

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 & 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 & Social Welfare)</i>
Mr J Mutorwa	<i>(Agriculture, Water & Forestry)</i>
Mr J Kaapanda	<i>(Information & Communication Technology)</i>
Mr U Herunga	<i>(Environment and Tourism)</i>
Dr N Iyambo (Mr)	<i>(Veterans Affairs)</i>
Mr A !Naruseb	<i>(Lands & 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 & 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 & 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 Nguaava	<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
31 MARCH 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance.

TABLING: REPORTS OF AUDITOR-GENERAL

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table, Reports of the Auditor-General on the accounts of the:-

- (i) Municipality of Grootfontein for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013;
- (ii) Municipality of Mariental for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013; and
- (iii) Village Council of Kamanjab for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013. I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Reports. Further Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Agriculture.

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON MUTORWA**

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I lay upon the Table, for information and reference of the Honourable Members, the:-

- (i) Water Supply and Sanitation Policy Document: October 2008 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry; and
- (ii) Namibian National Sanitation Strategy 2010/2011 – 2014/2015 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please Table the Reports. Notice of Motions? Honourable Amweelo.

MOTION ON BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

HON DR AMWEELO: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 09, 12, 14, 20, 23 and 29 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90, not interrupted, if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please Table the Report.

The Secretary will read the First Order.

31 March 2014

**COMMITTEE STAGE: APPROPRIATION BILL
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Committee Stage - *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister of Finance Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee?

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any objection? Who seconds? Agreed to. The Deputy Speaker or the Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee will take the Chair.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON ASSSISTANT 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 the progress was reported on Friday, the 28th of March 2014, Votes 01 to 08, 10, 11, 13, 15 to 19, 24, 28 and 30 had been agreed to and Votes

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HON NGHIDINWA

09, 23 and 14 have been introduced.

Vote 12 – **“GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE,”**
N\$721,101,000.00 put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of
Gender Equality. Honourable Minister, you have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD
WELFARE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole
House Committee.

Honourable Members of this august House, it is my honour and privilege
to motivate Vote 12 of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child
Welfare.

Let me join this august House in congratulating Honourable Saara
Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, the Minister of Finance and Mr Tom Alweendo,
the Director-General of the National Planning Commission and their
respective teams for crafting an accommodating Budget towards
inclusiveness of all, including women, men and children. The Ministry of
Gender Equality and Child Welfare appreciate the improved budget
allocation for this Financial Year and promise to reach out more citizens
in terms of service delivery.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee,
Honourable Members, the Ministry has a mandate to mainstream gender
equality and report on international, regional and sub-regional
commitment on gender and development.

Recently, the MGECW participated in the 58th Commission on the Status
of Women (CSW) which serves as the principal global intergovernmental
body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the
empowerment of women under the theme: ***“Challenges and
Achievements in the Implementation of the Millennium Development***

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HON NGHIDINWA

Goals for Women and Girls". At this platform Member States including Namibia were requested to accelerate the implementation and achievement of unfinished business of MDGs. Furthermore, Member States have supported the call for a STAND-ALONE GOAL on achieving gender equality, Women's Rights and Women's Empowerment in the post 2015 development agenda with clear transformative targets and indicators for the future sustainable development goals.

Before I proceed to table the Ministry's Budget, I would like to thank His Excellency Dr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia for leading his Nation into prayers, for the Nation to pause and think deeply as to why violence against women and children is escalating and how we will ensure that our Nation is back to its peaceful state. This is a Constitutional and Human Rights call, which require collective efforts by all of us; Government, Communities, NGOs, and all stakeholders to devise mechanisms to address these uncalled for social behaviours, in order to protect the lives of the Namibian people as it is stipulated in Article 6, Article (8)(2)b and Article 10(2) of our Constitution.

