify their business viability because we have some business entities which perform better, outsource their services to these entities and cut costs. However, once one mentions that, you are seen as if you are against a certain Minister or a certain Party. This is our money and it has got nothing to do with a Minister or an individual Member of Parliament. Let us all, thus account for this money. We have poor people living in shacks while we bailout companies that are gambling with this money as commercial entities. Let us look at what it means to promote such entities. Please, let us start listening to one another and respect one another, we are not saying that some of these companies must be closed down, we are far from that but there are some of their activities that cannot be justified from a business point of view.

No one in this country is more patriotic than the others; let us call a spade a spade. Was that person placed in the altar like Jesus? There is nobody who has been on the altar for this country like Jesus Christ. Who is that? Let him/her stand there for us to know him/her. These companies must be accounted for and their Programmes be monitored and some of their services must be outsourced. I will speak on others when I get to those companies. *Hino tjina tjimeriheke mba, ovipororo.*

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** I thank you, Honourable Kazenambo. Honourable Dr Kawana.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02  
HON DR KAWANA / HON DR NDJOZE-OJO**

**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I briefly rise to support Vote 02 and to convey, like my mother did, the appreciation, especially under the Emergency Management Unit, from the Omusati to which I am assigned, Comrade Deputy Chairperson, from the Governor herself and the entire leadership there.

I also want to thank the Ministry of Defence for the transportation of the drought relief food which was used to alleviate the plight of our people in that Region.

Comrade Deputy Prime Minister, I now want to convey that specific message that the Comrades and citizens of the Omusati Region are very happy with that Programme and convey their gratitude.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Dr Djoze-Ojo.

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**HON DR DJOZE-OJO:** Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, for the opportunity. I rise to support Vote 02, especially because the Prime Minister's activities have been coordinating all our activities together.

I am standing up to thank the Prime Minister for having thought about allocating N\$125,854,000.00 to Namibia Institute for Public Administration and Management (NIPAM). I have had the privilege to have been one of the founding members as a member of the Governing Council of that body as well as a member of the board of training. I am just rising to say thank you for that and also to urge the Ministries to

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**HON NAMBAHU**

utilise the functions of what NIPAM ought to be carrying out for the Government. There are a lot of Ministries that will need training through NIPAM and this money has been allocated for you to use it. I am no longer in NIPAM since I came to Parliament but I only wish that the Legislature will have a very clear representation in that body because that person, as per the Act, has been appointed by the Prime Ministers but should not be a Member of Parliament, that is why I had to step down, as soon as I became a Member of Parliament. NIPAM is doing a good job; however, we are experiencing a lot of low patronage by different Ministries with their training sections and training Budgets and you need people to be trained and upgraded in the Public Service. I just wanted to add my voice and say, please help the Prime Minister's Office. A lot of pledges have been sent to different Ministries to patronise those activities. There is no point in us putting millions there but we are not utilising it for our advantage as a Nation to improve our Public Service. Thank you and I Support the Vote.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Nambahu.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I also rise to support this Vote. The Office of the Prime Minister is my former employer; I did work for this office.

There is only one point that I would like to make and it is actually the building of the Head Quarters for this Office. The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister did explain the rationale behind this; however, this explanation should probably be translated to the local languages so that the issue of people being scattered all over the place could be address because how costly is it for the Government and how inefficient is it for one to be travelling from one corner to the other and for some people to be housed somewhere else? The cost attached to that is honestly a problem.

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**HON NAMBAHU**

It has also brought with it some mentality and outfits that I term *Head Quarter Mentality*, we want to be separated; we want to be somewhere else. We do not want to be under the same roof with the Ministers; we are autonomous and want to build our Head Quarters somewhere else, rather than consolidating people to be together to ensure ease of coordination.

When you are hosted by other countries and visit their offices, you really feel that you are in an office of some kind. With these old office buildings or boards that we have inherited around here, when you speak to your secretary on the phone it is all the same like having her physically in your office because she can hear exactly what you saying in your office. The other people who are around your office as your hosts can clearly hear the instructions you are giving your secretary so you better just open the door and let them in.

We sometimes, do not pay attention to all these issues but we instead just complain. I was also witnessing a certain discussion of people saying, *he is a Minister but he comes from an office like this or Mayor of a town but he lives in a mbashu*. However, what about if the person is appointed today as Mayor? He did not even receive the expected salary and you are already expecting him to have a mansion, how? This things should be attended to, either build a mayoral office in town that commensurate with that kind of status otherwise we really have a problem. We should, therefore, support this kinds of approaches to build proper accommodation for our people.

When it comes to State-Owned Enterprises, the philosophy should really be to strengthen these institutions because from an ideological point of view, we are shying away from empowering the State and, therefore, engage a neoliberal approach that is going to cause us problems one day. I do not want to sit here and be blamed one day by the future generation that I sat here idly watching the country being sold and this country is actually not for sale. People should be told that we should empower our State through our State-Owned Enterprises, we should not shy away from that. I rest my case. Thank you very much, I support the Vote.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Nambahu. I would now like to give the Floor to the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister to Respond. Deputy Prime Minister.

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**HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:** Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Firstly, I want to generally appreciate the support to Vote 02 by the House as a whole and secondly, to respond to individual contributions.

I may not be able to go through all the contributions one by one, however, I think the main ones should be responded to.

*Meme Muharukua*, thank you very, I am the President in waiting (*laughter*). *Meme Muharukua* is talking about an issue of turning temporary infrastructures for resettled vulnerable people into permanent structures and maybe it is good to go and have a look.

*Honourable Ilonga* has added that the beauty of the project is that the communities involved themselves in making the bricks and they also participated in the construction of those facilities. Some of them have now gained skills in terms of making bricks while others have gone as far as gaining skills in terms of bricklaying and we intend to turn them into a community project that can be viable in terms of providing building materials of these nature. It is, therefore, good to go and have a look.

Yes, *Honourable Maamberua*, on mini clinics, there are times when we use these words and other times when we use First Aid Clinics. What happens is that, when you find a community that is very far from clinics that are run by the Ministry of Health and Social Services, we have for years now, entered into an understanding that with the assistance of the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the approval of standards by the Ministry of Health and Social Services, we provide First Aid Clinics in those communities that are resettled who are sometimes a 100 to 200 kilometres away from a normal clinic because one does not have transport

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**HON HAUSIKU**

to transport people on a daily basis. We recruit young people among these communities and they are trained by the Ministry of Health and Social Services and they are provided with medicine by the Ministry of Health and Social Services, they are as well visited by the Ministry of Health and Social Services on a regular basis and advised on how to go about providing first aid to their communities. It has worked well and we also do the same with schools. You go into a community that never attended school and it is sometimes the first time that they hear about education. What we normally do is, we cannot transport their children to a school nearer to their residences, we instead create a facility where education is introduced and in creating that facility, we also consult with the Ministry of Education. In Opuwo, we now have 3 schools that have been adopted and approved by the Ministry of Education as normal schools, varying between 5 and 10 years of existence but we do that as a first step.

*Honourable Shixwameni*, I know that at Independence, the Disability Programme was under the Ministry of Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation and that was mainly for the purpose of introducing Rehabilitation Programmes, Policies and Laws but the proper job of rehabilitation is done by the Ministry of Health and Social Services. As we continued, the policy side and oversight of the Disability Programmes was transferred to the Office of the Prime Minister but the practical rehabilitative activities and treatment is still done by the Ministry of Health and Social Services. We are just responsible for the policy issue. There have been ongoing discussions as to how to explain this so that we can have a very clear distinction between the policy framework responsibility and the practical activities of treating and caring for these people at hospitals. It is succeeding and the people concerned have created a basic understanding that there is a need to do these things that way.

The SAN Development Programme is honestly speaking not limited to specific Regions, do you know Mayana? We have not done that much as we did with the others in other Regions but Mayana is one of the areas where we have started a project of resettling disadvantaged communities. We have removed the SAN people from Mayana where they were unable to cope with floods and thus move freely, and we took them to



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**HON HAUSIKU**

Likwaterera. You perhaps read about Likwaterera in papers and so on, it is true that there are problems but we are managing them.

Shakangu in the Diyona Constituency, is earmarked for resettling a very large group of those communities, specifically those that are in areas where they cannot survive and do their own agricultural activities. We have also got a project in the area of Mpungu Constituency, I am mentioning this just to show that we are not only concentrating on one Region. We have also earmarked Kakekete for resettlement and we are already into the third phase, which is, identifying the area where they are going live and are now looking into ways of providing the area with water before moving them to the area. Wiwi is also in the same area. And the area you have mentioned, Omundaungilo is one of the areas that we think we have to give much attention to in Ohangwena. If you go to the Omaheke Region, there are quite bigger projects that we have started.

In terms of the communities, we have started with the SAN community of course, we have identified the Ovatué and Ovatjimba Communities and the decision and intention of Cabinet states that we should continue to identify all those communities which fall under this category in order for them to receive special attention in terms of targeted Programmes. I think the Programme is doing well so far.

For the Oracle Payroll License Module; I have got a very nice technical answer here. At the present moment I understand that it is being done manually but to have this data captured electronically for all the Ministries and everybody that works for Government and so on, we probably need to move away from manual data to electronically captured data and this is in line with what the Honourable Deputy Minister of Information and Communication Technology was telling us here. It is a step forward. My officials acknowledge the fact that it is expensive, however, in the long run, it is the best way of doing these things nowadays so that when we ask where is Mr Shixwameni employed, we immediately know he is at the Parliament instead of physically going through the file and sometimes the files are missing (*laughter*). That is my response on that.

13 March 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

The Public Wellness Programme is a Programme that all the Government Institutions have introduced. In our Office we have got Mr Xoaxub who is a very active person and is doing very well, I think you know him. This Programme involves many Activities and we were thinking about including activities of visiting the gym or having a place where one can exercise, however, the Programme entails looking at the health of all the officials in terms of all the new diseases that are springing up, etcetera. This is mainly to promote the idea that staff members are taken care of in terms of the wellness of their bodies. This is a very important Programme and I think it is in all the Ministries. The only problem is that sometimes they only talk about HIV Programmes but it includes many other activities.

Now, *my brother Kazenambo*, I want us to be calm on some of these things. These things started long ago and some Members who started them are getting old, all of us are getting old – like Honourable Hidipo (*laughter*). We started very long ago and this is not an easy thing. We realized the importance of this Programme that it should be all encompassing, it should include everybody. It must first have a positive feature or whatever you call it, people should understand that. The way we started it has gone very wrong, like it has gone wrong in many other countries. It created billionaires in some countries and we realized that we are not going in the right path as it was creating quite some small instant millionaires here and there and we were seeking a way of formulating this Programme to enable us to make sure that we do address the problem of affirming the formerly disadvantaged members of our society without making them instant millionaires overnight and sometimes it is money they did not really sweat for. I, therefore, fully understand why my brother Kazenambo is so angry about that.

I am sure that we are going to get back to this House, determined to get it through. However, we have to be open, one of the differences had been on the name and I think we should now start realising what harm such a delay is causing and whether we cannot get a name that can be accepted by the majority of us and forge ahead. I personally believe that the Programme's content is more important than the name of the content.

13 March 2013

**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

I said, in some countries it has created billionaires and they do not know how to answer to people today. In our own country it has created millionaires and we do not know how to answer but the name was Black Empowerment and it still is. The important thing is really the content of the Programme and how we can run that Programme in order to benefit the people who are targeted by this Programme. That is what is important and I hope that we are going to realise that the delay is more harmful than when we would have agreed on a name earlier on in order to forge ahead.

When it comes to Public Enterprises; I do not know how many people here have started their own business, Honourable Kazenambo will always say he has. I have also tried but it takes long to get the business functioning, I am still trying after 15 years (*laughter*). It, therefore, takes time. We know that we have got serious problems amongst our Parastatals or a better name that we have coined, State-Owned Enterprises. I know that we have struggled too long to get them operational but I also know that there are those that are working.

The other time here, Comrade Minister of Defence gave an example of the Country Club. You know how many problems we have had with Country the Club. We had very serious problems but it has become a little bit profitable, making money on its own now. However, if you are told just how many problems we have faced 7 or 10 years ago, we could have decided to divest and cast this business away but we did not, we have made all attempts we possibly could in order to improve the business.

There are proposals that Honourable Shixwameni and other Honourable Members have made, some are saying, *let us sell them* while others are saying, *let us form ventures with the Private Sector* and the rest are saying, *let us improve their management as they are within Government supervision machinery*. The creation of the State-Owned Enterprises Governing Council is exactly that. Maybe as we go on, that Programme has to be closely monitored to see if it is working or not before we move on to start something new. Because the *State-Owned Enterprises Council Act* is an attempt to make sure that we have a formula that would make these Enterprises profitable. Maybe, with the approval of the Prime

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

Minister, I will also attempt to list them because there are those that will do very well, like NIPAM now, so we should not lump them all together. NIPAM is a Parastatal and we are doing it through an arm of an institution operating under an Act of Parliament on its own there, it is going to do a very good job as it has been mentioned already, in terms of training our staff members so that we can have competent staff members and enhanced Government activities. I, therefore, hope that we may make some headway as we go on but it is important to classify them and to look at which ones are suppose to make proper profit, and which ones are profitable, as well the ones that do not. We will do that.

The creation of a Ministry is something I should not venture into because constitutionally that is the prerogative of the State.

*Honourable Moongo*, it is always difficult to get an answer for you. I again, want to repeat what the Colleagues have been saying every time in this Honourable House, if a community decides to invite anybody, whether it is form the Ruling Party or the Opposition Party to go and address them on a National Day or a meeting in their area on that National Day, they are free to do that. It is not only you, amongst us as we sit here, there are those who have been invited and those of us who have not been invited also. When you are not invited, you watch television. I should tell you that some people are invited for so many days that they go for a whole week and address a chain of events but it is not that Government has assigned those people. The simple reason is that this people have been invited by those communities to address them. If you can make an impact, whether socially or politically in one of the areas, you stand a good chance to be invited. Please do not call for us to resign; we will not resign, not on that issue.

*Comrade Ilonga*, thank you very much. I have already commented on this one. I want you to go and see in corridor seventeen where Chief Sofia stays with her family. We have done the same Programme as we did in Kunene and they have been doing well. In two weeks, they have made close to 30,000 bricks while we thought they could make them in 3 months and we have completed some of the houses, especially the main house.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 02**  
**HON HAUSIKU**

**Comrade Kazenambo**, I think I have talked about it, you are still young (*laughter*) but maybe next time we need to engage each other about these things because it is important that we look into these things in a more positive way if we want them to change. I personally, do not really care that much when people voice their opinions, it is important because it enriches your knowledge and approach towards changing the working Programme of the institution.

**Comrade Kawana**, thank you very much. The rest of the Honourable Members did not talk about the importance of the Drought Relief Programme, except Honourable Kawana and Honourable Muharukua. When the rain did not come earlier, everybody was calling and asking, *when are you ending the Drought Relief Programme* but now everybody is quite. Thank you very much and tell the Omusati people, we also thank them for the cooperation they have given.

**Comrade Ndjoze-Ojo**, yes, I fully agree with you. We want to encourage all the Government Institution, including Parliament, NIPAM is doing a good job and they will continue doing a good job. If we send our staff members for training we will definitely enhance the Public Service Delivery in all our offices. On the issue of Membership, I think that we can talk in the office.

**Comrade Nambahu**, yes, yesterday I talked about the scattered offices and I believe most of the Ministries have already got approval from Cabinet to start building offices where most of, or all the staff can be housed and that is what we are exactly doing now. On the State-Owned Enterprises, I one day, want to call all the ideologists, including the Minister of Defence, so that we can come together and see what way we should take, is it a way of outsourcing or keep and improve. However, we should do this in a very calm manner. We should really make sure that from that meeting we are able to adopt one of the approaches so that we know what to do henceforth.

Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I think that is what I wanted to do and the round of applause signifies approval. Thank you very much.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 04**  
**HON DR ANKAMA**

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Prime Minister. Any objections? Agreed to.

Vote 04 – “**AUDITOR-GENERAL**”, put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Chief Ankama.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:** Thank you, Honourable Deputy Speaker of the Whole House Committee. I am going to be very brief.

I would just like to mention something on Programme 1 - on the Public Expenditure Oversight. Time and again, I remember when I was the Deputy Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee; we have had talks several times, either in connection with entities or Ministries that spends over their Budget limit or do not spend money at all.

Let me just explain, overspending has been the norm in many Ministries or entities but non-spending has also been featuring, how? You have got, for example, and these are things I have been talking about some time back, a Ministry or Agency budgets for vacancies to recruit x number of employees within a given year. Until at the end of the year, nothing takes place. Interviews are being carried out repeatedly but no recruitment takes place and this money is returned to Treasury instead of being given to another Ministry or entity to use in a specific project or Programme which would have added weight to the social economic development of the country in general. What I am trying to put that across is that, I think the Office of the Auditor-General should try and find a mechanism. Is there a way how to penalise those who by way would probably not spend at all? When they are given the money and they fail to spend, is there a way of telling them, *if you do this, next time we are not going to give you this again?* Or, for example, if you are overspending, could there be something that could be done just to make sure that you put them on the hands and say, *look, this is what we give you, why do you go beyond that?* Perhaps there should be a manner to ensure that those that are given funds

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 04**  
**HON MAAMBERUA**

will be able to control their means within their limits and do just that. Otherwise, I wholeheartedly support this Vote 04.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Ankama.

Honourable Members I am now going to allocate only 2 minutes because our Speaker is leaving for Geneva, where he has to attend an IPU meeting and his flight is at 20:00.

I will, therefore, allocate only 2 minutes for each Honourable Member taking the Floor. Honourable Maamberua, two minutes please.

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**HON MAAMBERUA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I wish to start by giving my categorical support for this Vote, having evidenced that this Office has been doing a marvellous job, witnessed not only in Namibia but also internationally.

We have been informed that the *Audit Bill* is likely to be tabled and approved during the current Financial Year. My question, therefore is, where the financial implications of the new *Audit Bill* taken into account? Because I do not want to have surprises during the course of the year.

Secondly, Honourable Dr Kawana, this year's theme addresses itself to enhancing oversight over the Budget and, therefore, obviously for accountability institutions like the Office of the Auditor-General, the Anti-Corruption Commission, etcetera, there are some financial implications. What financial implications were taken into account to make the theme of this year's Parliament realisable on that score?

The other very important question of principle is that of separation of State powers, that is the execution - the Executive, the Legislature or the

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 04**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

oversight side of our State function and the Judiciary. The Auditor-General's Budget is being tabled and presented by the Executive and not by the Legislature, the oversight body of the State, since you presented the Budget of the Auditor-General as Attorney-General, would you consider advising Government in order for the preservation of the independence of the Office of the Auditor-General and the separation of the function of the oversight of the State, that the Auditor-General's Budget be presented by Legislature and not by the Executive because the Auditor-General, as an accountability oversight institution is to exercise oversight over the Executive? Those are my questions. Thank you.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Minister, please reply. Dr Kawana.

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson.

*Honourable Ankama*, Expenditure, on Over Expenditure and Under Expenditure; the *State Finance Act* of 1991 takes into account that everybody has an estimate, at the end of the day, if you overspend by 2% it is in order, according to the Law. And if you under spend by 2% it is also fine in terms of the Law because when you prepare the Budget you do not know whether you are going to spend the entire allocated amount up to the last cent which is virtually impossible. At the same time, there are also emergencies.

Let us take the Budget of the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of Health, if there is an outbreak, what do you do? Do you want your people to die because you do not want to overspend? In case of a security emergency, can you say the Ministry of Defence cannot go and repel the attack because of the Budget constraints? Those are some of the



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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 30**

exceptions but I agree with you, even in terms of the Development Budget or the Capital Budget, when I was the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice, we were building the Supreme Court building, the workers went on strike and these were people who were constructing on tender, it was private company, what do you do? At the end of the day there are really those exceptions. However, I agree with you that to overspend or underspend deliberately should be considered as a crime because the Government pays interest on the money that is borrowed resulting into a wastage of public resources.

*Honourable Maamberua*, on the financial implications of the *Audit Bill*, just wait until that Bill is presented here, do not jump the gun.

Regarding the enhancement of oversight and the Budget of the Auditor-General to be presented by the Legislature, I do not even know where you got that idea from. This Budget is presented by the Executive because it is an Executive Act. By Law and the Constitution, the Executive must present the Budget. There are, however, certain exceptions in order to accommodate some of the views, particularly from the Opposition, for example, on the Budget of the Electoral Commission. Those are just exceptions to accommodate the Opposition's demand. Otherwise, as per the Constitution, the Executive must present the Budget. Therefore, this is the real situation.

The separation of powers has nothing to do with presenting the Budget because it is up to Parliament either to reject or to accept that. I so submit.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Any objections? Agreed to.

Vote 30 – “**ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Any objections? Agreed to.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, I report progress and ask leave to sit again,

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**ADJOURNMENT  
HON DR GURIRAB**

**ASSEMBLY RESUMES**

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Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

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**HON SPEAKER:** Thank you. That does it for today and because of the lateness of the hour, the House shall now rise and resume its Business on Tuesday, 14:30.

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**HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 19:13 UNTIL 2013.03.18 AT 14:30**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
WINDHOEK  
18 MARCH 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

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**SECRETARY:** Honourable Members, I have to announce that both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are unavoidably absent, therefore, the House will have to elect an Acting Speaker as well as an Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I will now proceed to ask for nominations for an Acting Speaker. Honourable Ekandjo.

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**NOMINATIONS**

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**HON MINISTERS OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Members, I nominate Honourable Ben Amathila as the Acting Speaker for the day.

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**SECRETARY:** Any Secondment? It is seconded. Any further nominations? None. I will now declare Honourable Amathila as the Acting Speaker for today.

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**SECRETARY:** I will now proceed to ask for nominations for an Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Sioka.

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18 March 2013

**TABLING OF REPORTS  
HON SIOKA**

**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Thank you very much. I would also like to nominate Comrade Dr Amweelo as the Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

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**SECRETARY:** Any Secondment? Seconded. Honourable Dr Amweelo will be our Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee for today.

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

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Honourable Colleagues, I would like to thank you all for entrusting me with this challenging task, although only for today. Let us begin with our routine Business.

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Paper? Honourable Sioka.

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**TABLING: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
EMPLOYMENT EQUITY COMMISSION**

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** I lay upon the Table, the Annual Report of the Employment Equity Commission for the Financial Year 2012/2013. I so Move, Comrade Acting Speaker.

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18 March 2013

**TABLING OF REPORTS  
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Please table the Report, Honourable Minister. Further Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance.

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**TABLING: ANNUAL REPORT OF NAMFISA**

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**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE:** Honourable Acting Speaker, I lay upon the Table, the Annual Report of NAMFISA for the Financial Year 2013. I Move so, Honourable Acting speaker.

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**NOTICE OF QUESTIONS**

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Please table the Report, Honourable Minister. Notice of Questions? Honourable Moongo.

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**QUESTION 15**

**HON MOONGO:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Speaker. I give Notice that on Thursday, the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014; I shall ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, Honourable *Mwalimu* John Mutorwa the following:

Is the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry informed that there are only three boreholes in the areas of Uutere Village, Otanatsau Village, King Kauluma Village in the Oshikoto Region. One borehole has already dried up and the other two boreholes and wells with sour water are also about to dry up and that livestock and people are about to be faced with crisis of lack of water.

18 March 2013

**NOTICE OF QUESTIONS  
HON MOONGO**

- 1) Can the Minister inform this august House and the affected people in the above mentioned villages when will the main pipeline with potable water be extended through Uutere Village, Otanatsau Village and King Kauluma Village?
- 2) Does the Minister have a special Programme where the community can claim compensation whenever their *mahangu* fields and crops are destroyed by elephants?
- 3) When will the borehole between Casablanca and Oshivelo be operational for the community in the Oshikoto Region?

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Please table the question, Honourable Member. Any further Notice of Questions? Yes, Honourable Shixwameni.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** I would like to ask an Oral Question, please.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** An Oral Question to? There is nobody on the Floor?

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Honourable Acting Speaker, Oral Questions have always been allowed.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Honourable Shixwameni, Oral Questions are put on Thursdays and in response to a statement or issue raised on the Floor of the House. Can you keep your Oral Questions until such time? Thank you. Notice of Motions?

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18 March 2013

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS  
HON SIOKA / HON DR AMWEELO**

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:**

Honourable Acting Speaker, Honourable Members, I give Notice that on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2014, I shall Move that this Assembly reappoint, in terms of Section (7)(1), Mr Vilbard Usiku as the Employment Equity Commissioner for a further term of five years, as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2014. I so Move, Honourable Acting Speaker.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Thank you. Please table the Motion, Honourable Minister. Honourable Dr amweelo.

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**HON DR AMWEELO:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Speaker. I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 5, 6, 8, 10, 17, 25, 26 and 27 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Acting Speaker.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Thank you. Please table the Motion, Honourable Amweelo. Any message from the Head of State? Ministerial Statement? Honourable Ekandjo.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

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18 March 2013

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT  
HON EKANDJO**

**HON MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Speaker. Honourable Members, this coming Thursday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2014, His Excellency, Comrade Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba, the President of the Republic of Namibia, will officiate at the opening of the Independence Memorial Museum, at 14:00.

I, therefore, invite all Honourable Members of this august House as well as of the National Council to the opening of the Independence Memorial Museum as well as the unveiling of the two Statutes; His Excellency, the Founding President's Statute and the Genocide Statute. Honourable Members, you are cordially invited to attend the ceremony. The venue is at the Independence Memorial Museum, just close to the Parliament, opposite the German Christian Church. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Ekandjo. We now come to the Business of the day.

The Secretary will read the First Orders of the Day.

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**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:  
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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**HON SECTREATARY:** Resumption of Committee Stage - *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Does the Honourable Minister of Finance Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee?

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18 March 2014   **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 05**  
**HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

**HON MINISTER OF FINANCE:** I so Move, Honourable Acting Speaker.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Any objections? Who seconds? Agreed to. I now call on the Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee to take the Chair.

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**ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE**

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** The Whole House Committee is called to Order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

When progress was reported on Thursday, 13 March 2014, Votes 1, 2, 4 and 30 had been agreed to and Votes 8, 10, 25 and 26 had been introduced.

Vote 05 – **“HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION”** – **N\$543,333,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs. Honourable Minister, you have the Floor.

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**HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:** Thank you and congratulations for your election as the Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I am pleased to rise before this august House to seek approval for the allocation of Vote 05 – **“MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION.”**

18 March 2014    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 05**  
**HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

The amount I seek the approval for is **Five Hundred and Fourty Three Million, Three Hundred and Thirty Three Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$543,333,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

This amount shall be used by my Ministry in its quest for managing credible and accurate National Population Register, the facilitation of lawful migration and the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. This will in turn lead to quality service delivery to members of the public. By so doing the demographic information that Government needs for planning purposes will be made readily available.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, allow me now to highlight the performance of the Ministry o Home Affairs and Immigration during the reporting period.

The Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration continues to issue national documents and the coverage of birth registration stands now at 31%, while death registration is at 89%. We have successfully managed to automate all historical birth records and all regional offices are accessing these data on the M-file.

Equally, the National Population Registration System (NPRS) has been reviewed and upgraded with more advanced features during the period under review and the Namibian Automated Fingerprint Identification System (N-AFIS) has been successfully commissioned. The services offered at hospital based offices to capture the births of new borns and the sub-regional offices continue to service the public. The mobile registration teams were dispatched country-wide and schools with grade 10 up to grade 12 respectively were visited in this regard. To this effect, fifteen (15) image capturing equipment with advanced technology have been acquired.

Honourable Members, the Ministry continues facilitating lawful entry into and exit from Namibia and those persons who do not comply with our laws are dealt with in terms of the *Immigration Control Act*, (Act 7 of 1993). The automation of Visas and Permits have been successfully completed and our mission in Beijing, in the Peoples' Republic of China

18 March 2014    **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 05**  
**HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

and Pretoria in the Republic of South Africa are connected to the Aliens Control System.

Honourable Acting Chairperson, Honourable Members, the Ministry continues to manage and administer the movement and fair protection of refugees and Asylum seekers. A Cessation Clause was invoked for the Angolan refugees to return back to their country. As a result, two thousand and eight hundred fifty two (2,852) Angolans were successfully repatriated through the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Equally, 1,742 of those Angolans who opted to remain in Namibia were successfully integrated in the Namibian Community. The Ministry also repatriated 16 Namibians from Dukwe Refugee Camp in Botswana and are now reunited with their relatives in Zambezi Region.

Honorable Deputy Chairperson, allow me now to motivate for specific programmes:

We are requesting an amount of **Five Hundred and Fourty Three Million, Three Hundred and Thirty Three Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$543,333,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015 to implement the Ministry's mandate.

An amount of **Four Hundred and Eighty Million, Seventy Three Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$480,073,000.00)** is budgeted for operational activities, while **Sixty Three Million, Two Hundred and Sixty Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$63,260,000.00)** is earmarked for Development Projects. Out of Operational Expenditure, an amount of **Nineteen Million Namibian Dollars (N\$19,000,000.00)** is allocated for mobile registration, while **One Hundred and Twenty Six Million, Three Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$126,300,000.00)** is for the Turnaround Strategy and the consequential costs out of the implementation of this Strategy.

The following are the breakdown of the allocation in tern of the Programme implementation:-

18 March 2014   **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 05**  
**HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

**Programme 1**

**Civil Registration**

The main purpose of this **Programme** is for the management of the National Population Register which contains records of births; Identity Documents (IDs), marriages and deaths.

During the Financial Year 2014/2015, this Programme envisages installation of computers at counters both at the Head Office and Regional Offices to enable staff members to access individuals' particulars on the M-File. Equally, information on the procedures and requirements for births registration and other national documents will be strengthened through the media, Regional Councils and Local Authorities.

By now it is common knowledge that during the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry conducted mobile registrations in all the Constituencies, to enable citizens to acquire national documents. The mobile registration is expected to significantly increase during the second quarter of 2014/2015. Thus far the mobile registration has been conducted within a limited time frame due to shortage of Image Capturing Machines (Imagos), vehicles and Subsistence Allowances (S&T) for those carrying out such assignments. The allocation of funds to cater for the mobile registration will definitely improve the issuance of national documents and all the necessary tools needed during the mobile registration will be acquired and utilised accordingly.

With the expansion of Sub-Regional Offices and decentralizing up to Constituency level, these will for sure improve the quality of service delivery. We are devising strategies aimed at improving the conducting of mobile registration. We are aiming at conducting mobile registration during July, August and September to facilitate issuance of national documents to potential voters to enable them to register during the forth coming Supplementary Registration of Voters in September 2014.

To fulfill our core responsibilities under this Programme, we are seeking **One Hundred and Nine Million, Eighty Eight Thousand Namibian**

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**Dollar (N\$109,088,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

**Programme 2**

**Immigration Control and Citizenship**

**Visas, Permits, Passports and Citizenship**

Honorable Acting Chairperson, the purpose of this Programme activity is ensuring that traveling documents are issued timely and necessary requirements are met. Thus, the Automation of Aliens System is to be maintained and to be further rolled out to the Regional Offices during the Financial Year 2014/2015. By so doing all applications for Visas, Permits, Passports and Citizenship will be entered into a computerised system which will enhance faster and accurate service delivery to the public.

In order to carry out Activities under this Programme an amount of **Thirty Four Million, Four Hundred and Twenty Two Thousand Namibian Dollar (N\$34,422,000.00)** is requested.

**Immigration and Border Control**

The Programme is for the facilitation and control of movement of persons leaving from and entering into the country by land, air or sea. This Programme will continue carrying out its core functions, more Ports of Entry will be opened as well as provision of uniforms to Immigration Officers during the current Financial Year. To fulfill these responsibilities under this Programme, we are seeking **One Hundred and Nine Million, Fourty Seven Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$109,047,000.00)**.

**Programme 3**

**Refugees Administration: Protection of Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

This Programme's purpose is to manage and administer the movement and protection of refugees and asylum seekers in Namibia. It also manages

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the voluntary repatriation of Namibians who have been leaving outside the country, for example, Dukwe Camp in Botswana. The Programme will continue managing Osire Settlement and will establish, on arrival, a screening centre in Katima Mulilo in the Zambezi Region.

It is against this background that we are requesting an amount of **Nine Million, Four Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$9,467,000.00)** in order for this Programme to achieve its core functions during the Financial Year 2014/ 2015.

**Programme 4**

**Administration**

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administrative support to the Vote's Programmes; policy implementation and to ensure optimal utilisation of human and financial resources; information technology; legal support services; general support services; management of capital project; capacity building and employee wellness.

Honorable Acting Chairperson, this Programme will continue to carry out major activities during the Financial Year 2014/2015 such as staff recruitment at various job categories where such positions are vacant; the implementation of the Ministerial Strategic Plan, as well as the Performance Management System (PMS) and Electronic Documentation Records Management System.

The Ministry has allocated a Budget to cater for employee wellness Activities during this Financial Year. These Activities aim at creating awareness of contagious diseases, promote behavioral change, and advocacy for health life style at work place in particular and healthy life style in general.

In addition we would embark upon robust planned Programmes continuous peer education, appointment of identified focal persons to hold awareness fora on tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, Cancer, High Blood Pressure and other life threatening diseases.

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Therefore, an amount of **Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand (N\$ 350,000.00)** is directed to employee wellness activities.

Honorable Acting Chairperson, the Ministry is decentralising to the Regions, hence the construction of Regional Offices. The construction of //Karas Regional Office in Keetmanshoop, Oshana Regional Office in Oshakati and Omuvelo Wakashamane Border Post in Okalongo Constituency in the Omusati Region, are expected to be completed during the first quarter of Financial Year 2014/2015. To this effect the Budget has been allocated.

We are hopeful that construction for phase 2 of staff accommodation at Omuvelo Wakashamane, the Kunene Regional Office in Opuwo and the Zambezi Regional Office in Katima Mulilo will commence during the second quarter of 2014/2015.

In addition, the Ministry has acquired a site for the construction of the Head Office to ensure that the Ministry has a convenient office space to both staff members and the public. This project is one of the priorities of the Ministry as it will improve the working environment for staff members other than where we are currently operating from.

Honorable Acting Chairperson, the Ministry is embarking on a Turnaround Strategy that will be officially launched in April 2014. The Turnaround Strategy will mean the birth of an improved service delivery for the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration.

In order to implement this Strategy, an amount of **One Hundred Twenty Six Million, Three Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$126,300,000.00)** is allocated for this purpose.

Information Technology has become vital for the running of Ministerial operations. Hence, an amount of **Fourty Two Million, Eight Hundred and Twenty Four Namibian Dollars (N\$42,824,000.00)** is allocated for this Programme activity.

On the other hand, we anticipate to generate an amount of **Fifty Nine**

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**Million, Two Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$59,265,000.00)** on revenue collection for 2014/2015.

Honorable Acting Chairperson, Honorable Members, we are ready and eager to implement all Programmes as I have highlighted them in this motivation, in order to fulfill our mandate geared towards the provision of national documents to the public and to maintain a credible National Population Register.

Allow me now Honorable Members to submit, to this august House, Vote 05, Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration for the Financial Year 2014/2015, for our consideration and approval. I thank you.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Vote 6 – **“POLICE”, N\$4,288,095 000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Safety and Security.

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**HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY:** Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I stand here today to present Vote 06 which is the Department of Police of the Ministry of Safety and Security.

Before I proceed further, allow me to thank the Honourable Minister of Finance, Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Comrade Tom Alweendo, Director-General of the National Planning Commission and their entire teams for a well balanced Budget. Among others this Budget addresses macroeconomic stability geared towards economic growth and sustainable development, job creation, human resource development and skills formation. Your intentions, Comrade Minister, are in line with the Government desire to attain Vision 2030 and to improve the living conditions of our people. This deserves applause from all of us in this



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august House.

The Namibian Police (Vote 6), is established in terms of Article 118 of the Namibian Constitution as per the second Amendment. That article provide for the enactment of the *Police Act*, (Act 19 of 1990), which provide for the establishment and powers of the Namibian Police Force. The powers and functions of the Force are the preservation of internal security of Namibia, maintenance of Law and Order, investigation of any offence or alleged offence, prevention of crime and protection of life and property.

In order to effectively execute its mandate, the Namibian Police Force has identified five (5) broad Budget Programmes according to which it plans to attain its stated objectives. These Programmes have been developed along the country's long and medium-term development plans; the NDPs and ultimately Vision 2030, the ultimate goal is ensuring an environment conducive for economic development, internal security and peaceful coexistence for our people.

It is satisfying that Namibia is about to celebrate her twenty fourth years of Independence this month. Thus, thanks to the men and women in uniform for having maintained Law and Order all those years. Peace and stability we enjoyed since the attainment of our nationhood on March 21, 1990 is really indicative that the Namibian Police Force has grown into a Force to reckon with.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, allow me now to spell out in detail the composition of the five Programmes which I have referred to as being the core activities during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

**1. Combating of Crime Programme – N\$3,414,200,000**

The main objective of this Programme is to prevent and reduce the levels of crime, in order to promote and sustain an environment conducive to economic development, attract investors and guarantee perpetual Law and Order for all people in Namibia.

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I wish to indicate to Honourable Members that this Programme includes the Capital Projects which amount to **N\$567, 915, 000.**

Moreover, as Namibia is set to hold its Presidential, National as well as Regional and Local elections during this Financial Year, resources provided under this vote will assist in the preservation of peace and stability during and after the elections. In addition, the Namibian Police Force, in fulfilment of the Cabinet directives via His Excellency the President of the Republic of Namibia, will prioritise its investigations of Gender-Based Violence cases which has become a national problem. As part of an attempt to address the root cause of Gender-Based Violence incidences, the Namibian Police Force is in the process of consulting the various stakeholders for a stricter enforcement of the *Liquor Act* and Municipal Bi-Laws.

Furthermore, it is aimed at developing and implementing its Crime Combating Strategy and carry out crime combating operations. Areas linked to this activity include the development of a modern crime combating strategy, based on crime prevention principles to ensure continuity and consistency in the Law Enforcement Programmes which will lead to prudence in allocating and use of available resources, as well as institutionalisation of sharing of crime prevention responsibilities among stakeholders, such as Government Institutions, Non-Governmental Organisations, regional and international organisations.

It further includes visible policing in form of operational response to crime reports, fixed and mobile roadblocks, stop-and-search operations, cordon-and search operations, vehicle and foot patrol, maintenance of peace and stability at public gatherings, demonstrations, elections and other major events. It also covers the policing of incidents of public disorder, disaster management, security and road traffic control, and effective management of Programmes on explosives, disposal (military or commercial) and clearance of unexploded ordinances, air support for crime prevention and search and rescue operations.

This activity further includes the serving of subpoenas on witnesses to attend Court, transporting of witnesses to and from Courts and execute

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warrants of arrests and testifying in criminal cases. The development and implementation of a crime stoppers system will fall under this activity. The Ministry is in the process of finalising the Draft Drugs Bill that will facilitate the control and regulations of substances across the country.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, this activity also include community policing which requires the establishment and revitalisation of Police Public Relations Committees, Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, Business Community Forums against crime, Police Reservists, farm patrols, suggestion boxes and the establishment of dedicated Tourism Policing Units in high volume tourism Regions. Furthermore, my Ministry is busy establishing the Police Advisory Board as provided for under Section 43(b)(1) of the *Police Act*, (Act 19 of 1990) as amended. The Board will assist in the promotion of community participation in Police activities, as it will consist of the members with varying experiences.

Coordination and participation in international, regional and bilateral police activities also falls under this activity. In addition, it provide Intelligence on criminal activities, detect, investigate crime and ensure that accused persons and witness are present at Courts; gathering, analysing and disseminating of both strategic and tactical crime intelligence within the Namibian Police Force and sharing intelligence of international nature with members of International Police Organisation (INTERPOL) and Southern Africa Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO); detection and investigation of outstanding and new criminal cases and inquests, including crimes and offences committed by members of the Police Force itself.

This activity will include the purchasing of vehicles, operational equipment in order to provide effective policing and support service to the general public in the country.

**2. VIPs Protection Programme - N\$354,026, 000**

The purpose of this Programme is to protect national and visiting foreign Very Important Persons (VIP's) and provide security at their residential

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premises and offices.

The Namibian Police Force has the responsibility to provide safety and security to the visiting Very Important Persons (VIP's) as well as our National Leaders. The Police also have a responsibility to guard VIP premises and facilities, it is in fact responsible for us who are sitting here.

**3. Training and Development Programme - N\$177,641,000**

This Programme is aimed at improving Police service delivery by providing quality education, training and development through basic, advanced and specialised training and Staff Development Programmes.

This activity provide educational and skills development opportunities to members of the Namibian Police Force in professional fields that include but not limited to: strategic leadership and management; information and communication technology; crime analysis; crime prevention; investigation and detection; forensics; crowd control; riot policing, counter terrorism; dog handling; and others.

Our annual target is to recruit and train 1,500 new members; meanwhile the force continues to impart knowledge and skills to its members through Training and Development Programmes in areas of advance courses in investigations and specialised areas and management in leadership.

**4. Forensic Sciences Services Programme - N\$25,542, 000**

This Programme focuses on the services provided by the National Forensic Science Institute which is a highly specialised multi-disciplinary scientific entity. This Programme relates to all aspects of natural science aimed at solving crimes as well as finding scientific solutions to crime related problems. It covers a range of genetics complex scientific skills like human, documents examination, analytical chemistry, arson investigation, explosives analysis, blood analyses, ballistics, fraud investigation, economic crime investigation, etc.

The Forensic Science Institute provide testing, calibration and research

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scientific support services to the Criminal Justice System observing international Good Laboratory and Best Practice standards.

**5. Supervision and Support Services Programme - N\$316,686,000**

This Programme is to provide and promote efficient and effective administration of the Force.

This Programme also provides condition of service, social welfare, public relations, policy formulation, and financial, logistical and infrastructural management.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, permit me now to give a brief account of crime prevalence in the country. Though we have been privileged to enjoy peace and stability and Rule of Law, there are worrisome trends posed by incidences of domestic violence, murder, theft, robbery, drug trafficking, rape, fraud, cyber crime just to mention a few. The commission of such crimes do not only bring fear amidst our law abiding citizens but also create an unfavourable situation for investors who may perceive our environment not to be conducive for doing business here.

One of the disturbing crimes which took centre stage is the killing of women and children by some men in this country. This situation places a serious challenge to women development and economic opportunities promoted by the Government for the past years. It should, therefore, be a bold resolve from all concerned parties that our sisters, mothers across the country are accorded an opportunity to move freely and their rights are respected as enshrined in the Fundamental Laws of this country.

My concern, like many of us is the domestic violence which is mostly carried out within the confines of our houses. Therefore, I urge members of the public to always pass on information to the Police to allow for early intervention. Therefore, the onus is upon all of us to bring to an end the scourge of senseless killings of mothers, daughters, children and sisters by some men who tend to ignore the rights of our vulnerable population, namely women and children.

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My humble appeal goes to Church Leaders, Traditional Authorities, School Principals as well as to you, the Honourable Members of this august House, to assist law enforcers in curbing the occurrence and commissioning of crimes in our society. Your daily engagement with communities/congregation of your respective denominations, villagers, students and electorates should always serve as avenues for creating awareness for the Rule of Law and good behaviours amongst your subjects.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, Namibia continues to maintain excellent cooperation with all its neighbouring countries. It goes without saying that without the ongoing mutual assistance, understanding and cooperation, it would be very difficult if not impossible to fight crime, especially across border and transnational organized crimes. The country continues to maintain Joint Permanent Commissions on Defence and Security with Angola, Botswana, South-Africa and Zambia. All security related threats are openly discussed and joint Programmes of actions are designed during these meetings at Ministerial level.

This cooperation with the neighbouring states is further consolidated through Southern African Development Community (SADC) Organs on Security and Defence; hence, Namibia remains a member of the SADC Standby Force Brigade.

In support of the International Community's efforts in maintaining peace, stability, and economic development around the globe, Namibia is a signatory to various United Nations Charters/Protocols and has participated in a number of Peace/Keeping Support Operations, either under the auspices of the United Nations and/or African Union, by sending individual Police officers for deployments, since the year 2000.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, although, the Namibian Police Force has succeeded to curb some incidences of crime in the country, it did so with inadequate resources (personnel) allocated to it through the National Budget. Last year we manage to *do more with less* but this year the Ministry of Finance

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have come to our rescue, in terms of providing funds for the recruitment and training of new members.

One area that confronted the Namibian Police Force and at times rendered its performance poor, is the conditions accommodation of most of Police officers country-wide, it is deplorable to say the least but with the limited resources at our disposal some positive developments can be seen in various towns of the country. The Namibian Police Force has built and renovated around 50 Police Stations and Accommodation facilities during the Financial Years 2012/213 and 2013/14. These facilities were built in the following Regions; Erongo (2), Hardap (4) //Karas (3), Khomas (4) Ohangwena (4), Omusati (7), Otjizondjupa (7), Kunene (5), Zambezi (4), Oshana (1), Omaheke (4) and both Kavango Regions (5), that is country-wide. There are new facilities that will be built and renovated under the new Financial Year. Thanks to the Ministry of Finance for financing some of NAMPOL's Capital Projects.

Therefore, the Namibian Police Force deserves our collective national support. The unequivocal demonstration of such support by this august House will undoubtedly motivate the entire nation to rally behind the Police, which is a prerequisite in our national endeavours to reduce the rising level of crime, allay the fear of crime and maintain peace and stability.

Honourable Members, the Namibian Police Force has budgeted and will recruit Two Thousand Eight Hundred (2,800) new intakes this Financial Year, whilst taking into consideration the balanced restructuring of the Force in the context of gender and regional representation. This is as a result that the Namibian Police did not recruit new members last year due to limited financial resources. I, therefore, wish to thank the Honourable Minister for availing the funds to the Namibian Police to fulfil such an exercise. If you may recall during 2012/13 the Police has to put on hold the recruitment of new intakes because of scarcity of resources, but this year our call was heeded to. This is another way of responding to the increasing problem of staff shortages/skills deficit and thus contribute towards employment creation for the youth and economic development.

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The allocation of sufficient financial and human resources to the Police will, therefore, guarantee the sustainability of the pillars of our cherished democracy that we are all obliged to jealously guard, defend and protect. Furthermore, this will enhance the competitiveness of our country in areas of economic development within the context of SADC, African Continent and Globally.

The total allocation of this Vote is **Four Billion, Two Hundred and Eighty Eight Million, and Ninety Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$4,288,095.000)**. I humbly submit the Budget Allocation for Vote 06, for the Programmes that I have just enumerated above for consideration and final approval by the Honourable Members of this august House. Thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Vote 27 – **“YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE”**, **N\$709,245,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Deputy Minister.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER FOR YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, it is my distinct honour to present to this august House, the Budget request for Vote 27 – **“MINISTRY OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE”** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, from the onset allow me to join others in congratulating Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Minister of Finance, the Director-General of the



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National Planning Commission and the staff of these institutions, for having managed to allocate resources to my Ministry.

The mandate of my Ministry is to develop and empower the youth and promote sport, culture and arts.

The proposed Budget request for my Ministry this Financial Year 2014/2015, amounts to **SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINE MILLION, TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY FIVE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$709,245,000.00)**.

This amount represents:

**SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY EIGHT MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY FIVE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$628,845,000.00)** for the Operational Budget; and **EIGHTY MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$80,400,000.00)** for the Development Budget.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture wholeheartedly agrees with the statement by the Minister of Finance that none of us should sleep peacefully until every Namibian is able to say, *"I can see a better future. I can find a job. I can learn a skill. Hard work will enable me and my family to have food and shelter. If I do my best at school and university, it will provide me with a better future and new opportunities."* The Minister of Finance placed greater emphasis on job creation, poverty reduction and improved income equality, and our Ministry agrees that all these can be achieved through sustainable economic growth- ***'Doing More with Less'***.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, my Ministry has finalised its five (5) year Strategic Plan for the years 2013 to 2017. This plan is used as a guidance to ensure that the Ministry achieves its set objective and deliverables namely: *To empower the youth, Promote a Sporting Lifestyle; and Promote Arts and Heritage.*

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My Ministry is proud to announce that as part of the strategic initiatives, a contract has been awarded in February 2014 for a Virtual Private Network (VPN) linking all Regional Offices to the Head Office and allowing greater excess of data and services to our customers and general public. Furthermore, my Ministry is in the process of constructing a state of the art Youth, Arts, Culture and Sport Village which includes the Head Quarters of the Ministry, at Plot 9109, Katutura Youth Complex which will commence during the Financial Year 2014/2015. These buildings will be environmentally friendly/going green, meaning solar geysers and solar panels will be installed to partly generate electricity requirements for the building. The feasibility studies and documentation has been successfully completed in 2013. Phase 1 will consist of the boundary wall, re-routing of services and a guard house.

Honourable Members, Youth constitute a big part of the Namibian population, they are today's leaders, and thus it is critical to empower them. My Ministry is continuously investing in youth skills development for the betterment of their future.

My Ministry managed to train over eight hundred (**800**) youth in Office administration, plumbing and pipefitting, metal fabrication, joinery and carpentry, brick making, tailoring and dressmaking, agriculture and crop production, handcraft and jewelry making during the Financial Year 2013/2014, at basic and levels 1 and 2, through skills training institutions at Kai//kanaxab in Hardap Region, Berg Aukas and Rietfontein in Otjozondjupa Region. Honourable Members, Three Hundred and Fifty (**350**) trainees at Berg Aukas Rural Youth Development Centre; One Hundred and Twenty (**120**) trainees at Kai//Ganaxab Youth Skills Training Centre and Thirty Six (**36**) trainees at Okahao Youth Skills Training Centre graduated in 2013, while a similar number have been enrolled to start the current academic year 2014. My Ministry is in the process of getting accreditation from the Namibia Qualification Authority (NQA) for all courses offered at our Youth Skills Training Centres.

In addition, Eighteen (**18**) students graduated from Three (**3**) different Polytechnics in Zimbabwe with National Certificates in various Trades

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including Electrical Power Engineering, Diesel Plant Fitting, Motor Vehicle Mechanics and Electrical Engineering.

Twenty Six **(26)** students successfully completed N6 Certificate from Tshwane South College in South Africa in electrical engineering and instrumentation. My Ministry facilitated the recruitment of Sixty **(60)** Children of the Liberation Struggle and other Vulnerable Youth at the Namibian Institute of Mining and Technology (NIMT) at its centres in Tsumeb, Arandis and Keetmanshoop for vocational skills training for the academic year 2014.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the Namibia Youth Credit Scheme (NYCS) aims at creating an environment under which the youth entrepreneurs can be empowered with skills and financial resources to contribute to the country's socio-economic development. Furthermore, Nine Hundred and Seventy Seven **(977)** unemployed youth received training on how to “*start and improve your business*” and are due to receive their first loans from the Namibian Youth Credit Scheme during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Members, my Ministry offered psycho-social support to Seventy Seven **(77)** young offenders in conflict with the Law in Oshana, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Omusati and Khomas Regions respectively. Thereafter, they were referred back to Court for assessment and possible release.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, a strong national identity can be forged through outstanding achievements in the sports arena. Celebrations of success help bring the people together, and create stronger bonds. Namibian athletes continued with their excellent showing at international sporting events. The likes of Johannes Nambala, Johanna Benson and others again managed to bring home Six **(6)** medals during the International Paralympics Championship in Lyon, France during July, 2013. Currently we have Five **(5)** Athletes and One **(1)** coach in Jamaica undergoing extensive training and conditioning in preparation for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

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The boxing code continued to be the best performing sporting code in Namibia as Namibia consolidates its standing in Africa by having Five (5) continental championships.

Monetary contributions were made to Two (2) athletes; one pursuing tennis in the United States of America and the other netball in the United Kingdom respectively. In football, the Brave Warriors managed to hold the African Champion, the Super Eagles of Nigeria to a stalemate at the Independence Stadium in Namibia.

Through Cabinet, Namibia has been granted the right to hosts the Confederation of African Football (CAF) Women Championship during 8 - 22 October 2014. Preparations to ensure that the minimum criteria are met by the hosting stadiums are in full swing. Other related activities such as smaller renovations at the stadium, setting up the various centres, and preparations for opening and closing ceremonies are underway. Also, to ensure that the Women National Football Team is competitive, preparations have already started and various games have been held. The Namibian Homeless Soccer Team participated in the World Cup and performed well. Namibia has been identified to host the 2016 Edition of this competition because of the previous achievements of our team.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, my Ministry will embark upon the upgrading of the Oshakati Independence Stadium with an artificial turf during the Financial Year 2014/2015. Furthermore progress has been made in training of human resources in sport, in areas such as; administrators, coaches, referees, and medics.

The Namibian Sport Commission (NSC) will be hosting a National Sports Conference on the 23<sup>rd</sup> until 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2014. I cannot over-emphasise the contribution that sports plays in addressing social-economic challenges in the country and hosting this important Conference will enable us to assess the state of sport in Namibia over the past twenty-three (23) years.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, preserving and promoting arts and heritage goes a long way in creating a sense of pride amongst the people. Namibia is home to vibrant cities

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where people are excited about the future, while remaining deeply connected to their rich cultural roots. Namibia boasts a stable, democratic Government and infrastructure that allows guests to move safely and confidently in this beautiful Land of the Brave.

In order to boost cultural tourism, the Namibia Sand Sea was declared a World Heritage Site on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2013. Namibia also hosted the annual board meeting of the African World Heritage Fund in December 2013, which was established in 2006 to promote the inscription and management of world heritage sites in Africa and to which Namibia is a member. The Omugulugwombashe National Heritage Site was upgraded and inaugurated on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2013.