I am equally glad to have heard that amongst the Bills that will be tabled to Parliament this year; is our long overdue *Child Care and Protection Bill*. This Bill replaces the outdated *Children's Act* (Act 33 of 1960), and provides an enabling environment for the care and protection of children in Namibia; which will be in line with the international standards which Namibia ratified, thus ensuring a better future for Namibian children.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House committee, Honourable Members, during the tabling of the Budget in this august House by the Minister of Finance; in February 2014 under the theme ***"Inclusive Growth and Fiscal Sustainability,"*** the Minister highlighted the following priorities for this Budget amongst others as follows: continued expansion of the economic growth in order to create more jobs, develop more skills in the economy as well as to continue provide social safety nets to our people. This is indeed what is required for a growing economy like ours which at the same time is also taking care of our people, women, men, children, young, old, able-bodied and disabled. This is an indication that

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the SWAPO-led Government has the interest of the Namibian people close to its heart as huge allocation was given to education, health and other critical sectors of our economy. However, while appreciating the Budget allocated to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, my aspiration is that the allocation to this social Ministry be increased in the years to come, taking into account the central and important role of the Ministry; which is ensuring that women and children and other vulnerable members are taken care of.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, let me now take this opportunity to present to this august House the Budget Allocation of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare for the 2014/2015 Financial Year and to outline individual Programmes for which the funds will be utilised.

An amount of **Seven Hundred and Twenty One Million, One Hundred and One Thousand (N\$721,101,000.00)** is allocated for 2014/2015 Financial Year.

Out of this amount, **Six Hundred and Eighty Eight Million, Fifty One Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$688,051,000.00)** is allocated to the Operational Budget of the Ministry, while **Thirty Three Million, Fifty Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$33,050,000.00)** is allocated to the Developmental Programmes of this Ministry.

This Year the Ministry, amongst its priorities, will work towards consolidating all the efforts to fight Gender-Based Violence through consistent and standardised messages of communications that avoids duplications of efforts and resources, but at the same time speaking and engaging our communities with one voice. Another area of priority is to ensure that Programmes and projects are developed to meaningfully empower women, economically, especially through increasing access to strategic resources and investment opportunities in key Economic Sectors such as Mining, Fisheries, Tourism and Land amongst others.

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Although the total allocated funds to our Ministry is not adequate to sustain gender equality programmes and to win the war against Gender-Based Violence, we are indebted to the support of this august House and other stakeholders including Churches, Traditional Authorities, Youth and Women Organisations and the entire population not to tolerate any form of violence, no matter how small it looks. Let us all say ***NO TO VIOLENCE***, because violence and killing do not solve problems. We must work together and engage all our people to find a solution to gender-based violence.

During the Financial Year 2014/2015, the Ministry will use its Budget for the following Programmes:

PROGRAMME 1: POLICY SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES:

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administration support services, ensure efficient and effective service delivery, mainstream HIV and AIDS programmes for staff members within the Ministry, strengthen coordination and networking at all levels, promote ICT usage and access, improve staff competence, facilitate the development and acquisition of specialized-skilled staff, budget planning, control and construction, renovation and maintenance of offices of the Ministry.

The following are the achievements of this Programme during the Financial Year 2013/2014:

- Completion of construction of Outapi Craft Centre in Omusati Region;
- Completion of the renovation of Ministerial Head Office (Juvenis Building) in Khomas Region;
- Alterations and improvements to the Homes of Safety and Shelter in Khorixas and Opuwo in Kunene Region;
- Renovations and improvements to the facilities of Namibia Children

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Home and After School Centre in Khomas Region;

- Completion of feasibility study for the construction of Omaruru Community Centre in Erongo Region; and
- Alterations and improvement to the office in Otjinene in Omaheke Region.

With the improved budget this Financial Year 2014/2015, the Ministry will introduce skills development programmes in all previously known women centres/craft centres, currently known as community empowerment centres in all 13 Regions, in order to promote economic empowerment. This improved budget will also be utilised to equip the centres with the necessary tools and equipment sufficient for practical training. The following are earmarked for construction during the coming Financial Year: New constituency offices at Epembe in Ohangwena, Okatjali in Oshana, Omuthiya in Oshikoto, Sesfontein in Kuene and Stampriet in Hardap Regions respectively; Construction of Keetmanshoop Recreation Centre; improvements to Homes of Safety and Shelters in Nkurenkuru in Kavango West and Rundu in Kavango East Regions respectively; acquisition of Homes of Safety and Shelter in Omaheke Region; and renovations and maintenance of facilities at Namibia Children's Home and After School Centre in Khomas Region.

A total amount of **Ninety Five Million, Three Hundred and Seventy Nine Thousand Namibian Dollars (NS95,379,000.00)** is allocated for this Programme inclusive of Capital Projects.

PROGRAMME 2: CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN:

This Programme will embark upon policy development and planning, implementation of different standards and guidelines, provision of professional services, monitoring and evaluation of the Child Welfare Programmes, staff capacity building, social welfare grants to orphans and vulnerable children and providing to subsidies for Residential Child Care Facilities and the Namibian Children's Home and After School Centre.

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Therefore, I am proud to announce that **One Hundred and Fifty One Thousand, Four Hundred and Twenty Nine (151,429)** children received grants during 2013/2014 Financial Year which represent 91% of 155,000 recorded orphans in the country. This year 15,000 orphans and vulnerable children will be added on the grant system and the grant amount has been increased from N\$200.00 to N\$ 250.00 per month which is very much commendable. In line with our international, regional and national commitments and obligations, the Ministry adhered to the principles of taking care and protecting children under the age of 18 years. This is to ensure that vulnerability due to conditions such as HIV/AIDS, and poverty are mitigated and that our children develop into productive citizens as they grow up and that they will realise their full potential as citizens of this beautiful country.

An amount of **Five Hundred Thirty Nine Million, Three Hundred and Five Thousand Namibian Dollars (NS539,305,000.00)** is requested under this Programme for the 2014/2015 Financial Year.

PROGRAMME 3: SUPPORT COMMUNITY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT:

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the purpose of this Programme is to facilitate the socio-economic empowerment of poor rural and urban communities through the provision of Income Generating Activities (IGA) start-up grants and micro-entrepreneur support system. The Programme mobilizes communities towards self-reliance, encourage them to initiate IGAs as well as other activities that contribute to community upliftment and improved livelihoods. In order to ensure sustainability, communities are equipped with basic business management and production skills through training programmes run and managed at the Community Empowerment Centres

(CECs). The Community Development Programme is crucial as it contributes to the alleviation of poverty and reduction of inequality through economic empowerment activities of poor people especially

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women. Through this Programme, the Ministry encourages community members to set up economically viable and sustainable projects that will improve their livelihood and therefore reducing a financial dependency syndrome of women on their male counterparts. At this juncture, I would like to applaud Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Minister of Finance for increasing our Budget Allocation for Income Generating Activities from an amount of **N\$1,000,000,000.00** during the preceding Financial Year 2013/2014 to an amount of **NS7,000,000.00**. This improved allocation will assist the Ministry to scale up the mobilization of communities to come up with viable income generating activities. The mobilization during 2013/2014 resulted in the Ministry providing start-up grants in the form of equipment and materials to 78 IGA projects throughout the country. These start-up grants benefitted 241 women and men and created 322 jobs in all the 13 Regions of the country.

This Programme includes the Sub-programme on Early Childhood Development (ECD). ECD Programme mobilizes and supports parents and community involvement in early-childhood care, education and development issues for children from 0-4 years of age. Early-Childhood Development lays the foundation for learning and prepares children to become useful citizens and to lead productive future lives.