*My Ministry to date repatriated 55 human remains, 14 from Freiburg University in Freiburg and 41 from the Charité University in Berlin. As the search for, and the process of research into provenance of anatomical collections in German institutions is ongoing, we look forward, with anticipation, for the repatriation of more human remains from the Federal Republic of Germany to Namibia in the future; a process that is necessary to bring some measure of closure to the repulsive events of our early recorded history of resistance.*

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, to celebrate and educate our people on our cultural diversity, a comprehensive exhibition on the Batswana people of Namibia was opened in the Owela Museum in Windhoek. The Independence Memorial Museum was completed and is envisaged to be inaugurated during March 2014. This museum exhibitions celebrate and promote public awareness of Namibia's diverse culture and long history of resistance to colonial rule.

With the view to promote Namibia as a preferred tourist destination, my Ministry continued to aggressively look for international partnerships. A bilateral agreement with the Portuguese Government was concluded in May 2013 to facilitate the on-going investigation into the world-renowned Oranjemund Shipwreck, the oldest shipwreck yet discovered from the early expansion of global maritime trade.

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Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Namibia is a truly unique country where the influences of its various cultures are celebrated. What has emerged is a true sense of unity in diversity - the coming together of at least eleven (11) Namibian major ethnic groups, each celebrating their past while working together towards the future. At national events this can be noticed in dress, language, art, music, and food. However, in order to foster a greater national identity, my Ministry established a National Performing Troupe. The idea behind this is to establish a performing troupe which transcends the ethnic groupings that has become prevalent in our cultures and will be well versed in all Namibian traditional dance forms and will be used as the representing body in terms of national and international platforms. This is to replace the existing tribal fragmented dance forms with a common cultural identity.

Through the National Arts Council of Namibia, financial assistance reached various artists, art institutions through grants aimed at artistic pursuits. Fifty Six (**56**) scholarships were granted for tertiary education in arts related fields. Over Two Hundred (**200**) Namibian visual and performing artists were supported to participate abroad in festivals and exhibitions.

The College of the Arts staged its Annual Dance Show, Ballet Bonanza, Music Academy, Baroque Festival, Concerto Festival, Student Arts Exhibition, COTA Fashion show and hosted various workshops countrywide through its National Extension Programme.

Arts in schools has been neglected for many years and this has disadvantaged creative youth who could make a living out of arts in various careers, such as architecture, graphic, fashion, landscape as well as interior design, to name a few. My Ministry has completed phase 1 of the identification of schools that qualify for assistance through a nation-wide survey of which an overwhelming response of over Three Hundred (300) schools country-wide was received and the qualifying schools stand to gain from material support during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

My Ministry also embarked on a scheme to empower the local artists by

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**HON KAVETUNA**

purchasing art work from them to be displayed in Government premises, known as '*Art Inside*'.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, my Ministry managed to successfully complete the following Capital Projects during Financial Year 2013/2014:

- **Construction of Omuthiya MultiPurpose Culture Centre:** phase 2 which consist of an Administration block and conference hall was completed in June 2013.
- **Construction of Kai//Ganaxab Youth Skills Training Centre:** phase 1 which consists of 4 Hostel blocks and a kitchen were completed by the end of February 2014.
- **Construction of Henties Bay Training Centre:** was completed in the Financial Year 2013/2014, under National Youth Service (NYS)
- **Construction of Nahas Angula Further Training College at Rietfontein** was completed and will be handed over by the Chinese Government to the Namibia Government in 2014.
- **Renovation, Alterations and Additions to National Youth Service Head Office** was completed at the end of February 2014.
- **Eenhana Sport Complex Pavilion** was completed in August 2013.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the team of my Ministry, the Acting Permanent Secretary, the Management and the entire staff members for their valuable contributions made to this Budget Motivation Speech.

In Conclusion, Honourable Members, my Ministry is contributing significantly to the building of a strong Namibian Nation and identity through Sports, Arts and Culture, and also through a higher level of youth engagement and, therefore, an amount of **SEVEN HUNDRED AND**

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**HON NAMOLOH**

**NINE MILLION, TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY FIVE THOUSAND NAMIBIA DOLLARS (N\$709, 245,000.00)** is sought for the Financial Year 2014/2015 in order to fulfill our mandate. I thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Minister.

**Vote 17 – “REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT” N\$2,648,98,000.00** put for Introduction by the Minister.

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**HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I stand before you today, to motivate the total Budget Allocation of **N\$2,648,988,000 (Two Billion Six Hundred and Forty Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars)** for the Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development. This constitutes an increase of 34,2% of the Budget allocated to the Ministry during the Financial Year 2013/2014 and shows the commitment of the Government to improve the quality of services and to provide quality, affordable housing to the people of Namibia.

In the same vein, I would like to thank and congratulate the Minister of Finance, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila and her team for a commendable effort for tabling a Budget which is destined to reduce poverty, narrow disparity of income, reallocate resources aimed at improving the quality of life of our citizens, empowerment of the previously disadvantaged communities and promoting sustainable development and growth.

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the 2014/2015 Budget for the Ministry will be



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**HON NAMOLOH**

divided among the Five (5) Programmes of the Ministry as follows:

**PROGRAMME 1:**

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT**

**N\$98,663,000.00 (Ninety Eight Million, Six Hundred and Sixty Three Thousand Namibian Dollars).**

The Directorate of Rural Development Coordination has the mandate of coordinating rural development interventions in order to improve the livelihood of rural people through the coordination of integrated planning, collaborative implementation and joint monitoring and evaluation of rural development interventions in Namibia. Rural Development Support Programmes are implemented through an integrated Gender and HIV/AIDS issues and these include the following:

**Implementation of the National Rural Development Policy and Strategy**

Following the approval of the Policy and the completion of the Strategy last year, both documents and monitoring evaluation system have been launched on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2014. My Ministry has planned to embark upon an effective implementation of these Policy and Strategy to ensure an effective coordinated integrated planning, collaborative implementation and joint monitoring and evaluation of all rural development interventions. The Ministry will involve 16 Line Ministries and other Stakeholders in this joint effort initiative.

**Social Infrastructure Services Development Support**

The following Sub-programmes seek to promote investment and diversification of livelihood strategies in rural communities.

- Rural Development Centre's Administration
- Micro-Finance Scheme
- Food and Cash for Work

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**HON NAMOLOH**

- Rural Sanitation
- One Region One Initiative
- Rural Employment Scheme
- Regional Specific Action Plan

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,  
Honourable Members;

**PROGRAMME 2:**

**SUPPORT TO PLANNING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING**

**N\$1,478,709,000.00 (One Billion, Four Hundred and Seventy Eight Million, Seven Hundred and Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars);**

Namibia continues to experience an acute shortage of affordable housing, a situation that has reached a socio-economic crisis proportion and hence warrants an extra-ordinary public policy response. To date the national housing backlog is estimated at 100,000 housing units, a number which is growing at an annual rate of about 3,700 units.

The phenomenon of informal settlements that subject thousands of our people to deplorable living conditions is present in all urban centres in the country. For the past 22 years informal settlements mushroomed throughout the country.

The largest backlog of housing is in the Lowest Income Sectors, with monthly incomes of **N\$0 to N\$1,500**, estimated at 45,000 people, and incomes between **N\$1,501 and N\$4,600**, estimated at 30,000. While the Build Together Programme focuses on people with incomes under **N\$3,000** per month, it is said that the National Housing Enterprise only provides products for incomes of over **N\$5,000** a month, which is less than 13% of the population.

Furthermore the housing crisis situation is further worsened by very limited affordability capacity due to low households income levels and high unemployment rate which consequently excludes many citizens from

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**HON NAMOLOH**

the economic reams necessary to access urban land and housing.

In order to meet the Millennium Development Goals, Vision 2030 and the National Development Plan 4, the Namibian Government has taken a policy stance to scale up the provision of housing, accesses to finance for the large majority of Namibians and overhaul the current housing delivery system through the Mass Housing Programme.

The Programme was officially launched by His Excellency, Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, the President of the Republic of Namibia, on 26 November 2013. Over the period of Seventeen years (17), an investment of N\$45 billion will be required to service land and construct houses. One Hundred and Eighty Five Thousand (185,000) houses will be built over Seventeen (17) years, translating into an average annual investment of N\$2.5 billion. Servicing of plot will be at an average cost of N\$75,000 and a housing unit is estimated cost of **N\$280,000**. However there are different types of houses which will also cater for those earning below **N\$1,500.00**. Fifty thousand households in informal settlement will be provided with affordable and quality housing.

During the first phase, running from 2014/2015 to 2015/2016 the number of houses to be built will be 8,850 and the number of plots to be serviced will be 10,200. In total, 27 towns in all fourteen Regions have been selected to be part of the first phase. To date, contractors have been appointed for the construction of houses and the process of construction has commenced.

### **Social/Subsidy Housing**

The Social/Subsidy Housing caters for those earning less than **N\$4,000.00** (Four Thousand). The Ministry has budgeted **N\$264,000,000.00 (Two Hundred and Sixty Four Million)** for the construction of houses during this Financial Year.

### **Servicing of Land**

As part of support to the Mass Housing Development Program, budgetary

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**HON NAMOLOH**

provision for the servicing of 10,200 plots amounts to **N\$437,166,000.00** for the construction of services in the 27 towns for the first phase. While **N\$261,193,000.00** is allocated to other places which are not part of the first phase of the Mass Housing Programme. This is to ensure that we will have enough plots to construct houses when we roll out the second phase of Programme, unlike in the past where we had funds for construction of houses but not enough for servicing plots.

The transformation of five Single Quarters namely, Grootfontein, Gobabis, Luderitz Omaruru and Otavi is an on-going process. We have budgeted **N\$16 000 000.00 (Sixteen Million Namibia Dollars)** for this exercise. This money is mainly earmarked for relocation exercise.

**Promotion of Local Building Materials**

The research and the promotion of suitable local building materials is an on-going process and it will require continuous funding. Due to the import of building materials, which are costly, the Ministry established the Habitat Research and Development Centre to research possibilities of using local building materials with the aim to reduce the cost on imported building materials currently from South Africa. In light of the Mass Housing Development Programme, the Ministry is in the process of scaling up the identification, testing and approval of alternative building materials. To this effect the Ministry has budgeted **N\$570,000.00 (Five Hundred and Seventy Thousand Namibian Dollars)** for this Financial Year.

**Recapitalisation of NHE**

National Housing Enterprise has been identified as the implementer of the Mass Housing Development Programme - Phase 1. Therefore, in order to strengthen its capacity to implement Phase 1 of the Programme, we have budgeted **N\$220,000,000.00 (Two Hundred and Twenty Million Namibia Dollars)**.

### **Planning, Surveying and Design**

The provision of professional, technical and other support services to Regional Councils and Local Authorities in terms of planning, surveying, design of decentralised functions and implementation of projects will require **N\$1,956,000 (One Million, Nine Hundred and Fifty Six Thousand Namibia Dollars)** for 2014/2015.

### **Provision of Infrastructure in Regions**

The shortage of office accommodation has become a serious concern for Regional Councils. This has been identified as one of the reasons that influence the pace of delegation of functions to Regional Councils. The Ministry was therefore directed to lead the process of constructing Regional Office Parks in the Regions. The provision will result in an increase in the service delivery functions and could as well increase the awareness on decentralisation.

### **Offices to be Constructed During 2014/2015**

- Construction of Town Council Offices Divundu, Aranos and Oniipa;
- Construction of Constituency Offices Kabbe, Linyanti, Mankumpi, Mpungu, Ncamagoro, Ndonga Linena, Tondoro, Opuwo Rural, Oshikunde, Ondangwa Urban, Daweb, Aranos, Karasburg West, Eenhana and Nehale Lya Mpingana Constituencies;
- Construction of Traditional Authority Offices Witbooi, Kung, Joa/'hansi, Gobanin, Baglakhadi, Kaoll'Aesi, Zeraua, Gaiodaman, Hai/om and Kakurukouje;
- Construction of Settlement Offices Bukalo, Sesfontein, Okangwati, Fransfontein, Hoachanas, Okandjatu, Okatjoruu and Coblenz; and
- Construction of Regional Office Parks Zambezi Regional Council, Kunene Regional Council, Otjozondjupa Regional Council, Oshana

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Regional Council, Karas Regional Council and Kavango West Regional Council.

**N\$207,911,000.00 (Two Hundred and Seven Million, Nine Hundred and Eleven Thousand Namibian Dollars)** is required for this project, this Financial Year.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the whole House Committee,  
Honourable Members;

**PROGRAMME 3:**

**ENHANCEMENT OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**N\$ 12,405,000.00 (Thirteen Million, Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars);**

Decentralisation and local governance is increasingly recognised as the basic components of democratic governance, since they provide an enabling environment in which decision-making and service delivery are brought closer to the people, especially to the grass root citizens.

The decentralisation process has been initiated with the following line Ministries:

- Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture;
- Ministry of Information and Communications Technology;
- Ministry of Lands and Resettlement; and
- Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare

During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry recorded progress in the following Sub-programmes/Activities, Accelerate Decentralisation, Institutional Capacity and System Development for Decentralisation Reform, and will undertake further activities to advance decentralisation during the Financial Year 2014/15.

**PROGRAMME 4:**

**COORDINATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS, LOCAL  
AUTHORITIES AND TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES AFFAIRS**

**N\$949,204,000.00 (Nine Hundred and Forty Nine Million, Two  
Hundred and Four Thousand Namibia Dollars);**

The aim of the Programme is to co-ordinate Regional and Local Authority's affairs and to provide financial assistance for their services in accordance with their respective legislations.

Programme comprises of the following Sub-programmes/Activities:

- Enhancement of Regional Councils Administration **N\$578,211,000.00 (Five Hundred and Seventy Eight Million, Two Hundred and Eleven Namibian Dollars).**
- Enhancement of Local Authority Administration **N\$99,000,000.00 (Ninety Nine Million Namibian Dollars)**
- Disaster Preparedness **N\$28,645,500 (Twenty Eight Million, Six Hundred and Fourty Five Thousand, Five Hundred Namibian Dollars)**
- Compensation for Loss of Communal Land **N\$120,000,000 (One Hundred and Twenty Million Namibian Dollars)**
- Local Economic Development **N\$4,500,000 (Four Million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars)**
- Traditional Authorities Administration **N\$18,000,000 (Eighteen Million Namibian Dollars)**

Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,  
Honourable Members;

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**HON NAMOLOH**

**PROGRAMME FIVE:**

**POLICY SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

**N\$110,007,000.00 (One Hundred and Ten Million and Seven Thousand Namibia Dollars);**

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administrative support to the entire Ministry's identified Programmes and its entailed activities. The activities to support this Programme are as follows:

- Policy Supervision;
- Coordination Support Services;
- Optimize Utilization of ICT Systems;
- Risk Management; and
- Representative of Central Government in Regions (Governors Offices)

In conclusion, I hereby request this august House to support and approve the total Budget of **N\$2,648,988,000 (Two Billion Six Hundred and Fourty Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty Eight Thousand Namibia Dollars)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015. I thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Minister. We have now finished the introduction and are going to start with the discussions.

However, before we discuss the Votes, I would like to remind the Honourable Members that I am just going to allocate *five minutes* to each Member taking the Floor and also remember that we are busy with the Committee Stage.

Committee Stage requires detailed discussions as opposed to general. Again, remember the *five minutes* allocation for each Member. If you do not comply with these requirements, we are going to use the E-Control mechanisms (*laughter*).



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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08  
HON MUHARUKUA / HON KAURA**

Vote 08 – “DEFENCE” put for Discussion. Yes, Honourable Muharukua.

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**HON DEPUTY GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:**

Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to, what am I going to say now? (*laughter*). I rise to support the Vote of the *Helicopter* Ministry.

Honourable Colleagues, you complain all the time about our aircrafts. Our helicopters in Namibia help the entire our country and even include our neighbours Zimbabwe and others. We have to thank our Namibian sons and daughters in uniform.

Comrade *Katusha*, I am standing here to thank you for the good work you carried out in 2013, in the interest of the whole of Namibia. Your Ministry saved the lives of many of our people. Thank you so much and I support Vote 8.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE  
COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Kaura.

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**HON KAURA:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson. I only have a question on Page 2 and that is the statement made by the Honourable Minister.

He quoted that Retired Admiral Olutunde Oladimeji of the Nigerian Navy, writing in *African Defence* of December 2013, aptly observed: “*There is desperation in Africa. The ordinary people are ranked by poverty. Hunger is rampant. Environmental degradation is rife. The political leaders, in most cases, have lost their radar and are, therefore, directionless. Such a situation threatens national and individual security on our continent.*” This was quoted by the Honourable Minister.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON A TJONGARERO**

I just want to find out from the Honourable Minister whether the strengthening of the Army is done to suppress internal uprising due to poverty and because of the African leaders that have lost their radar, is that the reason why we are strengthening the Army? Because from the current experience we have seen, especially during the Arab Spring, that regardless of the strength of the Army, as we have seen, for example, in Libya, the Army of Colonel Gaddafi that, when the people are disenchanted with the leadership due to hunger and poverty, you cannot suppress them and that is not a guarantee for national and individual security, and the security of our Continent.

I think the Honourable Minister agrees with me on this. Thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** I thank you very much. Honourable Agnes Tjongarero.

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**HON A TJONGARERO:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I just want to congratulate and thank the Minister of Defence, his Deputy and all the units in the Defence Force for the valuable display and exhibition of Sections and Units which was held here for us.

The most valuable information for me was the unit cost that was given to show us the cost of one soldier.

The other thing I want to talk about is the accommodation. I would like to say that the accommodation of our people in uniform should be hastened and completed so that they can have decent accommodation.

Lastly, I would like to say that the August 26 Textile and Garment Factory should concentrate more on producing uniforms and also the construction of the barracks as needed.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON SHIXWAMENI**

Honourable Minister and Deputy Minister, please convey my sincere gratitude to all the units who made time to tell us what is happening in the Defence Force. I thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Shixwameni.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I just have three issues that I want to comment on. One, of course, I would like to fall in line with Honourable Tjongarero with regard to the exhibition that the Minister of Defence organised here the other day and I would also like to encourage the Police and Correctional Services that such an exhibition is needed to impart a proper understanding of the uniformed services into the citizens and not only amongst leaders. I would like to encourage them to take it to the schools and the Regions, so that people can see that, particularly for kids to learn that the Military is not only a job opportunity but a career that they can embark upon.

Firstly on Page 12, Accommodation: I think it is very important, as Honourable Tjongarero has pointed out, that we really need to place our uniformed men and women in decent accommodation throughout the country not only in the barracks but also see to it that Soldiers, Police, Correctional Officers live in decent accommodation all around the country. This could probably be hastened up through the Mass Housing Scheme as a priority so that these men and women, who deal with serious matters of this country, have a proper roof over their heads. I find it really pitiful that we find police women or men and soldier coming from Havana, Okahandja Park or informal settlement.

Secondly, another thing I would like to welcome in this whole Budget of the Army is where the Honourable Minister made mention of retirement

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON DR KAWANA**

packages. I think it is a good thing. We should expand it to all Uniformed Officers so that they are all well taken care of. They take the risk of protecting this country and face the danger when fighting criminals, however, when they retire, they are left to their own devices to survive. The fact that these people have dealt with criminals and are not well taken care of, places them at even higher risks because anyone can get hold of them to retaliate. I would hope that this gets extended to the other uniformed forces as well.

On Page 3 is the thing that I have always been talking about, even with the retired General, Honourable Namoloh there.

With the Windhoek Machine and Fabric, I hope that during your time, Honourable Minister and Deputy Minister of Defence, we really look at using it in a civilian way to develop our economy. We refurbish Casspirs, Wer'wolves and these kinds of things. Germans have what they call the Volkswagen, the Swedish have a Volvo and many other countries develop their own cars, I know in Africa Kenya has tried to develop their own car (Nyayo) and ourselves we tried an Uri, I do not know what happened to that.

I think the Windhoek Machine Fabric must be encouraged; the money should be availed so that they investigate a car for civilian use which is safe and affordable to our people, a Volkswagen for Namibians. I thank you and I support the Vote.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Dr Kawana.

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**HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL:** Thank you very much Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Members, I rise to support Vote 08 and to say with pride, this

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON MOONGO**

is a Vote of our men and women in uniform who are ready to die for this country, that is the forefront of our patriotism and as a Nation we are proud and we wholeheartedly support them.

Comrade Minister, I am also happy to see that the issue of re-grading has been sorted out, I am very happy about that. I also want to join the Honourable Members who have spoken about the retirement package; I think we really need to increase that in order to look into the welfare of our soldiers. Not only those who are in active service but also those who have retired since these are people who are ready to die for this country any time 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Now regarding some of the aspects of social improvement, I would also urge the Ministry of Defence to create a very powerful Department which compose of bricklayers, engineers and so forth, so that most of these infrastructures like accommodation can be done internally in order to avoid exorbitant prices from the Private Sector and also for security reasons. We are proud of you and your team Honourable Minister please keep up the good job. I support Vote 08.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**  
**COMMITTEE**: Thank you very much. Honourable Moongo.

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**HON MOONGO**: Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson. I would also like to thank the Minister and the Deputy Minister.

I know that the Honourable Minister is an old teacher so I believe that he will try to teach the soldiers, especially those who are retiring not to be like when a Bishop retires because when a Bishop retires he only knows the Bible. Most soldiers when they retire they also only know about the gun (*laughter*).

Therefore, I appeal to the Honourable Minister so that they are trained in

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON MWANINGANGE**

specialised skills like mechanics, engineering and so on, in order to easily integrate into the society. I do not want them to be idling and also request that their salaries be improved as it is still low. With this few words, I thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Mwaningange.

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**HON MWANINGANGE:** Thank you very much, Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I just have a small but important observation towards the Basic National Defence Capability. My memory is still full of what I saw last week at the exhibition. Although the place was small you have really depicted what the Ministry of Defence is all about. I would like to underline that in modern defence there is a conventional Army and what you aiming for is thus true.

Looking at the way the Infantry was displayed here, looking at the Navy, looking at the Air Force with their jets and, indeed this Special Unit which I saw in a corner there, the communication, the modern IT, one cannot believe Namibia achieved all that. We should be a modern Army in a modern world and modern times, therefore, I encourage that we move as a country and Nation towards that direction.

With regard to the remuneration of the men and women in uniform like others said, Honourable Minister this is fantastic. I am seeing that they are being motivated in order to not only think about defence but take this as duty and sacrifice. For us to be able to move in that direction, I believe that we as Parliament will always endeavour to see to it that this Budget is improved. With this note, I support the Vote wholeheartedly and I thank you.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON DR KAMWI / HON HERUNGA**

**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Dr Kamwi.

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**HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Members, I rise to support Vote 08 in its entirety.

I would like to commend the efforts of the Honourable Minister of Defence and his uniformed men and women. I highly appreciate the information that he provided on Pages 15 and 16, especially as it related to emergencies and the prompt response to disasters. For us in the Health Sector, I wish to join Comrade Muharukua. The response in Kunene Region was really prompt and I can report to the Nation that for the past six weeks now we have not received a single report related to cholera. In other words we are already on top of it and similarly, when it comes to NID, that is, Expanded Immunization, they are always at hand.

Finally, Honourable Minister, I wish to propose in regard to August 26, that we should not only collaborate on uniforms for nurses but let us rather get out of this box and enable August 26 to consider converting ambulances for the Health Sector and where possible that we should even be purchasing some of the built ambulances from August 26. I support Vote 8.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Comrade Herunga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM:** Thank you very much, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON HERUNGA**

I rise to support Vote 08 of the Ministry of Defence. Comrade Chairperson, we as a Government are trying to do a lot to develop this country in all spheres of life but all these developmental efforts at the end of the day will be meaningless if we do not have a strong protection from our men and women in uniform. And we cannot have a strong protection if we cannot avail sufficient financial resources to the Ministry of Defence to make sure that our men and women in uniform are well equipped in terms of training and also in terms of the equipment they need.

Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, we have to remember that Namibia is a product of the international community. People from the rest of the world came to Namibia to assist us to achieve what we have achieved. Hence, it is also very important for us to continue to do what we normally do, sending our men in uniform abroad to assist various countries of the world to attain either their Independence or also to assist in any best way possible. We thus, have to make sure that our soldiers are well trained to be at par with the international standard, therefore, it is very important for us to support our Ministry of Defence so that we can meet these international standards.

Comrade Chairperson, Kunene Region has been the only Region that is bordering a neighbouring country without an Army Base until December 2012, and I would like to thank the Ministry of Defence for having established one small Army Base at Okangwati. However, it is very small and they are stationed in an old dilapidated South African Army Base that require very solid renovations which must be expanded because sometimes our animals in that Region used to be stolen by thieves and driven into Angola, and if our men in uniform are at our disposal in that particular Region, they will be able to assist the Namibian Police in combating crime of that nature in the Region.

Therefore, it is very important for the Ministry of Defence to look into the matter, especially the issue of the Army Base at Okangwati. I was there last week and looked at the situation; they really need assistance in terms of renovation of accommodation and also the expansion of the whole Army Base.



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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON LIMBO**

Comrade Chairperson, we need our soldiers to have undivided minds, therefore, if we increase their salaries they will be able to focus their attention on the job at hand but if they survive on a meagre salary their minds will be divided because they will look at other means of making a living. It is, therefore, very important for us to support our Defence Force and ensure that our men and women in uniform are paid sufficiently for their minds to be undivided when it comes to delivering of service to the people of this country. With these few remarks, Comrade Chairperson, Honourable Members, I support Vote 08. Thank you.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Limbo.

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**HON LIMBO:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

As a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security, I want to express my sincere gratitude for what is currently happening because I remember when we visited some centres in this country in 2010/2011, it was very disturbing to see under what conditions our colleagues were living. Even when they took us around I just had to put a brave face; saying, *yes, yes*, but deep in my heart I was not happy because the situation was really bad.

Looking at this Budget now, I believe quite a lot of things have improved, when it comes to accommodation one can at least see some new barracks coming up, that is why I want to thank the Minister and say please keep it up and do more. The other thing (interjection).

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**HON MEMBER:** Viva SWAPO!

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON LIMBO**

**HON LIMBO:** It is not a matter of SWAPO, I am talking about the reality of the situation here. These are Namibians regardless of who you are. Come on, get lost! Can you please (intervention).

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Go to your point, the time is almost over, you are left with only two minutes.

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**HON LIMBO:** Please send him out. Thank you very much. Coming back to the retirement package, Honourable Members, Honourable Chairperson, when we were going around, quite a number of colleagues were telling us that, *in five years time we are going to retire*, others were saying, *in two years time we are going to retire* and what was going through our minds was, *what will happen to this country when these people who are experienced retire?* However, what I saw here last week really allayed my fears because we saw very young women and men in uniform who are well trained and it strengthened my believe that this country is still going to remain well protected by these young men and women in uniform. From what they were displaying here you could see the eagerness and readiness to defend this country, *come night or day we are ready to defend*.

That is why I am saying being a Member of this Committee, I am very proud that some of our recommendations in our Reports are bearing fruits, Honourable Minister keep it up. It looks like our Defence Force is becoming a professional institution because through what we saw here, no child will say *I do not want to be a soldier* because the opportunities are there. Whether you want to be a Doctor, an Engineer or what have you, you will still fit within the Army of Namibia. Thank you very much.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 08**  
**HON NUJOMA**

**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Nujoma.

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**HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you, Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Members, I rise to give my unconditional support to Vote 08 and also to thank the Minister for introducing this Budget. I have only a small comment on Page 14, where the Honourable Minister has quoted Lieutenant General Andrew Gutti, the Force Commander of the African Mission in Somalia writing about the future of African Armed Forces in Africa Defence of September 2013, and I quote; *“Future inextricably lies in light, agile forces that are costly to train in the short term but easy to maintain in the short and long term.”* And you said this is a situation you are faced with in the Namibian Defence Force.

Now Honourable Minister, I have been observing these wars; if you look at the war in Iraq you may have observed that immediately when they declared this war, it was just a question of the United States and their Allies launching these military scud missiles all over Iraq, over the bases, satellite ballistic missiles from ships, from the Navy, from the Air Force Base and as a result the Air Force was completely paralysed. The same situation also happened in Libya and when I observe and look at this statement, is the Lieutenant General advocating that we should train people in guerrilla war tactics so that there is no need for these military bases because they are neutralised immediately by satellites? This is the question I always think of, what will be the future of our Armies? Or should we now really try to align ourselves with more progressive countries, for example, the USSR or China so that we can acquire this technology in order for us to see where the missiles are coming from because in most cases you are completely neutralised, the next day nothing is flying or moving.

We have seen the tanks in Libya, they had to turn to guerrilla warfare as the last resort, is that the future you are talking about Honourable

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**HON MBUMBA**

Minister? That is the first question.

Secondly, Honourable Minister, I agree entirely with you about the Military Industrial Complex, many Colleagues have spoken about it. However, what I did not see here is, last year in the Budget the former Minister was talking about the Military Defence Hospitals. There are countries which want to render assistance so that some of us who are ageing now, when we have high blood pressure we can go to a military clinic for treatment including operations. Most countries offer their military hospital facilities, for example, most of the African Leaders go to Military Hospitals in France or the United States when they are sick, that is where research is done and where most complex diagnosis and treatments are carried out. Thank you Honourable Minister.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Mbumba.

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**HON MBUMBA:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I am rising in the first place to support Vote 08, in the second place to support Vote 08 and in the third place to support Vote 08. The Namibian Armed Forces and other uniformed personnel have distinguished themselves at home and abroad and, therefore, they deserve our salute and our total support.

I only want to say something about one item, that of sovereignty. Sovereignty is like gold; nobody has ever placed gold just anywhere and walked away. If you have gold you have to protect, otherwise others will take it. Sovereignty, the total control of your territorial integrity, the full protection of your people have to be in the hands of those who are prepared to defend it, to protect it. It is true we do not have the resources for everything and anything but if we do not have the resources to support

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**HON KAZENAMBO**

those who are responsible for protecting our mother land than anything else we may try to do may be taken away by anybody. There is no bigger humiliation in my view than a country that has been overrun by a neighbour or a foreign power.

Comrade Chairperson, every citizen has a responsibility to contribute to the defence of his/her motherland. One day I went to the Honourable Minister of Defence's Office and he taught me a lesson, a teacher is always a teacher even if you go to the Ministry of Defence. He said, "*You Politician*" and for the first time Comrade Nahas Angula was calling me a Politician, I thought he was a politician and I was just another person, "*You Politicians, if you do your job very well the Army will also do its job very well, we will not have fear but if you do not do your job well we will be forced to do things we do not want to do.*" Let this be a lesson to every Member of Parliament that sometimes we the Politicians are the ones who mess up so badly that the Army has no choice but to mess up even bigger (*laughter*).

We are spending a lot of resources to educate our young people. We spent a lot of money per child per year, training and educating our young people but these young people must also know that too much is given to them, therefore, so much will be expected from them, especially in the defence of their motherland. I support Vote 08 and thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Kazenambo Kazenambo.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 08 of the Ministry of Defence, the Budget of the silent patriots. These Comrades are silent. They are perhaps the second only people who are deployed in various terrains under different circumstances, silently. They are not allowed to

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**HON KAZENAMBO**

complain or do anything else rather than to fulfil their duties. They put their lives on the line on behalf of others, even those who condemn them, when the going gets tough they will say; *where are the soldiers?* When the tough gets going these are the people who will climb mountains and these people are the ones who will put down fires. These are the people who will cross rivers and valleys, these are (intervention).

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**HON MEMBER:** Page?

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** It is Page 8, I am coming; I am defending. I am coming from the background of the silent patriot and you know I have been a silent patriot and now I am given an opportunity to talk and I am speaking on behalf of some of the silent patriots.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Kazenambo do not touch that thing because of the recording, do not touch it, just leave it like that for recording. Very good. 5 minutes, do not forget.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Page 20 of the Minister's Speech; Defence Industry Contribution to the Economy. After having supported the silent patriots, I would like to wholeheartedly support the Defence Industries (*laughter*). I am supporting the Defence Industries, in many countries like it is stated in this document, is the truth and only truth. Without repeating what is said here because it is obvious and I am supporting it. I think we have to reach a point where as the Government of the Republic of Namibia take decisions that from our Budget, and I repeated it here, many of the Ministries and Government consume services and products produced in the market, if we can say, for example, those in the Housing

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**HON SHIFETA**

Sector should buy from the Military Industries because they have the technology and knowhow, then they can use the proceeds to expand this Industry.

The Honourable Members were talking about school uniforms here, if we can say the Ministry of Education have synergies and linkages with the Defence Industry, mechanisms can be devised to see how they could consume this product. On housing, I checked their warehouse technology and housing construction. National Housing Enterprise (NHE), other low cost housing providers as well as municipalities could link up with the Ministry of Defence to get rid of shacks or what we call *kambashus*, since they have the necessary cheap technology and advanced technology to assist in reducing these shacks, and the list goes on. This will enable us to start consuming materials that are locally available. We could also encourage various Ministries to purchase garments, boots, etcetera of good quality, produced by the Defence Industries and create jobs. However, one will always be told about international standards, quality and so on. We really need to take firm decision and start consuming our own products as there is no crime in doing that and create jobs. Let us take decisions that support the Defence Industries. With these few words I support the Vote for the Silent Patriots.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Shifeta, 5 minutes please.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson. Firstly, let me congratulate the Ministry for the job well done and in particular the Minister of Defence.

There is a general perception that the members of the Defence Force are just sitting idly in the barracks but I think your mini exposition that you had last week dispels the notion of the soldiers being idle and I want to

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**HON KAURA**

commend you for that job well done.

On the question of accommodation, I wholeheartedly support the efforts of the Ministry to build decent accommodation for our soldiers. They need proper accommodation which is long overdue, that explains the reason why the Budget of the Ministry is so large. I would further want to commend the Ministry, especially on the part of the research to enable them invent some new technological advances and I urge the Ministry to continue doing so and this should not only be in military but also in new civil technological advances that we need to engage in.

Security is one of the very important elements in human development, one cannot develop if you do not have security, therefore, putting money in security is part of development as opposed to people who think that it is a waste of money; the money should rather be used in some other Sectors. I wholeheartedly support Vote 08. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Kaura please.

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**HON KAURA:** Honourable Minister, just on Page 20, under *the August 26 Holding Company has established a number of subsidiaries in Sectors such as Communication, Garments, Footwear*, I want to stand still on that and ask a question; why can you not produce school uniforms?

Since all the schools fall under one Ministry, why can we not produce school uniforms? Grey is grey, blue is blue and white is white but every school in Namibia is having a separate uniform and it is turning into a big racket, and it is seriously expensive. I experienced it when I went to buy some school uniforms for my grand children. Why can this company not produce affordable school uniforms and maybe in grey and blue or white instead of having yellow, green and whatever the case maybe as well as affordable shoes for school kids? A Grade 3 child's school shoes cost up to N\$259.00 at one place but when you go to another place



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**HON NEHOVA**

they cost N\$75.00. However, they may be produced by August 26 at the same standard at the cost of say N\$30.00 and the uniform maybe for N\$25.00 instead of N\$199.00 here in Windhoek. Could you perhaps under Garments and Footwear, consider producing for schools? The Honourable Minister of Education is also listening. Maybe he could standardise the uniforms so that there is just one basic colour for all schools. When some of us, like myself, Honourable Minister, Honourable Chief and the Prime Minister went to school, we did not even wear school uniforms.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Comrade Nehova.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Thank you very much, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (interjections), you shut up (*laughter*). I rise to support Vote 08 of the Ministry of Defence.

I think the Minister was very clear as to what the task of the Ministry of Defence is and we should all know that it is to defend Namibia by Air, by Sea and by Land and to look at the infrastructure of the personnel that is involved which is definitely costly. I was in PLAN at some time and more or less have an idea of what the cost of this equipment is.

However, I want to ask two or three questions to the Honourable Minister for the sake of some of us who are either conservative or maybe illiterate and even maybe dishonest, if you look at what the media is reporting about the Vote of the Ministry of Defence. For me as a patriot, the priority after Independence, is the defence of our country and the Minister put it very clearly, you do not know when the possible aggressors will come here. We know what is happening around Ukraine and nobody expected that. We know what is happening in the Central African Republic or even in Syria, so I agree with you Honourable Minister that we must stand ready at all times.

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**HON NEHOVA**

I want to ask you three questions:

1. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, what is the cost of a Jet Fighter/Bomber? For example, (intervention).

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Nehova, a question here please?

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**HON KAURA:** I just want to find out from the Honourable Member, are you aware of the fact that Crimea today is now being reintegrated into the Russian Federation? Are you aware that it has already been signed and Crimea is reintegrated into the Russian Federation?

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**HON NEHOVA:** Thank you. I was out of town, in the village (*laughter*). I do not know what is currently happening but I know there is trouble. I would like to know the cost of a Jet Fighter/Bomber because we might defend the country by Air? For example, the cost of the American F-15 Fighter/Bomber, MiG-25, or even Mirage 21, what is the cost of a modern one nowadays?

2. What is the cost of a modern ship because we might also defend the country by Sea?
3. When we come to the Ground now, what is the cost of a modern 40 barrel Katyusha for example (intervention).

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**HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** On a Point of Order; I would like to ask Honourable Nehova to tell Honourable Kaura to leave the Crimea out because it is very close to some of us.

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**HON SCHLETTWEIN**

**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Nehova, continue please.

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**HON NEHOVA:** Thank you Honourable Acting Chairman. What is the cost a Katyusha in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? I am putting these questions because, in the introduction of the Vote you were trying to hide here and there about the Budget being N\$6 billion, and we think it is a lot of money. N\$6 billion is nothing more than around US\$600 million but we can imagine the cost of these things that I am asking. We seem to be contended with N\$6 billion, this is not real currency or hard currency because these things, and I think the Minister will agree with me, will have to be bought from outside. We will have to convert our money into hard currency like Euros and US Dollars. Therefore, I want to know more or less, I want to have an idea as to the cost of defending Namibia by Air, Sea and Land and these are the examples that I gave because we have this mentality of thinking that N\$6 billion is a lot of money. It may be a lot of money here in Namibia but what if you have to buy from outside. I know you produce some of these things, like maybe the Katyusha, I do not know, but we are buying other things from outside. What are the costs involved? Thank you.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Schlettwein.

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**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:** Thank you Honourable Acting Chair of the Whole House Committee. I also rise to support the Vote and I have a small comment on the Honourable Minister's Speech where he talked about *the Defence Industry Contribution to the Economy*.

I think what is envisaged here is a very positive development and that is to say, if we are able to develop a value chain that satisfies the needs of

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**HON SCHLETTWEIN**

consumer goods and also in the Paramilitary Sector, which is an important Sector, that is a positive development. However, Honourable Minister, I just want to make sure that this effort does not, or is not intended to take away opportunities for SMEs in the Textile Industry that are producing school uniforms or other commodities consumed by all of us, including the Private Sector. I think the (intervention).

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** On a Point of Order; can I ask the Honourable Minister a question?

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**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:** Yes, please.

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**HON KAZENAMBO:** Comrade Minister, you are cautioning that this Military Industry's efforts should not take away opportunities that are being enjoyed by our SMEs. Are you aware that the products accessible to many of these SMEs are those that are dumped in the market, some of them bought in China town somewhere, and the Ministry of Defence is trying to close that gap? Of course, as it has been elaborated by Honourable Kaura and others, are you also aware that many of these goods are imported from South Africa and elsewhere?

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**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:** Thank you. Yes, I am aware that many of these consumer goods like school uniforms are imported from South Africa and I agree with you that our aim should be to substitute those imports with locally produced goods. So that is the core of the '*Growth at Home*' strategy, and I am not saying that the intention of building a value chain for military goods is contradicting that. I think it is supporting our strategy to supplement these imports. However, what I am saying is that, we have local SMEs for which we have created business

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**HON SCHLETTWEIN**

opportunities in the Textile Sector and one of the things that they produce quite efficiently are school uniforms because there is a secure market for them. I am sure the Minister will confirm that the efforts that he is proposing through the development of a Military Industrial Complex is not eroding opportunities for SMEs that are currently in the Textile Industry or any other existing Industry. (Intervention)

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Kaura.

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**HON KAURA:** Can I please ask him a question?

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Yes, please, Honourable Kaura.

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**HON KAURA:** Thank you. I just want to find out from the Honourable Minister. Unfortunately I do not want to name the South African companies that are selling school uniforms in Namibia. They are not SMEs but big companies here in Windhoek that are selling these school uniforms, is the Honourable Minister aware of them? I do not want to mention their names.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Minister, continue please.

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**HON SCHLETTWEIN**

**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:** Thank you Honourable.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Please wait, Honourable Nehova.

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**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:** I have not said anything.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Nehova, please sit down so that the Honourable Minister replies first. Continue please.

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**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:** Thank you, Comrade Chair. Thank you very much, Honourable Kaura. Yes, I think the problem is that we have a system where we consume what we do not produce and we produce what we do not consume, that is the core of what you have asked. There are a number of these aspects where consumer goods that we can and should produce ourselves are in fact not produced here but they are imported from elsewhere and we consume them. So what we are driving at, either through the development of the Military Industrial Complex or other industrialization efforts, is exactly to counteract, that is, to improve our production capacity so that we produce more finished goods that we can then consume ourselves but that we can also export elsewhere. I think that is the core of what the Minister of Defence wants to do by developing a value chain for the Military and Paramilitary Industries. That is what we want to do in the “*Growth at Home*” strategy which covers all the priority Sectors that we have.

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**HON SCHLETTWEIN**

I just wanted to make sure that this good intention of the Ministry of Defence is not intended to replace opportunities in the Private Sector with an SOE or a subsidised Industry in the public domain. (Intervention)

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**HON NEHOVA**: On a Point of Order; Honourable Acting Chairperson.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE**: Just wait. Yes?

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**HON NEHOVA**: Comrade Chairman, I think I did ask my Colleague sitting behind there last week, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Justice whether this revolution of ours is what can be termed a Bourgeois Democratic Revolution. If that is the case, in a Bourgeois Democratic Revolution you compete, if the quality of your products is not good enough you are ruined and you get out the way. It is competition.

Therefore, there is nothing wrong if the Military Industry or Complex of the Ministry of Defence wring some of these things, it is competition as long as they are of good quality and value. We should actually be ready to be ruined because it is competition, it is a Bourgeois Democratic Revolution. It is okay.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE**: Yes, Honourable Minister, continue please.

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**HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**: Thank you. I was concluding but I think what the Honourable Member is saying is of course

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**HON NAMBAHU**

true, competition is not bad but competition is only good if the playing field is equal. Now, if you have competition on an unequal basis where you out compete SMEs with State-Owned Enterprises that receive public money as support then I think we have to think whether that is what we actually want to achieve.

The second point is, and I think that is what the Honourable Minister of Defence is aiming at when he seeks a financial commitment to support this Industry, that is, the ability to kick-start and unlock the potential to establish that Industry and get it going in order to lower the initial establishment costs so that an Industry can be run and face stiff competition in the initial stages. I agree with him there, we have a similar take on the establishment, and the identifying and starting up of industries. I think their intention is correct that we have to do the same in the Military Sector. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** I thank you very much. Honourable Nambahu.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you very much Comrade Deputy Speaker and congratulation with a promotion to Chairperson. I want to wholeheartedly support this Vote and congratulate the House for being in unison as far as the support to this Vote is concerned.

There was a time when it was not fashionable to support this Vote and there were a lot of criticisms sometimes coming from the other side but I can see how we have grown now and we are all supportive. We have seen in other countries when it comes to national interest people are all united, that is a good sign. I congratulate you Honourable Members.

I now want to go to the philosophy of an agile and lean Task Force. I support the philosophy of a very agile or very mobile Task Force but when you are attacked, the territory might be too big and, therefore, you



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**HON NAMBAHU**

have to call in your reservists. Maybe I missed that point of the reservists somewhere. I think there is some potential there and some of our Colleagues are saying they want to join, do you not want to join? (*Laughter*). This is an area that might need a little bit of attention or maybe there is much that we do not know. However, when it comes to that level, definitely your reservists will come in very handy so it must receive very good attention.

It also helps very much to inculcate this patriotic conscience. It is very helpful and it is going to help Honourable Kaapanda with his *Nationhood and National Pride Campaign* for people to be also put in that kind of context and frame of mind. I would want to see more movement in that direction.

The other area that I get very worried about is the scattered security companies in this country with various uniforms. Should anything happen here, how will one be able to differentiate these companies' personnel from the Army personnel? There does not seem to be control on who puts on what colour and what colour is reserved for the Army. You come across some uniforms that make you want to salute a person because you think it is some General although it may just be Honourable Muheua wearing the Otjizerandu attire (*laughter*). We just have too many Generals out there. I may not be fully informed but we should not wait for that moment when something happens to start doing damage control. I am just in passing referring to these Comrades and maybe Honourable Kaura seems to be a marshal that side, I do not know, but it is something that needs your attention, probably to think how you can bring about some order there.

The last one is about the Comrades that are retiring. We need to give attention to these Comrades because they have a lot of expertise. Sometimes an active Comrade retires and goes to the village or somewhere where he is just lying with a lot of knowledge that could otherwise have been put to good use.

On the Military Museum; I may be risking because I do not know what is in there or what is going to be inaugurated but in other countries these

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museums are actually very much marketed and publicised so that you can even have a student or a school in Opuwo, Okankolo or somewhere actually coming to visit those kinds of museums and to enhance their knowledge about their past and where they are going. I would, therefore, like this to be marketed as well and for our people to be able to nurture their level of patriotism from this kind of institutions and to also have something like a military exhibition (intervention).

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Time, time please.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Yes, Comrade. When it comes to many billions like this, we obviously have to talk a bit more somehow. That exhibition is, however, something that we need to look at so that we know where we are, where we came from, where we are going in order to be able to salute and continue to inspire people to come and join the Army, maybe as reservists or professionals. I thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Members, I would like to call upon the Honourable Minister to reply. Honourable *Katyusha*, please.

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**HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Honourable Members who made their voices heard with regard to Vote 08 – “**Defence**” and I am very much proud that we are all in support of this Vote. We have taken an oath to

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**HON ANGULA**

defend the Constitution and in that Constitution the boundaries and the territorial size of Namibia are defined.

You are all part of the Defence Architecture as Members of Parliament because you have taken an oath to defend this country. I know that in certain quarters people try to confuse other citizens by talking about either *bread or bullets*, whilst they do not talk about that in their own countries.

If you are a Member of the US Congress and you question the Defence Budget, that is your end, you will never be elected to go to the Congress again. It is a fact of life. Talking about defence, we are talking about a basic need, the need for security.

I am only disappointed by our media, when you give your information, they do not publish it. They ignore it. They are only waiting to see one Minister opposing another Minister's Budget, that is good news. To me that is not journalism as I was trained as a journalist at one point and I thought journalism is to inform, to educate and to entertain but our friends there are not interested in positive things. They always want to paint us negatively and that is bad. Even our own Government paper does not do much to help us, however, this time I hope that they are going to report that the Parliament is united in making sure that resources are made available to guarantee the defence of our sovereignty.

***Honourable Muharukua***, thank you very much. We will continue to support the Civil Authorities, which is part of our mission, where we can with resources at our disposal.

***Honourable Kaura***, I thought you were at Colombia University, where I was also and I did not expect you to misread a very obvious statement. The statement saying; the primary defence and security architecture of our country is national harmony, and this national harmony comes about when people feel that they have a stake in their country. If people are hungry, if people are unemployed, if people are poor, these people are not likely to have commitment to their country.

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**HON ANGULA**

Therefore, you have a social problem in the country. That is what the statement is saying. Now you want to twist it that we are somehow arming ourselves against ourselves. That is absurd in the extreme. I am only saying our security depends upon us as citizens to make sure that we guard our country, we provide proper institutions of governance of our country to pull the majority of our people out of poverty, to provide jobs and to make sure that everybody has a stake in the peaceful coexistence in this country. That is what I am saying. I just put the quotation there to remind you not to take it for granted that it would be like this.

Central Africa perhaps never thought that they are going to be in a situation whereby Anti-Balaka is against Séléka, Muslim against Christians or whatever the case may be. They never planned that. I am, therefore, only giving you politicians a warning that you must provide good governance to this country so that there is harmony and when you are faced with an external enemy, we can face that external enemy as a Nation. That is what I am saying.

*Honourable Tjongarero*, thank you for your support and I am grateful that you appreciated the exhibition. As an institution we are open to educate the public about what we are doing because we think that we can only perform our tasks and missions if we have the support of the public. The public can only support us if they know what we are doing.

Yes, many people have talked about August 26, perhaps I should just answer it here now. August 26 has the potential of making a difference, especially in employment creation and of course, in reducing our imports and, therefore, saving our foreign currency and it also has great potential in technological advances. If you saw the military radios that were displayed there, the officer was trying to explain to you that those were the three systems in one; shortwave, long distance and medium. That is technology, but the only problem we have is that we have no appetite as a country to invest in the Defence Industry because when some people hear about the Defence Industry, they only think about Jet Fighters or bullets. No, the Defence Industry is wide. If you have soldiers, you have to clothe them, you have to give them footwear and what have you, and this can support the economy. Honourable Schlettwein is saying that we are trying

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**HON ANGULA**

to crowd out the Medium and Small Industries. Where are these, can he show them to us?

I only see uniforms being sold at a corner of John Meinert there and I know that they are not made in Namibia. I support Honourable Kaura for asking why we do not make these uniforms, true uniform because the uniforms we have now create classes. If you go to Windhoek High, you put on a jacket and a tie, but if you go to Mandume, you put the basics of the basics. This is creating a class within learners.

I hope that the Minister of Education, with his Budget is going to engage the school Principals, School Boards, Parents Organisations, Students Organisations and come up with a national uniform design so that when I see you there, I know that is a school uniform. If that happens, it would be easier to produce for the whole country and that will enable you to even obtain money from Private Financial Institutions. It is not an idea that we want to crowd out SMEs, in fact we want to cooperate with them, we want to work together with them but the problem is that we do not have proper investment to upgrade these factories. That is what we need.

*Honourable Shixwameni*, I thank you very much. Accommodation is very important and we are working hard. You know when the South Africans came here they build pre-fabricated army bases. Those prefabricated buildings are totally falling apart as Honourable Limbo clearly depicted the situation. It is an eyesore, and Honourable Herunga went to Okangwati. We are going to work on that Okangwati thing but the problem is that we have to go step-by-step.

We are working on the retirement package. The problem we have is that the job requirement or the tasks of the Defence Force are such that they require certain levels of mental and physical strength. If you are a rifle person, you cannot be running after the tank in your 40s. By 40 you should retire but we want to make sure that when you retire you have something to lean on. We are working on that one.

Producing civilian vehicles; yes, we are capable of doing that. In fact,

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**HON ANGULA**

Honourable Netumbo, when she was a Minister of Environment ordered some water tankers there, big trucks. They were produced there. If you put in a good order we would try our level best to produce a car called the *Namib*.

***Honourable Kawana***, thank you for your support. On re-grading, the Honourable Minister of Finance has assisted us to address this issue and we hope that we are going to address it step-by-step. We are looking into social welfare. When it comes to maintenance, that is a tough one because these buildings still belong to the Ministry of Works and the Ministry of Works has to appoint people who are doing the maintenance and we will talk about this with the Honourable Minister of Works to see whether we can actually employ some maintenance brigades in the bases since they are scattered all over the place.

***Honourable Moongo***, to retrench people who are about to retire; yes, we will think about that. Continuous improvements of salaries; we want to do that provided that we grow the economy. The economy must grow if we want to have more resources to improve the condition of service of our men and women in uniform.

***Honourable Mwanyengange***, thank you for supporting the exhibition. The improvement of service and remuneration also depend upon the economy. If the economy can support us, we will do our best.

***Honourable Kamwi***, yes, we can manufacture ambulances. Just put in an order and you will have them.

***Honourable Herunga***, I took note of Okangwati. I think I have talked about the social welfare of the soldiers, that we are looking into that.

***Honourable Limbo***, I think I have already answered you. When you go and visit again, you will be a bit happy, not completely happy, but a bit happy because there would be some improvements.

***Honourable Nujoma***, yes, one could consider an agile force but the problem is our population. Our population is small and you cannot recruit

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**HON ANGULA**

everybody in the Defence Force. Otherwise, the economy will suffer. You have to have a force that is well-trained, mobile and technologically savvy to respond to any threat. Modern warfare comes in different shapes; sometimes asymmetric and sometimes you just have a group of pirates in the sea. However, we have the necessary architecture to prevent those kinds of things but the other elements are the difficult ones to counter. With regard to the experiences you mentioned elsewhere, technology is key. One of the basic threats these days is cyber warfare whereby your command control equipment, including radars and everything can be disabled because these technologies are controlled by satellites. You do not own a satellite, a satellite is owned by somebody else. They can just cut you off and your signals will not be transmitted, Then you are gone. That is what happened to the late brother, the leader in Libya. The whole command control infrastructure was just disabled and there was nobody giving the orders.

Military hospital; Comrade Nujoma, yes, we are working on that one. We have a small amount in the Budget. We will start with the servicing of the land this year in the hope that next year *Meme* Saara will think about another billion because you will only see that all this billions were worth it if you get sick.

We have a problem, especially with the former old cadres of PLAN. They go to these public hospitals where they are placed in a hall and sometimes they are not able to help themselves and it becomes a big problem but these are the people who sacrificed for this country. It is really a challenge. I think a military hospital is a must.