During the past Financial Year, the Ministry supported the enrolment of 35,205 children in ECD Centres, training of 453 ECD caregivers, provided monthly allowance to 350 caregivers and provided teaching and learning materials to many ECD Centres. In addition, ECD Programme also contributes to employment creation and poverty alleviation as many of these caregivers (kindergarten teachers) in rural and poor urban areas are now subsidised in the form of monthly allowances from the Government. Furthermore, the Ministry has realised that the community empowerment and Early-Childhood Programmes have the potential towards the national development agenda. For the coming Financial Year, the Ministry intends to strengthen community and empowerment, especially on women economic empowerment support programmes at existing eleven (11) Community Empowerment Centres (CECs) in ten Regions (Ohangwena, Oshikoto, Oshana, Omaheke, Kavango East,

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Omusati, Otjozondjupa, Hardap, Kunene and Zambezi) by introducing skills development activities with the potential to help empower poor people to advance on the socio-economic ladder, while efforts are being made to expand to the remaining Regions.

An amount of **Sixty Nine Million, Five Hundred and Fifty Nine Thousand Namibia Dollars (NS69,559,000.00)** is allocated for this Programme.

PROGRAMME 4: PROMOTION OF GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

This Programme aims at promoting gender equality in all policies, operations and processes to ensure equality and equal opportunities for all, thus empowering women in terms of economical, social and political by creating a conducive environment and strengthening national (institutional) capacity to engage in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation process that show gender results. The main purpose of this programme is to improve the status of women and girls, men and boys by ensuring equal access to all available resources for sustainable development. This includes the promotion of positive cultural practices and beliefs, gender research, development of gender responsible policies and laws and to ensure that the existing ones are reviewed or amended and gender mainstreamed at all levels.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the Ministry is working together with the Ministry of Finance to ensure that the aspect of gender-responsive budgeting is taken into account when planning (including budgeting), implementing, monitoring and evaluating programme. All these are aiming at ensuring that men and women are considered equally in the development of our country as well as in benefitting from the development process.

The Ministry fully supports the President's directives to combat Gender-Based Violence against women and children. The Ministry is, therefore, in the process to adopt 365 days of activism against gender-based violence

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instead of the current 16 days of activism and therefore requests all stakeholders to join the Ministry in the implementation of the 365 days by mainstreaming GBV into their activities to ensure that each day in Namibia is a violence free day. An amount of **Sixteen Million, Eight Hundred and Fifty Eight Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$16,858,000.00)** is allocated to this Programme.

In conclusion, let me take this opportunity to acknowledge the valuable work and support of our development partners as they continue to commit resources into the course of gender equality and child welfare through various Programmes such as capacity building and technical support in legislation, policy development and monitoring and evaluation. Amongst the partners that support us are: UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN WOMEN and USAID through the President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Global Fund and others. Their support is very much appreciated.

It is now my humble honour to request this august House to approve the Budget allocated to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare under Vote 12 amounting to **Seven Hundred and Twenty One Million, One Hundred and One Thousand (N\$721,101,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015. We will definitely continue to do more with less.

Let us all work together to **Stop Gender-Based Violence and make Namibia a better place for all!** I thank you.

HON ASSSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Vote 20 – **“AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY,”** **N\$2,618,452,000.00** put for Introduction by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Honourable Minister, you have the Floor.

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HON MUTORWA

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

INTRODUCTION

I thank the appointing authority, His Excellency President Hifikepunye Pohamba, for once again affording me the seventh opportunity, to present and motivate the financial allocations for 2014/2015 to the Agriculture, Water and Forestry Ministry. Sincere gratitude are also due to my Colleagues, Comrades and Friends, Honourable Minister of Finance, Honourable Director-General of the National Planning Commission and all their Staff responsible for budget preparation, presentation and management; also for professional and dedicated work that you are doing for Namibia and all her people.

I am motivating VOTE 20 under the theme: ***“Prosperity and Growth Through Hard Work”***

The Government of the Republic of Namibia during the formulation of our Fourth National Development Plan (NDP4), has identified Agriculture among other Sectors, as one of the Economic Sectors which will enjoy priority, in terms of resource allocation to ensure that the impact and results of our efforts are optimal and consequently achieve the Vision 2030 national objectives that we have set for ourselves. In line with Vision 2030, the Ministry’s vision is to be recognised as a leading contributor to food security, agro-product competitiveness, increased and equitable access to our natural resources for improved livelihoods, well-being and wealth for all. On the other hand, the Ministry is mandated to promote, develop, manage and utilise agricultural, water and forest resources sustainably.