*Honourable Mbumba*, I totally agree with you, I talked about perpetual sovereignty in my Statement to make sure that we defend our sovereignty in perpetuity.

*Honourable Kazenambo*, thank you for your support, especially to the Defence Industry, it is highly appreciated. I am about to finish Honourable Pendukeni.

*Honourable Shifeta*, on research and development; yes, we are involved

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**HON ANGULA**

in research and development and we are developing few technologies which are relevant to the Defence Force. *Honourable Kaura*, I did explain the situation of school uniforms.

*Honourable Nehova*, the cost of on a Jet Fighter; a Jet Fighter is a plane and also fighter. You are not only buying the engine of the plane, you also have to buy the wherewithal to make a Jet Fighter. A Jet Fighter must be a sturdy aircraft. I will not give you whether it is US\$20 million or something like that because I do not know which Jet Fighter you are talking about, there are different ones but they are not cheap. I can only tell you that they are not cheap. Similarly, air to surface missile or surface to air missile; the Katyushas is not just a point of having a gun itself, you also have to transport it, you have to put fuel in the car and you also have to maintain it. It is, therefore, not cheap.

*Honourable Schlettwein*, I think I answered you. I know that you are Mr Small and Medium Industry. We want to be happy.

*Honourable Nambahu*, on retiring Comrades, we are liaising with the Ministry of Veteran Affairs to make sure that they are taken care of. The establishment of a Reservists Force is being considered, we are studying it. The Military Museum is there in Okahandja and it is about to open and once it opens, we shall publicise it.

Honourable Members, thank you for your support. I want to assure you that the resources made available to the Defence Ministry will be properly utilised. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**  
**COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Any objection? Agreed to.

Honourable Members, I would like to remind you that we are now going to migrate from manual control to the E-control mechanism. In other words, five minutes only in order to cover your points, avoid repetition because now we are going to use this E-mechanism.



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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 10**  
**HON DR KAIYAMO**

Vote 10 – “**EDUCATION**” put for Discussion. Any discussions?  
Honourable Dr Kaiyamo.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

From the onset, I would like to congratulate Comrade Minister of Education on a job well done, especially on the issue of free education. Our people are very happy about this free education Comrade Minister but there are still some people having tactics that are undermining these good ideas. Every week, we received a note saying - pay N\$5 to school in Katutura. Are you aware of some of these undermining activities, still requesting extra expenses?

The next point is the mother tongue. You were talking about the mother tongue as the medium of instruction.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Order please!

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:** What about those people who regard themselves as others because for them, English is their mother tongue? They do not speak Oshiwambo, they do not speak Otjiherero, they do not speak Damara/Nama. What is the road ahead? That is now my other question.

The next point is; I read in your Speech that you have 52 libraries over the country offering free ICT to the public. The public is very happy but they are complaining about the office hours. Some of them want to go to the library after 17:00, after work but it is not possible. Is there a possibility

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**HON DR KAMWI**

that an opportunity can be created to afford them this chance to use these libraries for their studies?

Next is the regional libraries; in your Speech, you talked about the ones in Ohangwena, Oshakati and the one in, I think Gobabis. These three libraries are well equipped, well stocked with books, however, my point is, are they well stocked with staff or are they going to be run by cleaners? I really want these libraries to be run by well-trained staff who are well paid for that matter.

Finally, Comrade Minister the *Archives Act* states that documents should not pile up in our storerooms in our Ministries. After a certain number of years, they should be kept at the archives so that we have a better future for our children. I support the Vote. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Dr Kamwi.

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**HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 10 and to make some observation on Page 15 regarding science, research and technology. I understand Comrade Minister, my brother, that you came up with a project related to English Proficiency and that you have thought it wise that you come up with an English test to be attended by Principals amongst others with an intended objective to find out whether there is indeed a challenge, and that for those who may fail will not be affected, neither their positions.

However, Comrade Minister, I have a concern that a little while ago I saw NANTU's Secretary-General, to be specific, and I saw TUN voicing their objection against this intended objective which you wanted to achieve in terms of what is appearing here. You are saying to promote and develop

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**HON UUTONI**

research, science and technology, which I fully support. However, I have a concern as a parent that NANTU and TUN are against some of the principles. Comrade Minister, without this, how do you see it, will you address the challenges related to English proficiency?

We like it or not, I see English as a medium of instruction. Could you assure us what is the way forward? I fully support the Budget. Thank you very much indeed.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Uutoni.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

In the first instance, I want to thank the Honourable Minister, his Deputy and the entire Ministry for their concerted efforts to administer education. Comrade Minister, I want to say that you are doing a tremendous job because considerable progress is being realised when it comes to primary, secondary and of course tertiary education.

Comrade Minister, my concern lies with vocational education. Many at times I have been talking about changes when it comes to vocational education because it is where we can develop skills. However, what I have observed is that these changes are being implemented in a very slow pace. If one looks at the number of enrolment at vocational schools, the number is very small. I just want to give an example of Valombola Vocational Training Centre, the number is not even exceeding 700 per year. Go to Okakarara it is even less than that, yet we are saying this is a backbone of the economy, if we develop skills.

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**HON UUTONI**

Honourable Minister, I think we really need to take a very serious step to improve on that. Coming to the equipment that are being used by the trainees for their practical experience, many of the equipment is outdated. Just take motor mechanic, for example, people are now using this new technology and machines to detect problems in the engine. It is no longer manual where one opens the engine, and it will take many hours to find out where the problem is. I think this needs very significant consideration.

Even for welding, one needs those machines or equipment that can help you do the job efficiently. This is very important. The problem comes when students are sent for attachments. They find themselves in a very difficult situation because when they go into the Industry they find state of the art equipment and machines that are now difficult for them to operate since they are taught how to use the manual procedure, which is different from what happens in the Industry. At the vocational training centres they are taught differently, for purposes of rating how well they are doing. This is where the problem is. When trainees return to their respective training centres they share their experiences about what they found in the Industry with their instructors, spelling out that what they are taught is different from what is used by the relevant Industry. However, their instructors' response is that there is no money.

I do not know now whether this N\$509 million that has been allocated is going to cater for this equipment that I am talking about. Comrade Minister, I have also learned that the current vocational training do not provide panel beating and spray painting and this is a demand in the market. If you send a child somewhere there, they are being assigned to do spray painting, however, they are not taught this at their current institutions. Comrade Minister, I think it is very important to look into these things.

Again, the last point is on the institution that is responsible to train Instructors. Comrade Minister, we do not have an institution that is responsible to train instructors (intervention).

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**HON DR ANKAMA**

**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** E-Control mechanism. Honourable Chief Ankama followed by Honourable Haingura.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:** Thank you, Comrade Chairperson. I would like to thank the Minister of Education for presenting this very important and informative Vote 10. In actual fact, I do support it.

There are two things that I would like to quickly comment on. Firstly, one is on Page 4, point 10, with regard to the environment of learning/teaching situations. Basically, what happens here is, the teacher/learner ratio becomes a problem. In many situations, you will find that a teacher would have over 40 going to 50 learners in a class. I think the Ministry will have to find out, some of the Principals and HODs have very few periods to teach or to do anything. Again, you will discover that there is a number of teachers who are doing administrative work, where they have too many forms to fill in instead of teaching. I think the Minister is correct here by saying they would like to look into this and find out whether that could be changed. That is one.

Secondly, I am very happy with the revision of the curriculum, that is on Page 9, point 14, but then I think the Minister would consider the hiring of these expertise that are talked about here. I would not encourage experts from outside the country. Too many experts from outside the country have been hired before and have done a lot of damage, not only in education but somewhere else as well.

I would, therefore, encourage that the Ministry look more on the experts within the country because you have retired experts or people who have been providing the service for many years and who are highly qualified or educated. Think about this Comrade Minister. Otherwise, I support your Vote wholeheartedly. Thank you.

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**HON HAINGURA / HON BEZUIDENHOUT**

**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Haingura followed by Honourable Bezuidenhout.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:** Thank you. I want to commend the Minister and the President for announcing free secondary education. We are all happy about that.

On Page 10, I am happy that the Minister is going to introduce the three years diploma course to be implemented in 2015. I think this one will curb the shortage of pre-primary and lower primary teachers. That is good. However, Comrade Minister, I have a concern on the issue of community hostels; everybody wakes up and makes up the community hostel but the standard is not fine. Maybe Comrade Minister should try to and come up with a standard for community hostels.

I thank you and I wholeheartedly support Vote 10.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Bezuidenhout followed by Honourable Herunga.

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**HON BEZUIDENHOUT:** Thank you. The E-Control will kick in at 18:21. Thank you very much for the opportunity, I tie myself.

On Page 3 of the Minister's Statement, he highlights that the Development Budget is in excess of N\$700 million. Equally, as a Member of a Committee that goes around in the country, we see a lot of buildings that needs a lot of attention. I would really encourage the Minister to push his administration for the implementation of his Development Budget,

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**HON BEZUIDENHOUT**

especially when it comes to buildings and the accommodation of our learners.

On Page 4, Paragraph 10, there is a challenge. One of the major challenges is that previously there was no close monitoring but it is now important to closely monitor and supervise the teaching environment to ensure that teachers are staying on the task. On that one, one can see as a direct consequence of it, Paragraph 29 which highlights that the poor performances of learners is directly tied to the inadequate mastering of assessed competencies, the teaching methodology, etcetera. Honourable Minister and Deputy Minister of Education I share your concern but I would not like you to only have the thing on paper but to come up with a solution and drive teachers and schools to adhere.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Order, order please.

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**HON BEZUIDENHOUT:** I think the Honourable Deputy Minister has experienced that herself, that close supervision is very, very important.

Then on the revision of the curriculum, Honourable Ankama took the words out of my mouth about locally produced curricula not driven by foreign experts. However, at the same time I would link that in part with the envisaged science and research and technology division, not that they must do it, but they must have an input because I think what this country needs to realise Honourable Minister, is that the world is changing, new skills are required and I would seriously encourage the new curriculum to make provision for digital skills of our children for the development of our E-Governance and the future of this country because without those skills, we cannot proceed.

Finally Honourable Minister, I am a person who is very worried about the national return of our investment in education so far. We make the

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**HON HERUNGA**

investments, we create the opportunity but the return on investment is not to our satisfaction. Thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Herunga followed by Honourable Shixwameni.

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**HON MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM:** Thank you very much, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Comrade Minister of Education, this Nation is aware of the huge task that you do for this Nation and we do appreciate that. Comrade Acting Chairperson, research has shown that not all our young people are well talented in the academic field. In fact, the majority of them are not well talented in the academic field, hence the importance for vocational education in our country.

Vocational education in our country is not accessible to all our people, especially those in rural areas. Therefore, I would like to request my Colleague, the Honourable Minister of Education to make sure that you continue to avail vocational education to all Regions of this country. In fact, we need at least a minimum of 14 vocational training centres, one in each Region so that our people in all corners of this country can access vocational education.

Comrade Minister, a coin always has two sides. Every person in this country appreciates the introduction of free primary education but since the introduction of free primary education, we have seen a huge influx of enrolment of our children into educational institutions, into schools, which is every good. However, we also need to expand in terms of accommodating our young people. We need to construct more classrooms and more schools for us to be able to catch up with this and we can only manage this if we arm the Minister of Education and his team



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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

with sufficient financial resources for them to do more.

We cannot expect them to do more with less. It is very important. Comrade Chairperson, we need to attract highly qualified and experienced teachers in rural areas and in some rural areas, there is lack of accommodation for teachers. Therefore, there is a need for the Ministry of Education to also do more in terms of constructing more and better accommodation for teachers in rural areas in order to encourage them to apply for schools that are located in rural areas for our children in those areas to receive better and quality education, in-service training.

Comrade Chairperson, our people should refuse to remain ignorant, everybody who has been trained, for example, ten years ago and has done nothing for the last ten years to remain current, will be left behind because the world is moving on. Therefore, there is a need for in-service training for our teachers. In fact, I do appreciate the Minister of Education's efforts to try to bring in the test for English proficiency amongst teachers. This is part of in-service training because we have to understand and know the level of a particular teacher for you to be able to implement specific in-service training education to the teachers concerned. This is very important.

I am afraid of your E whatever, let me move on to Tertiary Education: The only way that we assist our children, especially those from the poor communities to access Tertiary Education is to avail loans and bursaries to our deserving students. Thank you very much, Comrade.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**  
**COMMITTEE:** Honourable Shixwameni followed by Honourable Nghidinwa.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** Thank you, Honourable Chairperson. I thought I would talk to ten points but I will restrict myself to three points. One is

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

on the Development Budget. I think if this Parliament had the powers to change these figures, this is a Vote that we should basically send to a Committee, to sit properly and change the figures because when you look at Page 3, Point 6 there, under the Development Budget, I fully agree with the Minister that the Development Budget of this Ministry is very little and basically needs to be augmented. Where it states, *in light of the 1,300 traditional structures*, until when are we still going to have children in an independent country being taught under trees, being taught in traditional structures? (Intervention)

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Point of Order, yes.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Honourable Acting Chairperson, I am extremely sorry to interrupt the brother there but I want him just to assist me. Is it true what I read in the media today that you referred to the President as a thief, that has stolen your idea at secondary education? I just want to verify whether it is true or misquoted.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** I think you go and read again.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Be careful of your minutes, go ahead.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** And find out who exactly quoted that but we stand for free education from pre-primary up to University level. We of

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

course welcome the announcement that was made by the Head of State. I was talking about the Development Budget being too small. He is wasting my minutes. (Intervention)

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Honourable Acting Chairperson, if it is true, I would humbly request the Honourable Member to withdraw. To refer to a Head of State as a thief who has stolen an idea is highly disrespectful and we cannot build the country with those types of languages.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Shixwameni withdraw please.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** I cannot withdraw because I did not say that here. If you misread it, I did not say it here. If it was here, I would withdraw it, but it is irrelevant. (Intervention)

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Yes, Honourable !Naruseb.

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**HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RETTLEMENT:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. May I ask my very good friend a very small question?

Comrade, Honourable Shixwameni, does 1989 ring a bell, when SWAPO introduced the very first Election Manifesto on the basis of which me and

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**HON SHIXWAMENI**

you went out to campaign for the people to vote for SWAPO, that one of the items, a very significant item in that manifesto, was free education that we promised the people of this country? Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Yes, Honourable Shixwameni.

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**HON SHIXWAMENI:** I am continuing, you are wasting my time actually. It is true.

I am saying the Development Budget is too small and we need to change it, if we had the power. We need to set a deadline when these so-called traditional schools that are mentioned on Page 5 are going to end. We cannot continue having children being taught in the so-called traditional structures and under trees.

The next thing is the Vocational Education Training: I think if we are serious about creating skills in our society, the N\$509 million is very little. I would have even gone further to say, we can probably take a little bit of money from Higher Education and invest it into vocational education. Given the fact that the Grade 10 dropouts, those that cannot proceed to Grade 11, as well as the Grade 12 dropouts is running into twenties of thousands of street children. We need to invest more. I cannot help but to agree with my brother there, Honourable Herunga that we need to establish at least a Vocational Training Institution in each and every Region.

The other issue that I was worried about is the requirement for mathematics, just like a requirement for English as entrance to University. I think these things needs to be looked at very much carefully because this is disadvantaging quite a lot of children both in terms of progression to secondary school level but also in terms of progression to University. English is anyway not our mother tongue, we should remember that.

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**HON NGHIDINWA**

Although it is the official language, we should take it that it is not our mother tongue.

Before I conclude, the other issue is the one of textbooks. Mr Minister, I want you to visit schools. The schools are starting to write exams or tests on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, that is next week and there are children in Grade 8, Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11 and Grade 12 who up to today day as we speak have not received textbooks. I had to buy textbooks for my children and I think we should interrogate the Programme and see where the bottleneck lies because, how do you expect people to write examinations when they do not have textbooks? I think you should send out inspectors to ensure that all children receive textbooks timely so that they can be able to study for the exams.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Nghidinwa followed by Honourable Witbooi.

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**HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee and the Acting Deputy Speaker.

I rise to support Vote 10 of Education, and congratulate the Minister of Education for the job well done when he striving to introduce free education at least by 2015. My contribution is on the children who are discovered after free education was introduced and are older than the age of 7 years of age from far remote areas, farms and other areas in our country nationwide, specifically those who have not attended school before.

My question is how the Ministry will accommodate these children in Grade 1 when they are 7 years old because in most places where we discovered them, we started establishing some places near Kindergartens. I do not know whether it is because of lack of classrooms and these

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**HON WITBOOI**

children are just there. Is the Ministry of Education perhaps planning to come up with Programmes for such children before they start normal school with other children because some of them are about 16 17 years old. That was my question Comrade Minister. Thank you very much for your effort to realise this in Namibia.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Witbooi followed by Honourable Shifeta.

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**HON WITBOOI:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 10 of Education, as well as to make a few comments and to pose two questions.

Firstly, allow me to compliment the Ministry of Education for taking the initiative to arrange workshops at NIPAM for the education planners of the Regions, which was concluded recently. Proper planning is vital in all the Sectors and it is crucial to strengthen the process of decentralisation in the Regions.

On Page 12, Honourable Minister, I would like to commend the Honourable Minister and the Ministry for taking NAMCOL centres closer to the children. It is so important that children experience the face to face teaching and are able to physically obtain classes and classes are now more accessible for some of them. However, Honourable Minister students are limited to the subject choices available to them as the material provided to centres are limited. Therefore, students are forced to take subjects they did not intend to take because the study materials are not available for all the subjects and it is not only the materials that are limited but so is the manpower. There are not enough tutors available for students and tutoring is vital for students who need extra guidance and assistance so as to ensure a better pass rate.

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**HON SHIFETA**

My second question is on the Namibia Student Financial Assistant Fund. I would like to commend the Ministry for providing financial support to students. The ICT Committee visited the Ministry of Education's ICT Department and the Committee was informed that the Ministry was in the process of developing an ICT system to assist administration of funds for students.

However, it seems that this fund and the administration thereof, is still causing grave inconvenience to the students. Students are struggling with payments being made to institutions on time. They are being asked to leave the hostels and not getting their results. All this is a result of no or late payment. Can you imagine Honourable Minister and Honourable Members, rural children coming from far and still having to struggle with food, accommodation and registration fees at institutions. Is it fair to them?

Honourable Minister, that situation is not acceptable and we cannot go on like that. For the whole week, the students are sent from point A to B from UNAM to the Headquarters of Education. From Education, they go back to UNAM and it goes on like that.

Honourable Minister, how far is this ICT system? Is it the system or the staff that is failing the children and the Nation at large? The funds and the administration thereof need to be addressed seriously.

About the curriculum change; Honourable Minister, for example, the language change, we want proper consultation to come up with the best curriculum. With that, thank you and I support the Vote.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Shifeta followed by Honourable Ilonga.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of

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**HON SHIFETA**

the Whole House Committee.

I would firstly, like to thank the Honourable Minister and the entire personnel of the Ministry of Education. I have two things to raise here. One is that of the building of our structures, especially classrooms. I think we have to come up with quality assurance standard when it comes to building our school structures. I have seen some of these buildings and I think there must be some contractors who are notorious for building or delivering poor quality. I have seen one building, I was there with the Minister and I said, *look, this is something that as a Nation we have to take care of, we have to take this seriously.*

We cannot continue having buildings been built and only after five years one already sees the cracks that you can see through. Someone, somewhere is cheating the Government and it is universal within the Government that we are given a bill of quantity with inflated amounts but when you look at the delivery, the quality is very poor. For a normal or standard classroom, the cost of that, I am informed is apparently close to one million. If you give me one million, I can build one block of four classrooms but I am not a builder, neither am I a bricklayer but I used to cost building.

I think somewhere, somehow we are being cheated. That is why we need to set standards that all the tenders should adhere to. Without that we will continue to be given those kinds of infrastructures, poor delivery and we accept. Therefore, someone, somewhere is not properly supervising these contractors.

The other point is on the Namibia Students Financial Assistant Fund. There is this discrimination when it comes to the income of parents or legal guardians. I think that discrimination is very negative and I want people to understand me well. I am not saying that people should be considered equally irrespective of their income but I want us to apply our minds well. Take for instance a child whose parents' income is probably above that but these parents may not be capable of managing their finances. Now we are punishing the poor child who has performed well and some parents may have neglected their children and you have no time



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to do inquiries as to whether these parents assist this child or not.

Therefore, I think we are not being fair. We are punishing a child based on the attribute of the defects of the parent or legal guardian. I think we need to look at that and to reconsider that policy. I once again support this Vote. Thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Ilonga followed by Honourable Muharukua.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I just rise to support Vote 10 - Education. I start with free education which is very important. I just want to suggest to the Comrade Minister that in order for us to build the future of our Nation, the opportunity has come now by introducing this free education here, where we must now start with vocational training. These young children must not just learn how to read or how to play but they must be taught how to build and to do various things from which they develop their careers so that when they go to primary school, they already have an idea, having used clay to make cows, chicken or built houses. That is one thing.

Comrade, the other issue that is still on Page 7, Section 29 on the poor performance of learners in the Standard Achievement Tests - we say it is because of the teachers. We may say that, however, it is not because of the training of the teachers, unless the training of the teachers has now lost value or has no quality because as I stand here, the Ilonga who you say is not fluent in English, I produced doctors. When I was a teacher I gave them the basics and they are now doctors but I am not a doctor.

I think the question here is the inculcation of the teachers to value their

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career and I also want to appeal here that teachers should undergo in-service training, especially during the holidays so that they can be trained how to carry out the exercise of teaching.

On the issue of the age, age does not have anything to do with education, neither does it have anything to do with discipline. We have real situations of some children in the rural areas that did not have the opportunity. We currently push the children to start at the age of 7 but when they fail they are regarded as overaged, why? Some of us here went to school while already daddies but we are now doctors and we have degrees. Let us not be bound by age. The evolution will rectify itself. If you look at our time, we could become teachers with Standard 8. Can today's children stand in front of other people and teach? No, that is evolution already.

Come 2030 you will no more find a teacher who (intervention).

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Member, E-Control, check your microphone. Honourable Muharukua followed by Honourable Kavetuna.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support our Vote, the mobile school Vote. I just want to remind my Comrade to please remember the Literacy Programme, particularly for the rural areas. Those people only learn for three months then they go home, complaining that there is no money and so on. We as parents need to be educated so that we can advise our children. Without the education, how are you going to advise your children at home? I think the Literacy Programme must be developed as well as COSDEC. Education for all! I support Vote 10. Thank you.

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**HON KAVETUNA**

**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Kavetuna.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE SPORT AND CULTURE:** Thank you very much. We did not have time to speak during the General Debate so we need to ask these questions.

I rise to support this Vote because it is a very important Vote to all of us. My first question is actually a comment; the fact that we got free education is a good thing but I think that we need to make a lot of preparations before the schools start because two weeks ago I was in the north and I learned from one of my friends who is a teacher that up to now children are writing on blank papers that they just pick up because they are afraid to tell parents to go and buy books since education is free. The stationery is not yet delivered at schools and it is making it so difficult for the teachers to even keep those papers together because some children would come with one part of a box to write on. When we are planning for these kinds of actions, we should at least be prepared.

The next point is actually about NAMCOL. I believe that the people who did not get a chance and are still willing to study should not be stopped because one has been paying N\$150.00 at Ella Du Plessis, however, the fact that you are a NAMCOL student you have to pay N\$120.00 per subject and I think that the Ministry should come in and start assisting these people in order for them to go ahead with their education because NAMCOL is a little bit expensive for many parents to afford.

On the NSFAF, I would like the Honourable Minister to enlighten me why a decision was made to transform it into a State-Owned Enterprise and how does the Ministry exercise control over the decisions that are taken? One of the problems affecting the students currently, especially the students who are abroad is that they have already left the country on the assistance of this fund, and now all of a sudden they are told that *if you do not have 35 points, you cannot be assisted anymore* and they are already in their third or fourth year in China and Russia. How do you intend to

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**HON LUCAS**

control this situation and prevent that these children do not end up in the streets of Shanghai rather than proceeding with their education?

The last one is the issue of Higher Learning Institutions in this country. I believe that we should be able to start controlling these institutions. They are ripping off our people while they do not add value as they are supposed to. How can we allow a University to take somebody with 17 points? Banks do not even employ a cashier with 25 points but we are training people that goes to the University. They are admitted with 17 points and after completing a degree that they have spent money on, they cannot even find a job in the market because even the banks do not want to take somebody who does not have 25 points. We need to create some sort of synergy so that when our graduates come from various Higher Learning Institutions, they are marketable and can get employment. I thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Yes, Honourable Lucas.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I would also like to join others in support of Vote 10 and I would like to bring to the attention of the Honourable Minister of Education that the issue of teachers accommodation needs to enjoy the attention it deserves, particularly in the rural areas. I get disturbed when I move around this country. One comes across teachers' accommodation that are adjacent to the schools. Some are made from mud while others are made from corrugated iron sheets and the picture looks ugly to the eye. How do you expect teachers to deliver to their best of ability when they are coming out of houses made from mud? Honourable Chairperson, I would appeal to the Ministry of Education to consider coming up with a uniform structure

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**HON DR NAMWANDI**

when constructing teachers' accommodation in rural areas, maybe in a form of flats that will be Government owned so that when a teacher is being transferred from one area to the other, he or she will not have second thoughts but to go there with a clear mind. Thank you very much, Honourable Chairperson.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Can the Honourable Minister of Education please reply?

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**HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION:** Honourable Acting Chairperson and Honourable Members of this important House, what else can I say but to say to thank you very much on behalf of Team Education.

Thank you very much for the support you have accorded us at Education. We know there are shortcomings but we will try our level best to deliver the goods. I have noted through all the questions that there is actually no question that was very complicated or anti this Vote.

Everyone supported the Vote, with few concerns that I am prepared to briefly shed some light on. Some of the concerns are similar and there is no need to repeat similar concerns. On the question of the concern of *Comrade Honourable Kaiyamo* on free education, we call it universal primary education. He is asking what happens? What about others? When you read my submission and what I specifically said in this House the other day; we said mother tongue-predominant language. Therefore, the predominant language can be English, can be Damara>Nama, can be Otjiherero, it can be any other language. It does not necessarily mean that you have to speak a language which is being spoken by people who are said to be black and only black. Let us try to understand that thing carefully.

On the libraries Comrade Kaiyamo, I want to say the Office of the Prime

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Minister has already permitted libraries to allow shifts. That is to open until 20:00 in the evening and some of course around 19:00 in the near future. I think that one has already been attended to and staff are going to be recruited in all those Regional and Resource Centres. We are going to make sure that we are going to recruit well-trained staff to man those beautiful centres but I want to inform you that Librarians are very scarce commodities. They are very scarce. Apart from those few that we have, we may recruit some from the SADC Region because we cannot allow the system to be on standstill. Remember all the 15 countries have signed a Protocol on Education and Training where we have to share resources. Therefore, where we feel that we need assistance from our brothers and sisters from the Regions, we will not hesitate to call for help.

On the archives, I agree with you Comrade Kaiyamo. Archive material has to be stored after three years and your advice is what we call, *point well taken*.

**Comrade Kamwi**, my first twin brother, on the issue of the English Proficiency Test, let me make it very clear here. The Ministry of Education and the Union, which is a sole and authentic representative of the teachers, have a very good working relationship. Recently we had a wonderful consultation where we met and spoke about this English Proficiency Test. The reason as to why that test was not written is because of the agreement between the Ministry of Education and NANTU. We are now working out some modalities between NANTU, NIED and our National University, the University of Namibia. Soon the ball will be rolling. We are working very well with NANTU.

**Comrade Uutoni**, I am happy that you have noticed and the progress has been noticed in the Ministry of Education. I agree with you that things have been moving very slow when it comes to vocational education and training. It is true and I keep on saying vocational training is very important for our economic development.

Should these lights go off now, you will not go to the University of Namibia and ask the Professor to come and fix these lights. You will need a technician. Therefore, that is why we felt we are going to put our money

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where our mouth is as a Government. You have noted that we are trying our best with the little resources that we have, as they say resources are hard to come by. We have now moved from N\$382 million to N\$509 million, which has ensured that qualified instructors are recruited and infrastructures are improved. However, Rome was never build in a day, we will get there.

*Comrade Chief Ankama*, yes, the teaching environment is very, very important. That is why we always say we have to make sure that we stick to the prescribed ratio. At the pre-primary level a teacher should be teaching 25 children in a classroom while at primary level 35 children and at secondary level, 30 children but we must not forget when these number of students or learners are fluctuating, there would be a time when the teacher can teach 35 instead of 25 learners. There are some countries that I have visited around the world, specifically in our region, where you find a teacher teaching up to 50 children in a classroom but the quality is still maintained. We are not saying it is justifiable to teach more children. We have to make sure that we live and let live and we want our teachers to be taken care of in terms of the environment and the working conditions. Yes, I agree with you my brother that there is no need to hire experts from other parts of the world, therefore, if we have teachers within the country, we always do that.

I, however, want to remind you, we are on record that we have invited all our retired principals and all our retired teachers but to date we are still struggling to get teachers. We cannot be sitting, watching and saying but let them wait until we get teachers. We will always see where we can get them while we are training our teachers at the University of Namibia.

*Comrade Haingura*, I am happy that you have blessed our decision to reintroduce the diploma at the University of Namibia so that we can do away with the shortage of teachers. We will work very hard on that one.

On the community hostels, we call these traditional structures because there is a difference between a community hostel and traditional structures. Traditional structures are just structures that are put up by parents and their children because of a shortage of hostels. Now

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remember that we have about 1,300 structures countrywide and the Government is doing everything in its power to see how best we can sort this thing out. It is not an easy task to accomplish but we will gradually make sure that the list is no longer a lengthy one but for the time being you should still expect to see some traditional structures here and there, however, I want to tell you that the Government is working around the clock to see to it that one day, these traditional structures are completely wiped out from the face of the Namibian society.

*Honourable Bezuidenhout*, thank you very much for the advice that we must implement the N\$770 million that we received in the Development Budget. The Ministry of Education is very serious, as I am standing here now, we are in need of 620 classrooms and we are happy that as we are talking, there are already contractors on site to make sure that the money we had before is implemented and this money will definitely be implemented and we will make sure that no penny will be sent back to *Meme Saara Kukongelwa-Amadhila*.

We will continue to make sure that the supervision is intensified both in classrooms and also at the Head Office. Rest assured that nothing will be left to chance.

*Honourable Herunga*, my neighbour here, thank you very much for your support. I want to tell you that we have taken vocational training very seriously and we will, with the new curriculum, make sure that in each of the 14 Regions there will be a school that is dedicated to vocational training.

Equally, with the transformation of the Polytechnic of Namibia into a fully flagged University of Science and Technology, we are going to establish Technical Colleges that will take over the current mandate of the Polytechnic of Namibia, that will help to make sure that we train as many technical people as we possibly can.

*Honourable Shixwameni*, on the Development Budget, I have already said that we will put what we have received to good use and if you find anybody somewhere who have money and does not know what to do with



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that money, ask him to please send that money to the Ministry of Education so that we can take care of this 1,300 traditional structures so that we can empower the education of the Namibian child.

I agree that the Vocational Training Budget, comparatively speaking, is very small but it will not be wise to take money from Higher Education because Higher Education is equally important.

You have some queries on Mathematics and English as one of the conditions for students to be admitted at the Institutions of Higher Learning. There are many reasons why that is done but that can be contested. I agree with what you have said, the English language is not our mother tongue but we should not forget that the subjects are going to be written in English. Therefore, it is good for us to strengthen the English language to enable our children to at least go and study elsewhere apart from Namibia only.

I, however, also want to make one explanation on the mother tongue. I do not know whether I skipped it. Where we said that, with the new curriculum, we will have the mother tongue from Grade 1 to Grade 5. I want to make that very clear. I have read some SMSes but by the way, I do not take those SMSes seriously because I have a feeling that those SMSes are written by one or two people. The mother tongue has been there since 1990 and it was from Grade 1 to Grade 3. What we have said is that we want to extend it from Grade 3 to Grade 5. Do you know why we are doing that? We have noted that our languages are dying. You go to a house of an Otjiherero speaking person for example, where a mother is greeting the child in Otjiherero and a child is responding in English.

By the way many countries that are well developed and that are doing very well all over the world are countries that have mastered their own mother tongue, take China and Japan. We have to do something. We are not saying, as other people are saying, we are going to do away with English. English will still remain there as a subject from Grade 1 up to Grade 5 but from Grade 1 to Grade 5, we want to use the mother tongue or the predominant language as a medium of instruction.

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Hopefully, that one is well recorded now. By the way, as we are talking now, the introduction or using English as a medium of instruction from Grade 1 up to Grade 5 will come to Parliament because the Policy is now in a draft form. As soon as that is sorted out we will bring it here.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Members, please listen.

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**HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION:** *Comrade Witbooi*, thank you very much for your comments, we have taken note of the concern about NAMCOL. I have also taken note that there is a problem with the study material and we are very hard at work on that one. The reason why we have increased the Budget for Lifelong Learning from N\$321 million to N\$432 million is to take care of some of these concerns.

However, I also want to tell Comrade Witbooi that with the introduction of the new curriculum, we have had enough consultation. We have gone to all the 13 Regions and whatever we have introduced is the ideals and aspirations of all the Namibian people and I thought that is a very good explanation so that we cannot be seen as if we never consulted. We did consult.

On Namibia Student Financial Assistant Fund, yes, it is true there is a development of an Information Technology System and we are sure that after this system has been implemented, no student will be struggling anymore with the payments. We must also understand that NSFAP is already doing everything in its power to make sure that some of these problems that were there before, are no more in existence. We will, therefore, only have these complaints until such a time that we have mastered this system. It would be rectified.

I want to make it again very clear that there was no poor consultation when it comes to the curriculum. There was a wide consultation with all

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the stakeholders.

*Comrade Shifeta*, I agree with you. Some contractors are taking us for granted. There are standard building plans but some people are taking shortcuts. What we are saying is, should we discover that there are some people who are taking shortcuts, we will make sure that they will be blacklisted. They will never be given these tenders anymore and we will move on, whether they complain or not. We are not going to allow that any longer.

On the discrimination of NSFAP, Comrade Shifeta, maybe it is just a matter of communication. The fund is divided in the following three categories when considering giving loans or bursaries to children.

1. 70% is earmarked for disadvantaged Namibians only;
2. 20% for students who are studying fields that are for economic development or for subjects like science and medicine and so on; and
3. 10% is reserved for students on a merit basis.

Therefore, whether you are a child of Chief Ankama or Honourable Namoloh, if you did well you can always be funded because we are not funding Comrade Namoloh but we are funding the child. Let me make it very clear, there are some parents who have five children, for example, but they do not take care of these children. They perhaps do not even communicate with their mothers. Just because this child is a child of David Namwandi, does not necessarily mean that the father takes care of this child. If you do not fund this child because of the father or the mother, you are going to disadvantage the child. Therefore, we felt it is not fair.

*Comrade Ilonga*, thank you very much for your advice. I agree with you that poor performance cannot only be blamed on teachers because education is a shared responsibility.

*Comrade Muharukua*, thank you very much. We are strengthening the

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Literacy Programmes and we will make sure that we reach every corner of Namibia to ensure that parents and all those who need to be educated receive that education.

*Comrade Kavetuna*, yes, we have heard that there are some schools that have not yet received the necessary textbooks and even exercise books. We will work hand in hand with our Regional Directorates and make sure that this situation is arrested.

On NAMCOL we will investigate and find out whether it is true, which I think may be true that NAMCOL seems to be more expensive comparatively speaking because it was not supposed to be like that.

On your question why NSFAF was declared a State-Owned Enterprise instead of it being part of the Ministry of Education, I want to tell you that the Act of NAMCOL does not allow NAMCOL to be part of the Ministry of Education. The NSFAF was supposed to be governed by a Board of Directors. Therefore, we cannot do something against the Law. However, how we felt, and what you are seeing now, I think it is functioning better now comparatively speaking. It is just a matter of making sure that at least when everything is put in place, the list will never be a lengthy one anymore. If there are Universities in Namibia or in the world that are admitting students with 17 points, I want to challenge any Member of this House to produce an admission letter of a student who was admitted in the University with 17 points and studying there while receiving assistance from NSFAF because we cannot allow any institution to lower the standards of education.

Yes, there are students who are leaving this country to go and study elsewhere. How they are admitted there, we do not know, well on that one, you cannot blame the Ministry of Education, however, if they come back and their qualifications are evaluated and they are seen not to be of any value, they have nobody else to blame but themselves.

I have been telling the parents and have been talking to the students, my Deputy and the entire education fraternity have been advising Namibians not to undermine the future of their children by sending students to

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institutions that are not accredited but it appears as if there are still parents who are sending students to institutions that are not accredited. If there are some who are doing it within Namibia, I want to challenge you to bring them here. Bring them to the Ministry of Education. We will see what we can do but the last decision lies with the parents and the students, to see to it that the students are receiving quality and sound education. We can, therefore, not allow that.

Lastly, *Honourable Lucas*, it is true my sister, that accommodation is very crucial and, therefore, it is part of the conditions of service, specifically when we are recruiting our teachers in the rural area, they need to stay in decent accommodation. That is the only way to motivate them to teach there but let us not forget that monies are hard to come by. We will do that gradually and one day I am sure we are going to have decent accommodation throughout the country.

With this, I want to thank all the Honourable Members for the support you have accorded to Team Education. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Any objections? Agreed to.

Vote 25 – “**LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Muheua.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, thank you very much.

Honourable Colleagues, I rise to contribute to the Debate on Vote 25 – “**MINISTRY OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT**”. Allow me to start by appreciating the efforts of the Honourable Minister of Lands and Resettlement, Honourable Alpheus !Naruseb, my namesake, who in his

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quest to bring about the most equitable system of land distribution, always listen and lends a sympathetic ear to all parties, in particular the communal farmers.

As many of you may be aware, I am a part-time communal farmer in the Dâures Constituency. Last year during the Budget Debate I spoke about the problem of over grazing and overcrowding in the communal areas of Okombahe, Omatjete and Otjimbingwe and I proposed that these communal areas be extended. The Honourable Minister listened and took action to expand these areas through the purchase of three adjacent farms. Although the situation is not ideal yet, the people of these areas, including myself, are pleased Comrade Minister.

Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, now I turn to the Budget and specifically to the technical document on Development of Communal Areas. One of the important slogans of our struggle for Independence was one *Namibia one Nation*. Last night on NBC live broadcast - ***Talk of the Nation*** they quoted our soon to be President, Comrade Hage Geingob when he said the following, '*we are first Namibians before anything else.*' That is a lose quote.

However, I wish to bring to the attention of this Honourable House a problem that emerged during the most recent drought that undermined the Government's efforts to distribute the land equitably, specifically in the areas that I mentioned. That is the problem of tribalism. In the Dâures Constituency, the inhabitants are classified according to their ethnic groups and are forced to live in their ethnically demarcated areas. When the Ministry of Lands purchase farms for the expansion of the communal areas, they were put under the administration of the Traditional Authorities; one farm under the Herero Traditional Authority and two under the Damara/Nama Traditional Authorities.

Although the Namibian Constitution provides that all Namibians may settle where they wish within the boundaries of our country, the Traditional Authorities in the Dâures Constituency limits settlement in these areas to members of their respective ethnic groups thus, no Damaras

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or Namas are to be settled in the Herero areas and vice versa. I am sure Honourable Members find this shocking 24 years after Independence. Although Dâures is one Constituency, its division into ethnic areas is a drawback to the days of Odendaal Bantustanisation.

This bantustanisation resulted in the unnecessary loss of cattle during the drought. I personally lost more than 50 cattle because the Damara/Nama Authorities refused to permit me to graze my cattle temporarily in an uninhabited area under their Administration near Uis because *'these areas are reserved for our own people.'*

In truth, these areas where I sought temporary grazing rights remained uninhabited throughout the entire period of the drought despite letters in support from Traditional Chief and pleas by the Regional Governor and the Regional Councillor of the area, I was excluded on ethnic grounds. My cattle and those of many others could have been saved if it were not for this callousness to the plight of the fellow Namibian in short sighted interest of tribalism.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Time is over. Honourable Members this is not a General Debate. This entails detailed discussions not general discussions please. Honourable Dr Ndjoze-Ojo followed by Honourable Sioka.

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**HON DR NDJOZE-OJO:** Thank you, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support our well-thought-out Budget and I particularly want to talk to the speech by the Minister of Land and Resettlement, especially his Motivation Statement and I want to concentrate on Page 6 which is on *Land Taxation*. However, before I say what I have to say, and ask questions, I would like to thank the Minister and his team for a job well done over a number of years under very difficult circumstances. I

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**HON DR NDJOZE-OJO**

specifically wish to speak to Programme 1 on Ongoing Resettlement and the other one is Land Purchase.

Firstly, allow me to congratulate you on the acquisition of land area of 102,252, which is at a huge amount of N\$142 million to resettle 73 families. I know you have set targets at 2.3 currently to reach double that number. However, I want to argue that this is an achievement but we need more families to be resettled as you would agree with me. That will only come through some very rigid regulatory mechanism and control, especially of crisis.

I want to talk to the 54 valued farms that you mention in your speech of which only 16 were acquired. I think the 38 left out must be followed up. What happens when you go to value a farm is that you determine the agricultural value of the farm and then the farmer says, *I understand that is your agricultural value but my arbitrary value for this land is this* and because you cannot afford it, you leave it.

I think that is where the Land Taxation should come to play, that those farms that had been evaluated and valued and the agricultural values were determined, should not just be left to be sold to other people as it has been the practice because the Government cannot afford it. I feel that we should try, within the limits of the Laws and the Constitution, to coerce in a very subtle manner that the willing seller/willing buyer principle will work and Land Taxation on 6.1 is a very good way of doing it.

I am not unaware of the fact that the Ministry is sitting with a Court case where they have been taken to Court as per your submission, but I feel that we should not be scared away from doing the right things. If you have a land and you are not using it, you pay more tax so that the people who have no land live off the taxes of the land because as we discussed generally, we have three factors of production; which is land, labour and capital. Namibia does not have capital and it does not have a market for labour but I think and believe that out of the land we can create capital and we can create a robust labour market to support our people.



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**HON SIOKA**

Therefore, my submission is that the prices of land that seem to be decided upon in a somewhat arbitrary manner, must be controlled and regulated to Laws, especially when we plan the second Land Conference. I remember that the first Land Conference asked who owns the land but by now in 24 years we know who owns land. I think when we go to the second Land Conference we should ask ourselves how we are going to make sure that the rightful owners of the land owns the land.

My last question is on Page 6, and it is because you mentioned the N\$4.5 million mid-way towards the end of the last Paragraph, you said that you gave tax exemption amounting to N\$4.5 million. My question is, what criteria are used as justification for Land Tax exemption? Having asked that, I think we must put stringent measures not to deprive the State of this very important revenue (intervention).

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Sioka followed by Honourable Ilonga.

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**HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I will be very brief. Can you please protect me from the Minister of Defence?

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Yes, you are protected, go ahead.

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**HON MININSTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I support to Vote 25 without any reservations.

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**HON IILONGA**

I will maybe have two to three questions. The first one is, I would like to ask on the registration of land. How long does it take one to receive approval from the Land Board or the Ministry of Land because some of us have applied since 2007 and up to today have not yet been approved? Our forms are getting lost at the Ministry and sometimes at the Land Board. We need the assistance. Maybe the Minister can intervene in this regard.

The other one is on the applications forms. Since I started, I have now filled about 15 forms, they are written from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 up to 15. Maybe this issue of 15 forms should be looked into so that it cannot demoralise people to apply for land registration. This is really too much because sometimes you only have residential area, grazing, farming and business in your area and you have to fill out all these forms. It is too cumbersome. I hope the Minister could perhaps look into this.

The last one, which is the third as I have promised, I have seen in most Ministries and the Private Sector, they have approved this //Karas Region which was Karas but Caprivi is still appearing. Here it is on Page 8. Why can we not also implement the Zambezi Region name? I would like to see that all Ministries change and implement the required provision of the Demarcation Commission.

With these few remarks, brother, I support your Vote. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Ilonga followed by Honourable Simataa.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I will just got straight to the point on Programme 8, **Development of**

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**HON SIMATAA**

**Small Scale Commercial Farming Project.** Comrade Minister, my *swara*, I really want to thank you for the idea of developing under-utilised land in the communal area into Small scale Commercial Farmint Units. However, honestly speaking, through Comrade Acting Chairperson to Comrade Minister, on the 113 Small Scale Commercial Farming Units in Omusati, if those who were sent from the Ministry to conduct research say they found what they call under-unutilised land, I think we have learned from the drought that started last year that we cannot temper with that area and we should also be aware that it is not the whole of Omusati because this research does not give correct information.

In Omusati, we have some areas, I am not going to mention them, you should make your own research, where they do not even have enough land for grazing but you find them in Uukolokadhi, you find them in Uukwaluudhi and you find them in Ongandjera. With that gesture, you can now go and divide this. Otherwise we are not going to help but we are just going to kill the trapped areas where all people, some from Ohangwena, others from wherever they come from, go for grazing. We may do this because people maybe see that the land is under-utilised but go there today or, especially last year as the result of the drought, you will find nothing.

With the money that has been budgeted for this under-utilised land in communal areas, please go and put water points because I do not know where we are going to get money to provide water for that area. In that area, underground water is unused. Even a frog, which cannot die when you put it in a fridge, if you put it in that area it will not even last for five minutes. Where will the water for those 113 identified Units come from *vakwetu*? Let us not capitalised on that, we are going to die *swara*, please.

Honestly speaking, I support the Vote but lastly, I only want to speak to the registration of land Comrade. When I looked at the Deed Registration, it is ongoing but when it comes to land registration, I do not see the *ongoing* there because we register and pay but no one comes to do the measurements. The deadline was this year February or March, if my memory serves me correctly. We cannot do this, it should be ongoing please. I also want land registration to be ongoing *swara*. It should not

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**HON SIMATAA**

have deadlines. Thank you very much. I support Vote 25.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Simataa followed by Honourable Nambahu.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** Thank you very much, Honourable Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Mine is fairly short, direct, sweet and to the point.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Order Please!

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:** That is on Page 4 Honourable Minister, and of course before I raise my query, or it is simply a proposal, perhaps not for now but in the future. Let me join the others in advancing my support for Vote 25, which is a very important Vote, indeed.

My query, observation or proposal, whichever is appropriate is on Page 4 and it is good to see the number of families that have been resettled at least slightly urging upwards. Honourable Minister, however, the issue that I have here is that land is a very scarce economic resource which once provided, those of us who are lucky to be provided with the land should ensure that we fully utilise the piece of land provided to us. My inquisition Comrade Minister, is whether we can be provided with a substantive Report in the near future in terms of the progress in carrying out productive activities that those who are privileged to have been

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**HON NAMBAHU**

resettled are making. The reason why I am saying that is for us to avoid a trend where land is allocated to some of us but yet we do not do much in terms of fully utilising that particular piece of land.

I am, therefore, inquiring whether it is possible for us to get such a Report because as we continue to hold onto that land but we are not using the land Honourable Minister, there is an opportunity cost in terms of having prevented a fellow Namibian from getting that piece of land and that fellow Namibian would have productively utilised the piece of land. Is it possible for us to benefit from such a Report? Thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Nambahu followed by Honourable Muheua.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:** Thank you very much, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Can I please be protected from my neighbours? Mine is to wholeheartedly support this Vote for Land and Resettlement and just to say two things. One of them is my usual point, the one of land allocation and carrying capacity in communal areas. Can Comrade Minister, in conjunction with the Minister responsible for Traditional Leaders, remove this point of allocation of land by Traditional Leaders, where they have to get some amount of money? Because it seems that now these colleagues only look at the amount of money to be received and the people are allocated land in a way that causes congestion to the extent that what one is waiting for is actually a serious problem since people are within shorter distances from one another, just where do you graze and we are fighting against poverty? Can that function not be taken away because like the other Comrade was saying, there is a huge development, a big ghetto there that side and that is going to bring problems in future?

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**HON MUHEUA**

Lastly, Comrade Minister, I like to defend my Colleagues wherever I am and when people are talking about this in your Ministry, I would like to defend, but there is one thing that I hear nowadays, that apparently, and I am sure it is not a policy that, when people are allocating land, to say certain people have not lost land, like some of us who are descendants of those that came to fight at Namutuni to be told you do not qualify. Somewhere it is not an official policy. I would like to hear whether there is such type of a policy to say you do not qualify because you have not lost land? Otherwise, if it was not because of the blood of those people, the Germans would not have departed from Namutuni.

Therefore, these kinds of statements are infuriating and they go to the core of the identity of what we are unless if we do not know each other very well. I thank you and I rest my case.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Muheua very briefly.

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** Comrade Acting Chairperson, thank you very much for second lease of life.

I will be very brief. In my opinion, it will not be possible to achieve our goals of acquisition and equitable distribution of land unless action is taken to prohibit excess land ownership. It is painful in reality that a small number of Namibians possess vast tracks of land or multiple farms. There continues to be a scarcity of land to redistribute to the landless, the majority of which are the youth and this resulted in high prices of the few farms that are on the market.

It is apparent that the policy of willing buyer/willing seller has not achieved its desired goals. Do we expect young people, the youth,

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**HON !NARUSEB**

even graduates to afford land or properties in towns at these valued prices? The simple answer is an emphatic yes, they cannot (intervention).

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Honourable Muheua, this is not time for general discussions !

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE:** I am just making the proposal now.

Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the proposal that I would like to make is for the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement to set up a Committee or a competent authority that would look at a model farm size across the country but according to the availability or carrying capacity of the Region and then to come up with a size of course and consequently to introduce a piece of legislation in this august House for people to be limited to only that size of land because this will free up excess land that then can be purchased by the Ministry for the landless people of which the majority are the young people.

I, therefore, propose that the Budget of the land should be adjusted positively. With this, Acting Chairperson, I support the Vote wholeheartedly. Thank you very much.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Can the Honourable Minister please reply?

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**HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT:** Thank you, Comrade Acting Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

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**HON !NARUSEB**

I want to thank all the Members for the support of Vote 25. All the Comrades who spoke, in total seven, were unanimous in their support to the Vote.

*Comrade Muheua*, I thank you for the comment you made with regard to the Dâurus Constituency. The other things with regard to the actions of the Traditional Authorities in that area, I am afraid I have no standing to comment on same.

My responsibility is to acquire land and allocate land. In terms of our Laws and also in terms of the *Communal Land Reform Act* of 2002, when land is made available in communal areas to the communities in that area, there is expectation that such land would be dealt with in terms of the Laws of our country. As the citizens of this country, we have apportioned certain powers to the Traditional Leaders. We even go to the extent of calling them Kings and Queens and if you accord such status to a person, you must be ready to expect competent authoritative approach to their responsibility. We have done that.

If the Traditional Authorities in the area of Dâurus, in the execution of their responsibilities, somehow misread the Constitution of our Republic, because in terms of our Constitution everybody has the standing to move around where they would so wish. Nobody can bar them from putting up a shelter as long as they go through the laid down procedures to acquire same. On the absence of the Traditional Authorities in the area that Comrade Muheua has cited, I cannot answer. The Probable best placed to answer and the Authority that is responsible for the workings of the Traditional Authority is not the Minister of Lands and Resettlement. My responsibility is to allocate land, I am at the risk of repeating myself.

I want to finish with Comrade Muheua. Access to the land of people with excess land; in terms of the Resolutions of our 1991 Land Conference, there were certain decisions that we have taken as a Nation. We do not really need to reinvent the wheel and think that if we make a pronouncement in this House it is something new, not by a long sword. There are standing Policy Frameworks as well as legal provisions that we as a Nation function under. It is not Alpheus !Naruseb's invention.



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**HON !NARUSEB**

They were other people's. In terms of those Resolutions, excess land and land owned by expatriates, absentee landlords, it is a whole list of things that we have regulated, should be, after due processes were taken into account, be expropriated, is it not? However, before you expropriate, and we have tried our hand at expropriation as a Nation and we know what has happened, we should fine-tune our administrative measures. We should also be able as a Nation to buy up farms that are offered to us and not waive farms because we are not able to buy them because of no sufficient financial resources because that is what we do now.

We cannot jump the checklist. We must have taken all the necessary steps, buy up all the land that is available and found eventually, that after we have bought the land that is offered, there is still land not offered which is owned in excess of what someone would need in terms of agro-economic consideration, is that the word? Ecological zoning is the Department, the Ministry of Agriculture works with that. Once we realised that after we have bought up all the land offered, there are some farms that are in excess of, say for instance 10,000 hectares in a particular area and we are short of land available, that is the next step, but right now as the situation is, Honourable Members of Parliament; land is being offered and we waived such land because we are not able to buy such land.

*Honourable Ndjoze-Ojo*, on Page 6, you addressed yourself to the issue of taxes and that more families need to be resettled, and that the prices of land need to be regulated because it is exorbitantly and prohibitively high. Well, that is the reality of the situation of the present day in Namibia.

In terms of the free market system that we have adopted as a Nation, the Government would find it very challenging in terms of the Constitution, I hear many voices say do not use the Constitution if you are not able as a Nation to do certain things. Maybe it is the case. Maybe as a Nation we need to, instead of just talking too much, because after we have talked too much, at the end of the day as lawmakers, as the Members of the Executive, as Members of the top structures of our Government and the Ruling Party, we must be the ones to give direction.