Under the Fourth National Development Plan, three desired outcomes have been set for Agriculture and Forestry, as well as Water and Sanitation Sectors to be achieved by 2017. These are: Desired Outcome 9 - Agriculture experiencing average real growth of 4% per annum; Desired

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Outcome 4 - The proportion of severely poor individuals is expected to drop from 15.8% to below 10%; Desired Outcome 5.3 - Access to water for human consumption is expected to increase from 85.5% to 100% of the population and ensure that there is sufficient water reserves for industrialization.

It is entrusted upon our Ministry to ensure that these Desired Outcomes are realised by 2017. The Ministry believes that in order to contribute significantly to the attainment of our developmental goals and achieve the desired outcomes, we need to focus our efforts and resources on the following key strategic initiatives which are clearly summarised in the Ministry's 2012/2013 to 2016/2017 Strategic Plan. These strategic initiatives include the Expansion of the Green Scheme Programme; Improving Namibia's Capacity to Grow Food; Enhancing Food Security; Increased Livestock Production; Providing Subsidies to Subsistence Farmers; Promoting Conservation Agriculture; Improving Access to Markets for all Livestock and Livestock Products North of the Veterinary Cordon Fence (VCF); Reassessing the VCF and Marketing Regulations; Negotiating Trade Agreements with other Countries for Livestock Products north of the VCF; Conducting Research on Drought-resistant Crops and Hardy Livestock; Promote the Utilization of Drought-resistant Crops and Hardy Livestock; Ensuring Water Security for Human Consumption as well as Ensuring Water Security for Industrial Development.

The Agriculture and Forestry and Water and Sanitation Sectors have been affected negatively by the effects of climate change and global warming as this is felt through continuous drought. This has serious direct implication on our agricultural production. During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry implemented some Drought Relief Measures; namely, the livestock marketing incentive scheme, leasing of grazing and transportation to grazing areas as well as drilling of boreholes to help reduce the impact of the severe drought.

THE 2013/2014 FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET ALLOCATION

In the Financial Year 2013/2014 I motivated a total Budget of

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N\$2,359,499,000.00, of this a total of **N\$1,027,884,000.00** or 43.5% was earmarked for the activities of recurrent nature (Operational Budget) and **N\$1,331,615,000.00** or 56.5 % was allocated to the Development Budget.

Overall, **N\$127,192,000.00** (48%) was earmarked for the development of the Water Sector to supply water to rural communities and towns whereas a total amount of **N\$740,879,000.00** (31.4 %) was for the development of the Agricultural Sector. **N\$122,286,000.00** (5%) was allocated for the management and utilization of forestry resources, and **N\$369,142,000.00** (15.6%) was allocated to the supervision and support services.

MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2013/2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

The site for the construction of the Fresh Produce Business Hub in Windhoek has been secured. The designing of the Earth Works was completed and the Tender Documents prepared. The tender was advertised and will be evaluated where after construction will begin. The layout of the hub was also done as well as the detailed design of the structures. The advertisement of the construction tenders will commence once the Earth Works reach the final stage because the duration of the Earth Works is estimated to last at least 8 months. Meanwhile the designs for the second phase of the Rundu and Ongwediva Fresh Produce Business Hubs were also done and the tenders for the Earth Works thereof advertised.

The final stages of development at Sikondo Irrigation Project west of Rundu have been completed. Construction on the second phase of Ndonga-Linena has started and is expected to be completed in October 2014. This will add another 384 hectors of land under irrigation at the project.

The construction of a new pump station at Shadikongoro Irrigation Project was completed and commissioned.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, with regard to livestock

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marketing, Namibia's animal and animal products continue to have access to local, regional and international markets. Regionally, Namibia exports to South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe. Our overseas markets include the European Union, Norway, Switzerland and Russia. The Ministry is currently negotiating sanitary conditions for meat exports to China, the United States of America and Hong Kong.