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**HON !NARUSEB**

I think what we have right now realised as a Nation, maybe I am talking about things that can still be disclosed by those ones in authority, but because we talk about the Sector of Land, I can tell you then that, because we have realised that after we have talked for the past 23 years and the question of land probably still remains where it was when we obtained Independence with changes here and there, we have come to the realisation that it is about time that we apply our thinking faculties collectively as the leadership of this country to the subject matter of land reform and come up with solutions that we will be owning up as a Nation. There I have to inform you that such a process is highly in progress. Maybe we need to be patient for maybe a month or two because I know there are certain deadlines, Comrade Kawana, for us to follow so that we then collectively soon thereafter would get some kind of a direction with regard to the land question because it is still there perpetually.

What criteria is used to determine the exemption of land tax? I think in terms of our Affirmative Action that the previously disadvantaged citizens of the Land of the Brave have a standing to apply for kind of, if you want special treatment, when it comes to access to land and they also have the standing to apply for exemption from paying land tax or although it is not completely, there is certain percentage that get exempted and that is the criteria that the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement has so far been using unless this House probably thought it proper to change and advice otherwise.

*Honourable Sioka*, it took so long for you to have applied and not getting any response unless the traditional area under which you resort may have some disputes amongst themselves and because of that, the process of adjudicating on your application gets a little bit caught up in between and maybe gets compromised in the process. However, under normal circumstances, I cannot accept that it will take from 2007 until 2014, which is seven years but if that is the case, you have raised it publicly, yours truly will take it up and try to find a response why it is taking so long to get approval.

Multiple application forms to be completed; it sounds cumbersome and I am looking at the *Ayatollahs*, where is the Permanent Secretary? I find it

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**HON !NARUSEB**

even a little bit problematic but let me find out why there are so many forms.

Comrade Sioka, on your last question, when I was reading my Motivation Statement, if you were present, when it came to the part of the statement referring to Zambezi as the Caprivi Region, I had my strong reservations, I took it up, it was an omission. I most sincerely apologise to the Nation and to the residents of Zambezi Region that we as the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement were not able to comply with the recommendations and findings of the Delimitation Commission as endorsed by our Head of State. That was a serious omission.

*Swara (Honourable Ilonga)*, on the Small Scale Commercial Farming Project, in our humble opinion and in our efforts, let me tell you a small story. The farms that we are acquiring at exorbitant prices now, the other day I was in the Khomas Region here close by about 100 kilometres outside Windhoek and I was doing my level best, the best I can master to control not to give anyone the satisfaction that what he is saying annoys me. In the process, I got so annoyed but then I was telling that individual that; *you are saying this farm was in third, fourth generation, I am telling you this farm is regarded by the communities from around here as the areas that they were roaming freely in.*

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Order! Please listen.

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**HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT:** What I said was, *those who inhabited this area still inhabit this area, and it is those whom you are evicting from your farms that have been in the generation for four, five generation. It is where they were collecting what we in the north call Mopani worms and roots that they were using for all sorts of medicine and for consumption. Now you are telling me that this farm has been yours for generations and there are people who tell me, Minister of*

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**HON !NARUSEB**

*Lands, this is the area that we have been inhabiting for generations as well.*

Comrade Ilonga, all I am saying is that those were also communal areas that they have developed. We thought that instead of instantly enriching those who took the land through buying the land, why do we not look at the possibilities consistent with the findings of the 1991 Land Conference. It is not something out of the blue, it is perfectly in keeping with the Resolutions of the 1991 Conference for us to go and look in close liaison with those who stay in the areas for them to point out to us where is a piece of an area that we can develop and call it a farm. That is all we are doing. However, if we as a Nation are not receptive of that approach, then we are ready as a Sector because whatever we do, we do it on behalf of this Nation and not something that I have dreamed about and bring here, no. All our actions are premised on the Policy Framework and the Legal Framework under which we function but if we are developing second thoughts, tell me and let this House make Laws accordingly and then we will not do it anymore. *Swara*, in my culture you do not argue with your *swara*. Your sister's husband or boyfriend is someone that you do not argue with, otherwise I will not have a home to go back to and I do not want that (*laughter*).

**Honourable Simataa**, thank you for the support, we would have really wanted to resettle more Namibians. That is our wish but we are fully appreciative of the noble efforts of our very able Minister of Finance that she is functioning with a shoe string kind of a Budget and that she is doing her level best to spread the cake. I would have naturally wanted to be a billionaire as well, as a Sector, but you can have your wish list but she is only able to look at the needs allocation. I am trying to be very kind to her so that she can consider us next time (*laughter*).

We are so thankful of what she has given us but the fact speaks for itself. We have laid bare our wish list. We want to buy 280,000 hectares of land per annum. That is what we want to buy in order for us to be able to resettle more than 73 families. That is what we want to do but in order for us to do that, we need to be able to convince the Minister of Finance amidst all the competing demands on her very scarce resources to make

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**ADJOURNMENT  
HON AMATHILA**

the allocation to us as a Sector of Land that would satisfy the need to access of the masses out there. I will sit down now if you tell me – *take the money (laughter)*. Thank you.

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**HON ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Any objections? Agreed to.

Vote 26 – “NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Any objections? Agreed to.

Honourable Acting Speaker, I shall report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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**ASSEMBLY RESUMES**

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Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

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**HON ACTING SPEAKER:** Honourable Colleagues we have come to the end of our Session this evening. According to Rule 90, the House stands adjourn until Monday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2014, at 14:30. So decided.

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**HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 20:10 UNTIL 2014.03.24 AT 14:30**

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# APPENDICES



**MINISTRY OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT**  
**TECHNICAL PAPER IN SUPPORT OF VOTE 25**

## Introduction

The mandate of the Ministry is driven from the applicable Policies and Legislation that the Ministry is tasked to implement and therefore, its primary mandate Is “Manage, Administer and Ensure Equitable Access to Namibia’s Land Resource”.

## Objectives

- To ensure equitable distribution and access to land by all Namibians particularly the previously disadvantaged Namibians;
- To ensure security of tenure,
- Develop and maintain fundamental spatial datasets suitable for developing a national spatial data infrastructure; and
- Policy supervision and coordination of support services.

## Ministerial Target

<b>Target</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
<b>5 million hectares of agricultural (commercial) land to be acquired by 2020 under the national resettlement programme</b>	64,000	50,000	280,000
<b>140 previously disadvantaged landless Namibians to be resettled per year under the national resettlement programme</b>	26	20	112
<b>All 150,000 existing land rights in communal areas to be registered by 2016</b>	76,000	76,000	76,000
<b>5 (five) Integrated Regional Land Use Plans to be developed by 2016 (1 per Region, 5 regions)</b>	1	1	1
<b>64 (sixty four) Small Scale Commercial Farming (SSCF) units to be fully developed by 2016</b>	21	21	21
<b>Establishing a fundamental spatial datasets with coverage of 75% by 2015/2016</b>	70%	75%	80%



## **Description of Programmes Programme 01:**

### **Land Reform**

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure that all Namibians have equal access to land and security of tenure regardless of their standing in society and they become self-supportive.

To ensure socio-economic planning and sustainable development of communal residents by ensuring security of tenure through registration of land rights in all communal areas of Namibia.

#### **1.1 Main Activities**

#### **1.2 Land Acquisition, National Resettlement Programme**

The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement is mandated “to acquire agricultural land for the purposes of land reform and for the allocation of such land to Namibian citizens who do not own or otherwise have the use of any or of adequate agricultural land, and foremost to those Namibian citizens who have been socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged by past discriminatory Laws or practices”. The *Agricultural (Commercial) Land Reform Act, 1995* (Act 6 of 1995) provides the legal basis for the acquisition of agricultural land.

The Ministry reviewed expropriation criteria and legal opinion has been obtained from the Ministry of Justice and approved by MLR management. Expropriation was also part of the sections amended during the Amendment of the Act (Act 6 of 1995) that has recently been presented to Parliament and the National Council respectively. It is expected that some of the loopholes impacting expropriation be addressed with the Amendment of the Act which will lead to the launching of expropriation. However, the implementation of expropriation would be undermined by the limited availability of funding for farms to be acquired under expropriation should that process commence.



*Figure 1 Minister of Land and Resettlement, Hon. Alpheus G !Naruseb, with Governor Josua //Hoebob of Kunene Region accompanied by senior staffs visiting Queen Sofia Farm in Kunene Region.*

In order to ensure enhanced transparency in our land reform initiatives, a National Land Reform Forum (NLRF) has been created with a view to ensure public-private dialogue in land reform hence a negotiated Land Reform Programme.

### **1.3 Achievements to date under the National Resettlement Programme (NRP)**

Since the inception of the Land Reform programme a total of 2,5 million hectares have been transferred under State ownership through the National Resettlement Programme (NRP). The total cost of acquiring this land stands at N\$829 million. Overall resettlement land (including the farms transferred from the Ministry of Agriculture early 1990s) under the ambit of the Ministry totals 2,5 million hectares. All together a total of 5006 families are resettled on this land country wide through the said Programme. The table hereunder shows the total number of all farms acquired per year to date by the Ministry.

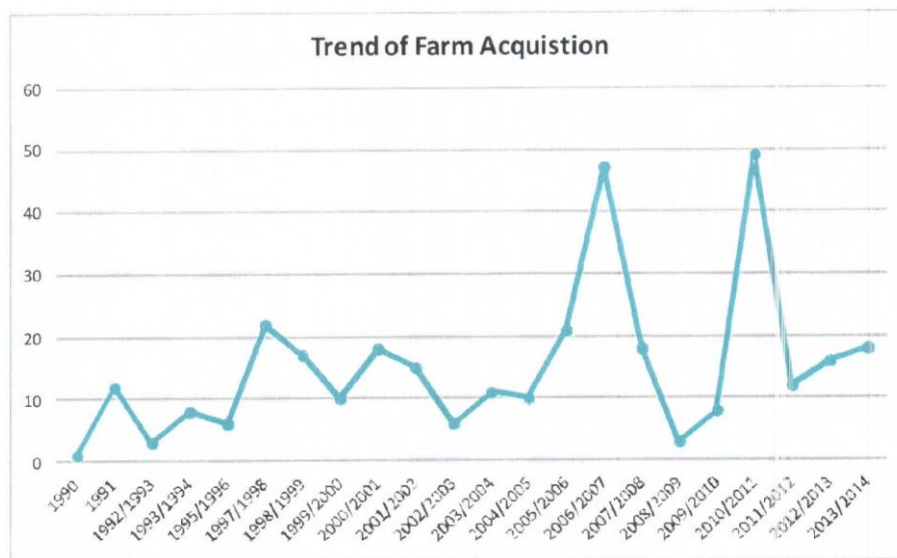
**Table 1: Numbers of Farms Acquired Per Year Through the NRP**

Year	Number	Hectares
<b>Farms transferred from MAWF (1990s)</b>	54	411,257
1990	1	6,800.00
1991	12	59,907.71
1992/1993	3	13,944.97
1993/1994	8	35,963.46
1995/1996	6	32,246.72
1997/1998	12	149862.44
1998/1999	17	83,882.45
1999/2000	10	63,389.44
2000/2001	18	104542.97
2001/2002	15	101355.83
2002/2003	6	10,079.44
2003/2004	11	114804.87
2004/2005	10	54,010.99
2005/2006	21	174922.52
2006/2007	47	327584.84
2007/2008	18	107612.32
2008/2009	3	1,536.68
2009/2010	8	26,027.91
2010/2011	49	3011768.73
2011/2012	12	58,981.33
2012/2013	16	92,996.72
2013/2014	18	101252.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>2053474.86</b>
<b>Plus farms from MAWF</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>411,257.00</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>2464731.86</b>

Here below is figure one showing the trend of farm acquisition from 1990 to date. Viewing from the figure, one denotes that there has been a varying degree in terms of the numbers of the farms that the Ministry is acquiring each year.

The major attribute to the variation is the sporadic manner in which farm offers has been forthcoming particularly from the years 1990 to until 2010 where after farm offers picked up and the major constraint then was the availability of funding for land acquisition given the constant annual appropriation thereof.

**Figure 1: Year to Date Trend of Farm Acquisition**

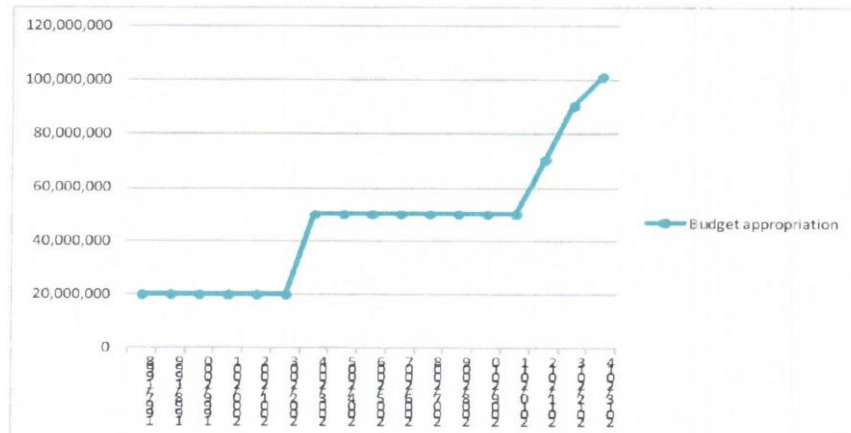


It should be underlined here that, despite the overwhelming public perception that the “willing seller-willing buyer” mode of farm acquisition have proved slow in enabling the Ministry to acquire the desired number of farms, the Ministry reasons that the major hindrance to the expedition of farm acquisition and redistribution thereof is because of the limited budgetary appropriation for land acquisition.

The National Land Resettlement Programme benefits from an annual Treasury allocation to the tune of N\$50 million and an income from Land Tax estimated at N\$35 million. The funds appropriated by Parliament have remained constant since 2003 despite hefty increases in the prices of agricultural land. As already stated this constant budgetary allocation is the major attribute for the slow pace of land acquisition and not necessarily the method of acquisition being implemented.

Figure 2 here below shows the trend of the annual budgetary provision for land acquisition from 1997 to date.

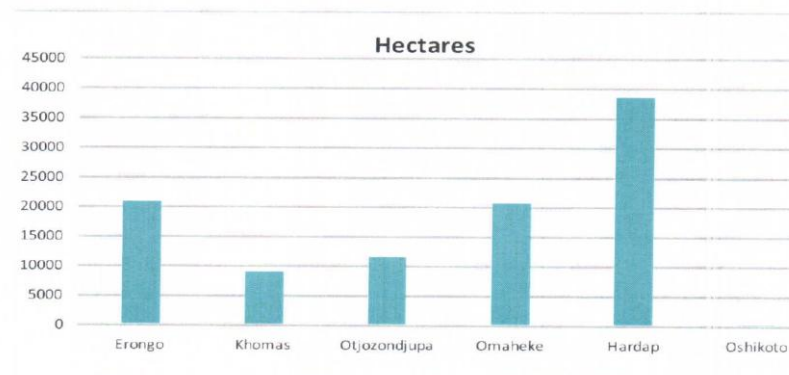
**Figure 2: Year-to-date Annual Budgetary Appropriation**



### 1.3 Farms acquired in 2013/2014 Financial Year

The year under review has seen increased expenditure in terms of funds allocated for land acquisition. While the expenditure per hectare has increased, the quantity of land acquired has diminished due to the constant budgetary allocation. The figure here below shows a regional breakdown of farms acquired during the period under review (i.e. 2013/2014 FY). No farms were acquired in //Karas as it is regarded as area of marginal agricultural potential hence the majority of farms are being waived and only one farm purchased in Oshikoto.

**Figure 3: Regional breakdown of farms acquired during 2013/2014 FY**



**Table 2: Number of Farms Acquired During 2013/2014 Financial Year**

Regions	Number of farms	Hectares
Erongo	2	20961.3561
Khomas	2	9023.648
Otjozondjupa	3	11672.658
Omaheke	4	20721.2085
Hardap	6	38723.6685
Oshikoto	1	149.999
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>101252.5381</b>

#### **1.4 Land Acquired under the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme**

The Ministry supports the acquisition of land by formerly disadvantaged Namibians under the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme Programme that is administered by the Agricultural Bank of Namibia (Agribank). The Ministry has significantly contributed to this Programme by issuing waivers in order to enable previous disadvantaged Namibians to acquire agricultural farm land through Agribank. Since the inception of the Programme, a total of 649 farmers are recorded to have benefitted by acquiring freehold agricultural land with a combined size of 3,4 million hectares and a further 2,2 million hectares were acquired outside Agribank's Affirmative Action Loan Scheme.

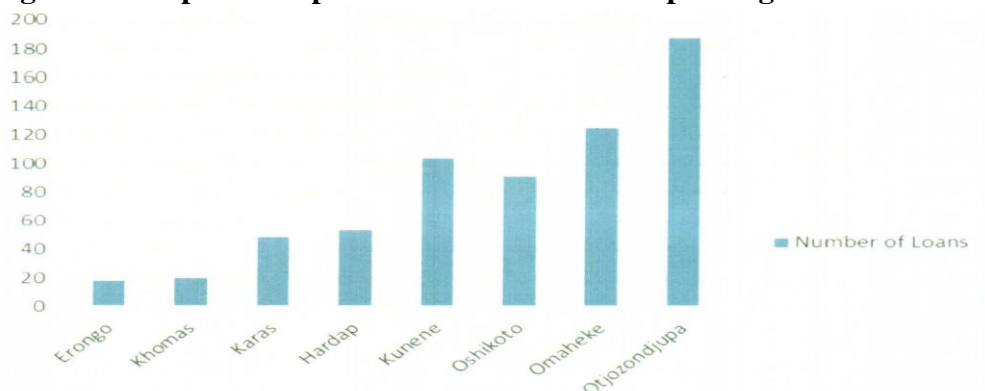
- Otjozondjupa continue dominating the Regions with high number of farms acquired (188) through AALS followed by Omaheke (125);
- Erongo (18) remained the lowest number of farms acquired through AALS as indicated below,

**Table 3: Number of Farms Acquired Through AALS Programme**

Region	Number of Loans	Hectares	Amount Granted
Erongo	18	113,290.41	19,518,903.21
Khomas	20	92,429.56	26,127,700.00
Karas	49	458,343.31	26,782,367.30
Hardap	54	397,910.47	46,815,113.60
Kunene	104	514,651.82	118,186,637.00
Oshikoto	91	413,439.27	107,252,885.00
Omaheke	125	578,394.75	184,387,327.00
Otjozondjupa	188	843,971.86	284,795,636.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>3,412,431.45</b>	<b>813,866,570.01</b>

The highest figure of AALS appears to be in Otjozondjupa followed by Omaheke and Kunene as shown hereunder.

**Figure 4: Graphical Depiction of Loans Granted per Region**



#### **1.4 Challenges**

- a) Willing seller-willing buyer principle is reactive and depends solely on the availability of willing-sellers thus, Government is not enable to acquire farms in prime areas;
- b) The Ministry continue to receive more farm offers from areas of marginal agricultural potential thus the majority are being waived; and
- c) Agricultural land prices are skyrocketing at an unprecedented rate whilst the Budget to acquire land remains constant thus, forcing the Ministry to continue being selective in the acquisition of farms (i.e. only targeting to acquire farms deemed very good in terms of their agricultural potential).

#### **1.5 Land Allocation (Resettlement)**

The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement has to date (i.e. up to January 2014) resettled 5006 beneficiaries, of which 73 beneficiaries were resettled during 2013/2014 Financial Year. This it includes individual farmers and their families and those who are resettled as groups and/or cooperatives.

### **1.6 Farms Acquired for resettlement for the Veterans under the Ministry of Veterans Affairs**

The Ministry has acquired two farms for the Veterans under the Ministry of Veterans Affairs programme in Otjozondjupa Region of which the allocation would be done by the Veterans Affairs Ministry in accordance with their set criteria.

### **1.7 Challenges**

The demand for land surpass the supply, however, the major constraint is that the implementation of resettlement programme depends on the availability of farms acquired through Land Acquisition Programme, through willing seller-willing buyer principle, thus, slow paces of resettling landless and previously disadvantaged Namibian has a dependent effect.



Hon. Alpheus G !Naruseb flanked by Karas Governor Swartboo at a discussion themed “Land and Youth” hosted by the National Youth Council

### **1.8 Farm Infrastructure Rehabilitated/Developed**

The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement is faced with a daunting task al ensuring that resettled beneficiaries’ farm infrastructure are in good condition before or after they are resettled. Thus the Ministry embarks upon on the farm infrastructure development i.e water and fencing infrastructure.



## **1.9 Water Infrastructure**

During the 2013/2014 FY, the Ministry developed/rehabilitated a combined Forty Three (43) resettlement farms in //Karas, Omaheke, Oshikoto, Kunene and Otjozondjupa Regions. Pumping Testing and Rehabilitation of Thirty Eight (38) boreholes has been completed in //Karas, Khomas and Kunene Regions.

## **1.10 Fencing Infrastructure**

During 2013/2014 Financial Year, the Ministry has developed/rehabilitated the fencing of Five (5) resettlement farms in //Karas, Oshikoto and Hardap Regions respectively.

## **1.11 Challenges Encountered**

The Ministry is faced with the challenge of lack of technical expertise when it comes to water infrastructure rehabilitation/development thus relying of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF) for technical assistance. However the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement either have to employ staff or to hand over the water infrastructure aspect to Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF).

## **1.12 Preparation and Registration of Notarial Lease Agreements for Resettlement**

The Ministry has embarked upon the registration of resettlement lease agreements in the Deeds Office to accord resettlement beneficiaries' entitlement and security of tenure, which can afford them an opportunity to access financial assistance and contribute to the national development goals. Thus, during the period under review, the total number of 11 lease agreements were so far handed over to the Notary Public through the Attorney-General's Office for preparation and lodgment in the Deeds Office.

## **1.13 Challenges Encountered**

The length administrative process cause delay on lodgment and registration of the notarial lease agreements since there are various stakeholders involved i.e Ministry of Lands and Resettlement, Ministry of Justice (Attorney-General's Office) and Private Notary Public which has to be appointed by the Attorney General's Office. On the other hand some beneficiaries are refusing to sign the lease agreements thus it becomes difficult to submit such leases to be converted into notarial.

### 1.14 Communal Land Registration

From the enactment of the *Communal Land Reform Act*, 2002 to date, a total of 54,075 existing customary land rights, 9,529 new customary land rights and 765 leasehold land rights were registered. Among these figures, a total of 37,360 males and 26,427 females registered their land rights thus, it is evident that women are being considered favourably too in access to land.

**Table 4: Accumulative Figures on Registration of Land Rights per Region**

Region	No. Existing customary land rights registered	No. customary new land rights registered	Leasehold land rights registered	Male	Female
Zambezi	3595	585	58	2325	1883
Erongo	1634	1166	2	1716	1085
Hardap	692	643	0	950	385
Karas	1443	530	9	1269	711
Kavango	0	0	406	319	87
Kunene	2295	458	50	1619	1147
Ohangwena	10265	772	41	6294	4765
Omaheke	1139	136	25	889	402
Omusati	13569	2779	76	9525	6870
Oshana	11656	1881	28	7598	5924
Oshikoto	5919	525	62	3796	2708
Otjozondjupa	1868	54	8	1379	547
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>54075</b>	<b>9529</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>37360</b>	<b>26427</b>

### 1.15 Number of Appeal Cases Received per Region

Table 5 below, shows the number of appeals that the Ministry has received per Region in terms of Section 39 of the *Communal Land Reform Act*, 2002 ( Act 5 of 2002). The majority of the appeals were received from former Kavango Region and over 30% of all appeals registered were processed and resolved.

**Table 5: Number of Appeal Cases**

<b>Region</b>	<b>No: Appeal Cases</b>	<b>Status of Appeal</b>
Zambezi	3	2 pending judgments, 1 pending tribunal appointment
Kavango	10	5 judgments given, 5 pending tribunal .appointment
Erongo	1	Pending tribunal appointment
Ohangwena	4	Only 1 judgment given
Omaheke	3	2 judgments given
Omusati	2	Judgments passed
Oshana	6	Only 2 judgments given
Otjozondjupa	8	Pending appeal tribunal appointment
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>11 Judgments Given, 26 Pending</b>

### 1.16 Illegal/Unrecognised Fences

In 2002, Cabinet directed that the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement should reinforce measures against those fencing off communal areas as prescribed by Law. The removal of fences in communal areas was, however, already one of the major activities of the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement as it is also provided for in the Ministry's Five (5) Year Strategic Plan.

A total of one hundred and thirty (130) notices for the removal of illegal fences have been issued by Communal Land Boards so far with twenty (20) illegal fences removed country wide as follows:

- In Omaheke Region, a total of eleven (11) notices have been issued and eight (8) fences removed.
- In Otjozondjupa Region, a total of eight eight (88) notices have been issued and six (6) fences removed.
- In Ohangwena Region, a total of fourteen (14) notices have been issued and three (3) fences removed.
- In Omusati Region, a total of ten (10) notices have been issued and three (3) fences removed.
- In Kavango Region, a total of seven (7) notices have been issued and none removed.

Many of the fences were removed by fence owners themselves after receiving notices to do so, with only three fences in Ohangwena Region removed by the Land Board at a tune of N\$520,000.00.

In almost all Regions affected, some of the fence holders have appealed against decisions of Communal Land Boards for ordering them to remove their fences. The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement is addressing this matter by appointing Appeal Tribunals to hear the appeals to resolve disputes.

- i. Small Scale Commercial Farming Project and Basket Fund Activities (Support to Land Reform Programme)
- ii. Development of the Small Scale Commercial Farm:

In 1999 the Ministry undertook a study in collaboration with the International Development Consultancy (IDC) to identify areas countrywide with underutilized vast portions of land to be developed into Small Scale Commercial Farming Units (SSCFU). A total of 4.9 million hectares was identified in the Regions of Caprivi, Kavango, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Omusati, Otjozondjupa and Omaheke. The infrastructural development of these small scale farms is to be done with the assistance of the Basket Fund Project (Support to Land Reform) financed under the Germany-Namibia financial cooperation. The Gazetting of Kavango SSCFUs and Ohangwena has already taken effect. A total of 32 boreholes have been drilled so far and 12 of these boreholes have been installed and equipped in Kavango's SSCFUs area and water installation on 10 farms is

ongoing. 18 Cluster farms in Kavango are fenced. The Local Level Participatory Plans for Okongo and Otjetjekua have been finalised and Ongandjera is progressing so well with the mapping team in the Zambezi Region on site to begin. Support to CLBs and to communication efforts of MLR financially and operationally is strengthened.

Implementation models of the SSCFs were broadened to ensure a mix of potential interventions, which provide for different ownership, management and land use options, to suit prevailing social practices and preferences by local residents.

### **1.17 Challenges Encountered**

- On Small Scale Commercial Farming Project (SSCFP), the overlapping of Rind usages remains which could only be resolved through the development of Local Level Participatory Land Use Plans which the Ministry is currently implementing/piloting in Ohangwena, Omusati and Zambezi Regions.
- The issue of boundary disputes between Traditional Authorities is posing a big challenge.
- Inadequate capacity of the water installation contractors to carry out the activities in the specified period of time.
- High cost of infrastructural development of small scale commercial farms.
- Turn-over of staff as in all Communal Land Rights Registration areas (COLRR) endeavours and also limited time to ensure proper supervision and capacity enhancement of registration staff.