The Livestock Sector is constantly under challenge from epidemic animal diseases, some of which have a serious impact on trade in animal and animal products. The country managed to retain its favourable animal disease status. However, major disease outbreaks in 2013, including Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax, African Swine Fever Lung sickness and Rabies, Foot and Mouth Disease which occurred in August 2013 in the eastern parts of the Zambezi Region, were successfully contained and livestock movement and marketing restrictions were lifted on 17 February 2014. Sporadic outbreaks of Anthrax were reported in Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena and Zambezi Regions. The occurrence of Rabies, in domestic and wild animal populations is a major source of concern. In 2013, 324 Rabies outbreaks were reported, involving 397 animal deaths. Confirmed cases of Lung sickness were reported in Kavango West and Kavango East Regions at six FOCI where 21 cattle died of the disease.

It is worth mentioning that, in preventing animal disease control, measures involve mass and strategic vaccinations of animals against diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease. Lung sickness and Rabies, animal movement control animal import control, cross border exchange of information and collaboration with neighbouring countries were undertaken. Farmers contribute enormously by reporting disease outbreaks, vaccinating their livestock against various diseases of economic importance such as Anthrax and Brucellosis. In 2013, in Zambezi and Kavango East Regions the Ministry vaccinated 331,965 cattle against Foot and Mouth Disease from a target population 123,000 cattle in Zambezi Region and 30,000 cattle in Mukwe and Ndiyona Constituencies of Kavango East Region. Cattle in the eastern parts of Zambezi Region are vaccinated three times a year, whereas those in western parts of Zambezi and in Mukwe and

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Ndiyona Constituencies of East Kavango Region are vaccinated twice per year. 1,154,282 were vaccinated against Lung sickness in the Northern Communal Areas (NCA). A population of 1,446,712 was targeted for vaccination against lung sickness. 25,076 cattle were vaccinated against Anthrax in the Zambezi Region and Tsumkwe area of Otjozondjupa Region.

Livestock identification and registration activities form the backbone of animal disease surveillance. In the last three years the Namibia Livestock Identification and Traceability System (NamLITS) was extended to cover the Northern Communal Areas where over 1.6 million cattle were ear-tagged and registered in a computerized database. In the 2013/2014 Financial Year, 205,123 cattle were tagged, whilst in the 2011 and 2012 a number of 826,611 and 580,067 cattle were tagged respectively. The NamLITS system was unified for the whole country on the 4th of October 2013 in order to have one system for the north and south of the Veterinary Cordon Fence. This system enables Government to keep accurate records of animal disease surveillance, animal movements and vaccinations. It also allows for monitoring of breeding programmes as well as animal population dynamics and future projections.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the prevention of introduction of plant, animal diseases and pests is managed through stringent import control mechanisms. To strengthen this important function, in 2013, the Ministry developed border infrastructure at our main ports of entry by completing the construction of sanitary and phyto-sanitary import/export control points at Buitepos, Noordoewer, Ariamsvlei and Oshikango.

Internal movement control of animals and animal products as well as other risky material is a vital function of the Ministry. In connection with this important function, construction of the internal check-point at Mururani, Namapan, Kamdescha and Palmfontein were completed. To bring service delivery closer to farmers and to enhance disease surveillance capacity at farm or village level, the Ministry in collaboration with the Millennium Challenge Account - Namibia, constructed veterinary clinics at Eenhana in

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Ohangwena Region, Outapi in Omusati Region, Omuthiya in Oshikoto Region, Epukiro in Omaheke Region and Okakarara in Otjozondjupa Region. The Central Veterinary Laboratory was extensively renovated to bring it in line with international standards and in the meantime a number of laboratory tests are now internationally accredited.