### **1.18 Land Use Planning**

A new approach to Integrated Regional Land Use Planning has been developed and tested in the //Karas Region, piloted in Hardap Region and now being replicated to the Kavango East and West Regions.

- //Karas Regional Monitoring and Review Team (MRT) presented the status quo of the following projects, which was presented during the sitting of Steering Committee on Social and Land Issues in June 2013:
- **Naute Irrigation Expansion and Tourism Resort:** The project is 100% completed.
- **Sperrgebiet National Park:** Tsau //Khaeb (Sperrgebiet) National Park and has two status; A National Park and a diamond mining area. Namdeb + Mines & Energy are only interested in 30% of the Sperrgebiet and need to give up 70% of the area in order to avoid lengthy restrictions into the Park. Currently a Consultant (Law Firm), is working on the deproclamation of the 70% which is hope to be completed in September 2013.
- **Ai-/Ais-Richtersfeld Transfrontier Park and TFCA:** The activity is under implementation and progressing well with monthly meetings conducted for discussions and management of parks. Cross border activities such as canoeing and mountain biking/cycling have been tested and are working out quite well in attracting tourists.
- **Water Supply for Communal grazing (Farm Pfalz):** The two successfullr drilled boreholes on Pfalz were finally installed during April 2013. One borehole is installed on a windmill whilst the other on an engine machine.
- Hardap Integrated Regional Land Use Plan is completed and approved by Cabinet, pending printing and official handing over to Hardap Regional Council for implementation and monitoring.
- Establishment of the Hardap Regional Monitoring and Review Team (MRT) tasked with following up on Projects and Programmes identified during the land use planning formulation process.

- Training workshop on Hardap Regional Geo-database was conducted.
- The Kavango (East + West) Integrated Regional Land Use Plan is nearing completion with the final draft plan already undergoing scrutiny by the Ministry.
- The Task force team for the Kavango East and West Integrated Regional Land Use Plan was appointed both from Regional Council and MLR regional office.
- The Zambezi Region Traditional Authorities were sensitized about the commencement of Zambezi Integrated Regional Land Use Plan for Financial Year 2013/2014 to 2014/2015.
- Tender was advertised and closed for the appointment of Consultancies to carry out the formulation of Zambezi Integrated Regional Land Use Plan.
- The 3rd National Land Use Planning Policy Forum was held on 20th - 21st of November 2013 to pave the way forward on formulation of such land Use Planning Policy.
- Working group between MLR and Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development was created to iron out the overlapping mandate in Town and Regional Bill verses MLR mandate.

### **1.19 Challenges Encountered**

- Lack of local competent companies to allow for the formulation of parallel land use plans that could be improved by having a reduction in tender specifications e.g. reduction in number of years of experience, and having local Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) companies to partner with bigger companies to gain the required experience.
- Lack of a proper operation structure to steer the Land Use Planning mandate.
- No legal framework to enforce the implementation of this plans.
- Lack of adequate skills by the MLR staff.

- Lack of commitment from some Line Ministries

## **Programme 02: Title Security of Tenure**

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure that the new *Draft Deeds Bill* will be enacted and regulations be drafted, furthermore, is to ensure that the implementation of the *Sectional Title Act*, 2009 (Act 2 of 2009) and its regulations, which will be applicable country wide and create new form of tenure.

### **2.1 Main Activities**

#### **2.2 Development of Communal Areas**

This Programme is aimed at the registration of communal land, identification and development of under-utilized communal land into Small Scale Commercial Farming Units. The idea is to ensure security of tenure and improve agricultural productivity in communal areas as is in the commercial area. In the preceding Financial Year of 2013/2014, this Programme received an Appropriation Budget of N\$27,760,000 in total.

During the year 2013 the Minister of Lands and Resettlement, Honourable Alpheus !Naruseb managed to visit all Traditional Authority in Namibia to listen to their concerns regarding communal land registration.

#### **2.3 Development of Small Scale Commercial Farming Project**

This Sub-programme of the Ministry is aimed at developing the under-utilized land into Small Scale Commercial Farming Units and the development of these units thereof. A total of 1,537 Small Scale Commercial Farming Units have so far been identified in seven (7) Regions namely; Caprivi (82), Kavango (513), Ohangwena (24), Omusati (113), Oshikoto (205), Otjozondjupa and Omaheke (600) with the total size of 109,55 200 hectares. It is, therefore, important to mention that Small



Commercial Farming Units in Kavango and Ohangwena are gazetted.

## **2.4 Summary of Achievements**

From the Appropriation Budget, an amount of N\$13,534,031.00 was allocated for the infrastructural development of the project in the small scale commercial farming units. An amount of N\$13,452,700.69 under the Targeted Intervention for Employment and Economic Growth was utilised for the fencing and marketing infrastructure in Otjetjekwa and Okongo. About 48,000 hectares at Otjetjekwa was developed at an amount of N\$6,702,846.99 with the fencing and marketing infrastructure for a registered cooperative benefiting about 100 families. In Okongo, about 30,000 hectares was also developed with the fencing and marketing infrastructure at an amount of N\$6,749,853.70 with about 15 leaseholds approved and their sub-leases. The project was concomitantly supported and/or complimented with funding from KfW of about N13,000,000.00 in support of the Local Level Participatory Planning Process and other activities to realize the intended objectives.

## **2.5 Land Registration**

The Land Registration Sub-programme of the Ministry has the objective to ensure security of tenure to all Namibians living in communal areas. Namibian people in communal areas have a statutory obligation to have claims over their communal land for farming, residential and business purposes recognized and registered as provided for by the *Communal Land Reform Act*, 2002 (Act 5 of 2002). In the preceding Financial Year of 2013/2014, this Sub-programme was allocated an amount of N\$12,890,000 under the Targeted Intervention Programme for Employment and Economic Growth (TIPEEG) for the registration of customary and leasehold land rights.

**From this amount it is, therefore, important to inform this august House that the expenditure was as follows:**

- 4.5 million was spent on the salaries of the registration staff for “The Land Registration Project”;
- 4.4 million on transport and the procurement of six (6) vehicles for the project where four (4) vehicles were four wheel drive (4x4) for fieldwork and two (2) sedans (2x4);
- 1.4 million for training of Communal Lands Boards (CLBs) and Traditional Authorities (TAs) on the required legal application and interpretation of the Communal land Reform Act. Communal Land Boards across the country were also trained the guidelines for the removal of illegal and unrecognised fences, appeal procedures, dispute resolution skills as well as on effective leadership and land management skills;
- 1 million was used for Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA);
- 500,000 on stationeries for the registration project activities;
- 730,000 was spent on communication activities on registration of communal land rights in which includes the on-going NBC and One Africa TV and Radio advertisements anticipated to come an end around the 28 February 2014; and
- 250,000 on other equipments such GPSs and Computers, and 200,000 for allowances of appeals tribunal members.

## **2.6 Summary of Achievements**

In total about 11,788 existing customary land rights were registered, 4,285 new customary land rights registered and 85 leaseholds registered during this Financial Year. It is also important to mention that, the deadline of the extension period

for recognition and registration of existing customary land rights in terms of Section 28 and Regulation 7 and Section 35 and Regulation 17 (PTOs) of the *Communal Land Reform Act*, 2002 which was supposed to have been the 28th of February 2014 was extended indefinitely because there is still high demand for registration of the aforementioned rights.

Through TIPEEG, the Ministry has managed to optimize production of land rights registered thus allocation of more funding is required to procure more vehicles and other technical equipments for the registration project, increase daily allowances of the registration staff, maintain staff component, and intensify communication on land registration for the majority of citizens participate fully in the Programme, and ultimately realise the roll-out of the registration of existing customary land rights in short span of time.

## **2.7 Flexible Land Tenure Project**

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure security of tenure or title in terms of the *Flexible Land Tenure Act*, 2012 (Act 4 of 2012) to persons in informal settlements or who are provided with low income housing.

## **2.8 Summary of Achievements**

During this year under review, Honorable Members of Parliament, an appropriation amount of N\$525,000 was allocated to this Programme. It is, therefore, important to inform this august House that the flexible land tenure project is still in its infancy stage. During the 2013 /2014 Financial Year the regulations committee was constituted and held their first meeting.

The Programme also realised the printing of 170 copies of the enabling legislation which is the “*Flexible Land Tenure Act*, 2012 (Act 4 of 2012)” at an amount of N\$5,721.00. Currently, the project is coordinated by only one staff member and, therefore, requires sufficient funding to absorb the necessary skilled staff component comprising of the Land Rights

Registrar and Land Rights Officers as provided for in the *Flexible Land Tenure Act*, 2012 to roll-out the implementation plan.

**Programme 03: National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and establishment of Fundamental Datasets: Nation Wide Integrated Geodesy**

- To establish geodetic network of control points;
- The project involves the upgrading and strengthening of Namibia's spatial reference framework. The network of geodetic control points is the main framework or foundation on which all surveying (cadastral, topographical, construction, control, etc) and mapping activities are based. The project provides the framework for all developments over land in Namibia.

### **3.1 Main Activities**

An efficient and effective land administration is a prerequisite for a successful Land Reform Programme. Spatial information provides the essential ingredients for land administration. Land Reform in the Namibian context is aimed at ensuring equitable redistribution of agricultural land. The minimum requirement would, therefore, be that the location, quality and quantity of agricultural land available should be known.

The provision of location, quality and quantity of available land is the forte of Geodesy, cadastre and topography, which are elements of a spatial data infrastructure.

### **3.2 Geodetic Network**

Geodesy, among other things guides the establishment of the national geodetic infrastructure. The geodetic infrastructure is the foundation for the precise location of objects on the earth surface. In Namibia, the geodetic network dates back to almost a century ago, meaning that they are not consistent with the current satellite technology and their accuracy is limited. This challenge is compounded by the fact that the beacons are

located in inaccessible locations on mountain tops and they are concentrated in particular areas leaving the mainly populated areas unserved. To identify precisely the location of land with the right quality for redistribution, a proper geodetic network consistent with the satellite technology being used by land surveyors needs to be in place.

Having located the right type of land, these need to be mapped to aid visualisation in the planning process. A geodetic network is also essential since it provides the tools to geo-reference the aerial and satellite images used for map productions. To geo-reference is to define location in physical space.

A road map for the modernisation of the Namibian Geodetic Infrastructure has been drawn up. Preceding this was the establishment of 22 zero order geodetic controls and 129 first order controls. In 2013, the Ministry with the assistance of GIZ, procured five Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) equipment. These equipment have been installed as part of a network of Continuously Operating GPS Reference Stations (CORS) located in Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop, Oshakati, Gobabis, and Swakopmund. Data obtained from these stations would be used by surveyors, engineers, geophysicists, meteorologists, planners, scientists, and others in support of a wide variety of applications

### **3.3 Land Information System**

A land Information system is a tool for legal, administrative and economic decision making, and an aid for planning and development. It provides a vital base layer capable of integration into other geographic systems or as a standalone solution that allows data stewards to retrieve, create, update, store, view, analyse and publish land information.

The core in a land information system is usually the cadastral system. This is because the cadastral information will provide information on spatial objects, like parcels and other objects, e.g. an apartment. A Land Information System (LIS) usually

starts with establishing a set of core data that is available for other users. The information in these core data sets would include cadastral information about parcels, not only with ownership but extended to customary tenure, flexible tenure and long-term leaseholds. It would also include information on ownership and encumbrances and property values.

The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG, 1995) defines a cadastre as a parcel based and up-to-date land information system containing a record of interests in land (e.g. rights, restrictions and responsibilities).

It usually includes a geometric description of land parcels linked to other records describing the nature of the interests, ownership or control of those interests, and often the value of the parcel and its improvements. It may be established for fiscal purposes (valuation and taxation), legal purposes (conveyancing), to assist in the management of land and land-use planning (planning and administration), and enables sustainable development and environmental improvement.

A Nation's natural resources with land at the apex form the basis of economic growth in most developing Nations since the bulk of a Nation's raw materials required for Industry be it agro, chemical or automotive are extracted from these natural resources. This renders the proper management of the resource of land crucial in any State or country as it is also the basis of sustainable development. Such proper land management policies, however, remain a challenge to most Governments in African Nations. A cadastre provides the infrastructure to implement the land policy.

The cadastral infrastructure includes a unique identification of the land parcels deriving from the cadastral surveys. This is commonly referred to as Unique Parcel Identifier (UPI). The cadastral identification is then seen as the core component of any land information system.

The digital cadastral system has been developed and would be implemented in the next Financial Year

### **3.4 Revision of Topographic maps**

A map is a conventional representation of an actual landscape. Many components of such landscape may evolve over time (new buildings, new or modified infrastructures, land-use change, etc.), while other components are usually more stable (relief, rivers, administrative boundaries, etc.). Some changes are continuous (progressive reduction of bush density), some changes occur stepwise (evolution of a river path inside its floodplain, modified each rain season), others occur in one single stage (new building, etc.). To keep its utility, the map must take these changes into account. As map production is a very expensive process, it is usually not possible to manage a continuous updating. Maps are updated within a cycle, and each updating process corresponds to a new edition. As landscape evolution is a permanent process, when a new version of a map is published, some of its components are already obsolete. A ten year cycle to correspond with the census is envisaged for the map revision.

The concept is such that, based on these topographic datasets, users can add their own specific information regarding, for example, forestry, resource management, property management, environmental preservation, geology, health management, disaster management, navigation and industrial development.

In order for these subsequent applications to be reliable, efficient, economical and effective, the topographic datasets need to be complete, up to date and in a digital format that will enhance access and enable the incorporation of the information about the data, commonly referred to as metadata. There is, therefore, the need to regularly update the topographic maps.

The map revision process will involve using the geo-referenced images (orthophotos) to identify and capture changes that have taken place since the last update. The output of this process would be a GIS based database of revised topographic data.

The activities will include acquisition of aerial photographs, generation of digital elevation models, production of orthophotos, digital capture and revision of topographic features, cartographic editing and printing of maps. These activities are related to each other.

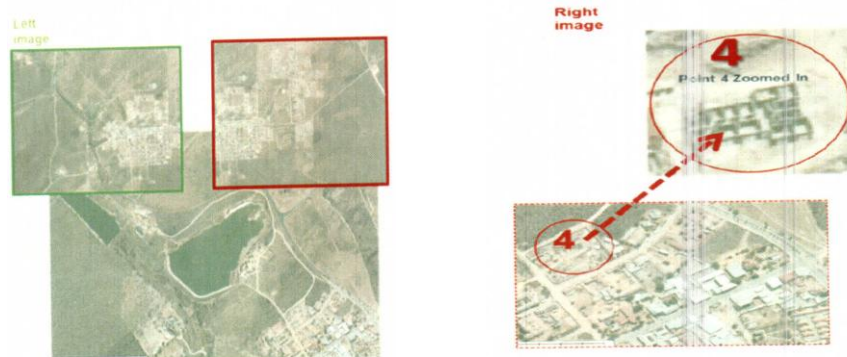
The availability of usable and accessible spatial information is very essential to cross cutting issues like poverty, environment, and HIV and AIDS interventions.

### **3.5 Achievements**

Development and maintenance of fundamental datasets suitable for developing a national spatial data infrastructure. Existing spatial data are limited in coverage, not up to date, not interoperable and consequently not easily accessible.

### **3.6 Aerial Images Acquisition and Orthophotos Development**

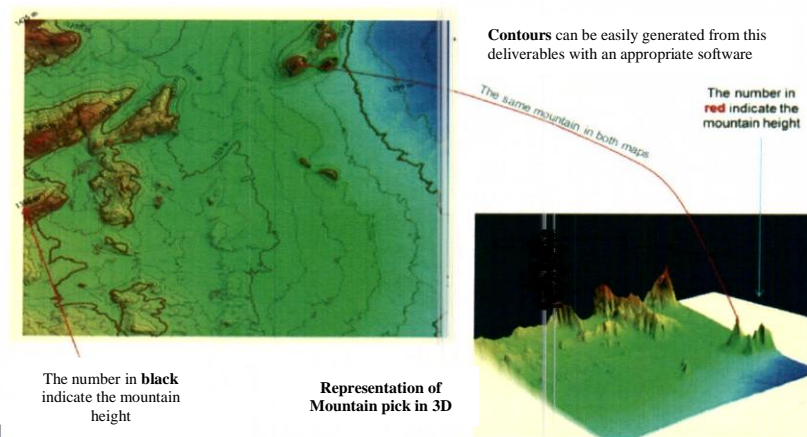
- a) Acquisition and processing of Aerial images, production of Orthophotographs, Digital Terrain Model (DTM), and Digital Elevation Model (DEM) of central Namibia (between 20 and 24 degree latitude).
- b) Aerial photographs and Orthophotos, Digital Terrain Model (DTM) and Digital Elevation Model (DEM) for central Namibia covering Erongo, Khomas, Omaheke, southern part of Otjozondjupa and Kunene and northern part of Hardap Regions were produced. The data is now ready for distribution and use. Figures 1 and 2 show respectively an image and DTM generated during this project.





### Figure 1: Orthophoto Images

Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and Digital Terrain Model (DTM) for all BLOCKS of the project area were developed and quality control completed. They are ready for use.



### Figure 2: Digital Terrain Model

In order to build capacity, 11 DSM staff members were attached to thi a project. They were trained in Mapping and Photogrammetry, including, image interpretation, processing, image analysis and quality check, Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and Digital Terrain Model (DTM) production. These staff members are now able to check the images and identify errors and resolve them. They were also involved in the establishment of ground control point for the project area.

### Figure 3: Photographs Showing Some Training Sessions



Staff members interpreting and processing images.

### 3.7 Map revision

#### a) Revision of Windhoek Street Map

- Revision of Windhoek Street Map has been concluded, with creation of revised datasets. A clip of this is shown in figure 4.

**Figure 4: Windhoek Street map**



#### a) Production of customized maps

- Production of customized maps of towns and villages in the Omaheke Region has been concluded. The project involved field data collection for all towns and villages to produce a visual tangible product that Councilors could use as tool in their planning. A product from this exercise is shown in figure 5.

**Figure 5: Gobabis Town map**



a) New Dataset Produced by Delimitation Commission of Nam

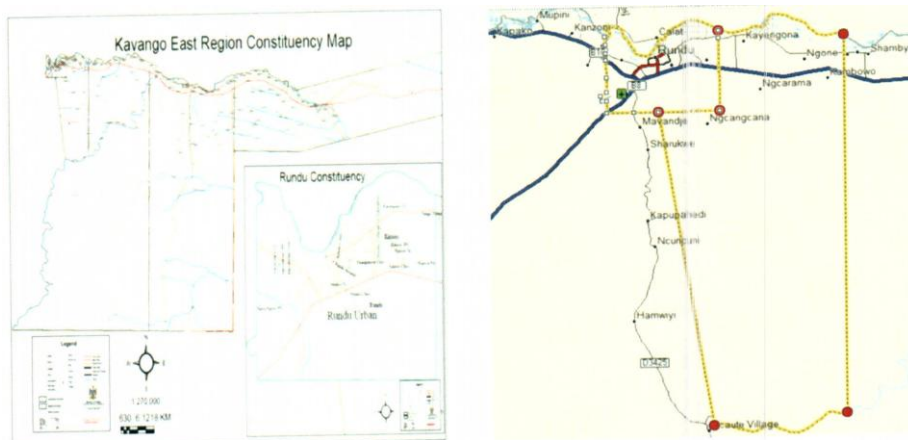
- The new revised administrative boundary shape file map developed by the Delimitation Commission of Namibia went through quality control at the Directorate of Survey Mapping. All 14 Regions and 121 Constituencies were checked for correctness using the Gazette. Field verification was also carried out by our staff members together with staff of the Electoral Commission of Namibia to validate the Regions and Constituencies boundaries. This was done using Montana 600 Handheld GPS with the support of the Gazette description.

In addition 121 individual customized Constituencies Maps were produced by our ministry for Electoral Commission of Namibia to be use for voter registration and elections. Example is shown in figure 6 below.

**Figure 6: An Example of a Constituency Map and**

### a) Revision of Topographic Map of Central Namibia

- The tender for the Map revision of Central Namibia topographic maps has been awarded to Geocarta Consultancy Namibia cc. This particular Region has a part which has not been covered in the previous imaged acquisition. The Ministry is, therefore, producing an up-to-dated dataset and maps of that Region.



a) Revision of 1:1 million administrative wall maps

- A project for revising/produce and print new version of Namibia administrative wall map of 1:1 million scales has commenced. The purpose of producing this map is to incorporate changes of Regions and Constituencies as per the Amendment by Namibia Delimitation Commission.

### 3.8 Achievements

- The Roadmap for the upgrade of the geodetic infrastructure for a five year period was completed in January 2014.
- Successful RTK-Positioning testing was conducted using corrections transmitted via GSM from the CORS control centre.
- Five CORS were installed in Swakopmund, Oshakati, Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop and Gobabis. Figure 6 below shows one of the installations

**Figure 6: Installed CORS**



**CORS Installations**

Regarding Na-Bw International Boundary: The joint Na-Bw observation campaign of the international boundary beacons took place from 16 September to 17 October 2013 and was concluded with the calculation of the final coordinates of the international beacons from 19 to 25 January 2014. An extract from the observation records is shown in figure 7 below.

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**Figure 7: Extract from the Records of the Filed Exercise**

DAY 2 (03/09/13)  
Meeting for planning at Charleshill Land Board

Construction of Beacon 20/26 ( small mould) and rehabilitation of Beacon 20/27 (cutting of pipes/ iron angle)

DAY 3 (04/09/13)  
Move and set up Camp at Swartpan (roving team) and to control points

DAY 4 (05/09/13)

SESSION	ROVER1	ROVER2	ROVER3	ROVER4	ROVER5	ROVER6
SESSION1	20/1	20/1A	20/2	20/3	20/4 (U.END)	20/5
SESSION2	20/6	20/7	20/8	20/9	20/4	20/5
SESSION3	20/10	20/11	20/8	20/9	20/10	20/11

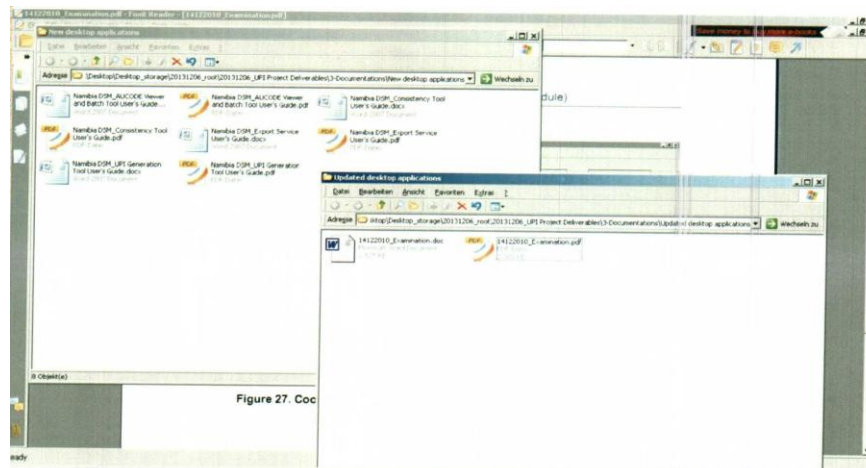
DAY 5 (06/09/13)

SESSION	ROVER1	ROVER2	ROVER3	ROVER4	ROVER5	ROVER6
SESSION1	20/12	20/13	20/14	20/15	20/16	20/17
SESSION2	20/18	20/18A	20/18B	20/19	20/16	20/17
SESSION3	20/19A	20/19B	20/18B	20/19	20/20	20/20A

DAY 6 (07/09/13)

- Implement UPI extraction and loading routine. The deployment and testing of the UPI within the LIS was finalized in December 2013. Figure 8 shows an extract of the UPI generating tool.

**Figure 8: An Extract of the UPI Generation Tool; i.e. One of the UPI Tools within LIS**



- Examination and Approval of Survey records

From April 2013 until 31 January 2014: 761 Survey Diagrams, 85 Resettlement Farms and 22 General Plans were approved.



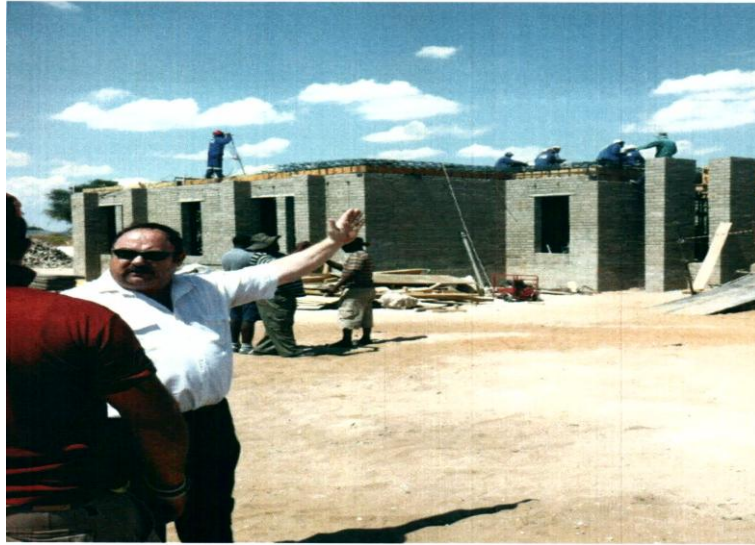
## **Programme 04: Policy Supervision and Coordination of Support Services**

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administrative support to the entire land reform and resettlement programme. The main focus is to supervise and coordinate the Ministry's activities and operations which include:

- The development, application, interpretation, implementation, execution and formulation of relevant policies in accordance with legislative requirements and national objectives;
- Provision of administrative support services, such as human, financial, auxiliary services ICT services and capacity building; and
- Focus on the setting of Ministerial Programme targets and customer service standards and monitoring the extent, to which these are achieved. Undertaking act on research and socio-economic surveys to assess and evaluate the performance of the Land Reform Programme. Coordinate sectoral planning in relation to the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4).

### **4.1 Main Activities**

Under this Programme the Ministry conducts research and socio-economic survey to investigate issues pertaining to land reform and land management to generate information that will enables policy makers to make informed decisions. Towards the end of 2013 the Ministry through collaboration with the University of Namibia conducted a study on ***“Employment Creation through Land Reform”*** and the data and result are being analysed. The Ministry also carries out monitoring and evaluation of its Programmes and Projects as required by National Planning Commission to report on progress on quarterly basis.



**The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement Rundu  
Regional Office as at 06 November 2013**

The Ministry is also implementing Decentralization Policy of Government and has embarked on the construction of regional offices. In 2013 the Rundu Office and Opuwo were started and they are expected to be completed during the Financial Year 2014/2015.