Routine active and passive animal disease surveillance activities were conducted during the Financial Year 2013/2014. This includes farm inspections, community visits, ante- and post-mortem inspections at export abattoirs, supervision of livestock auctions, export certification and inspection of imported animals and animal products. These inspections yielded satisfactory results giving guarantees and assurances to our trading partners of the safety of Namibia's animals and animal products.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the Ministry continued with the implementation of the Rain Fed Crop Production Programme aimed at enhancing household food security and increased the country's capacity to grow food under rain fed conditions. During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry procured 75 tractors; 44 walking tractors; 76 planters; 71 disc harrows; 33 mould board ploughs; 45 rippers; 35 trailers and five threshers in order to expand the Programme and thereby benefiting more farmers.

The designs and tender documents for the expansion of the irrigation land as well as building of additional labourer housing at Orange River Irrigation Project were done and advertised. Construction will start as soon as the tenders are awarded.

The Ministry de-bushed 110 ha at Musese in order to place 10 Medium Scale Farmers. The designs and tender documents for the construction of irrigation system, pump station, pipelines and farmer houses were advertised and awarded. Construction will be completed towards the end of 2014.

The construction of the dairy farm at Uhvungu-Vhungu is proceeding well and completion is expected to be early 2015. This will enable the project

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to milk 500 cows per day which will supply a fair portion of the milk needed in the Kavango and North Central Areas.

The construction of the pump station, upgrading of siphons, logistic centre, staff houses and farmer houses at Etunda Phases 7 and 8 is also proceeding well and will be completed towards the end of July 2014. Additional Silo with the capacity to store 2,000 tonne of maize were completed and the tender for the construction of a new milling shed was awarded as well as a tender for the supply of milling equipment.

At Kalimbeza Rice Project, the construction of 14 houses, 12 offices and a warehouse is near completion and the project is expected to be in full operation during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Ministry has also advertised the consultancy services for a feasibility study for Luselo and Katima Farm and the consultant appointed. This consultant will also be responsible for the re-planning and upgrading of Katima Farm.

Construction of the National Strategic Food Reserve Facilities (Silos) at Omuthiya is nearing completion and expected to be ready at the end of May 2014 to receive maize from the current cropping season. The expansion of the Silos at Okongo will commence after Omuthiya Silos are completed.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, with regard to rural water supply, the construction of the water supply coverage for Sout Puts Water Supply Scheme and the construction of seven (7) water points for the displaced communities in Kavango West and East Regions were completed. The construction of the Katima Mulilo-Ngoma Water Supply Scheme Phase 2 and Onambutu Water Supply Scheme Phase 6 progressed well and is expected to be finalised in Financial Year 2014/2015. The feasibility studies has commenced for; litapa - Okeeholongongo Water Supply Scheme, Oshivelo - Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme, King Kauluma - Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme, Ondangwa –

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Omuntele Water Supply Scheme and the Kavango water transfer to Grootfontein.

The construction site for the Neckartal Dam in the //Karas Region was handed over to the contractor and the construction of the camp site for the contractor commenced.

The Ministry continues to implement the Community-Based Management Project for supplying water to rural communities. To date, 87% of the rural communities have access to potable water countrywide. A total of 50 water points were rehabilitated, 57 boreholes were installed, 111 boreholes were drilled, 5 pipeline extensions were constructed and 400 water meters were installed.

The sanitation coordination role is another responsibility entrusted to the Ministry. In this regard, a total of 250 households were provided with sanitation facilities in the 13 Regions except Khomas Region. This activity created 140 temporary employment opportunities during the construction phase. Community awareness raising on sanitation health and hygiene education was conducted in 13 Regions. 160 Rural Water Extension Officers were trained on the implementation of Sanitation in rural areas. Technical training for dry sanitations was also conducted for Artisan and Workhands.

Regional Water and Sanitation Fora have been established in Hardap, //Karas, Otjozondjupa, Kunene, Omusati, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Oshana and Omaheke Regions.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, with regard to forestry; forest protection and conservation is critical for the fragile eco-system of Namibia. In this regard, the Ministry has acquired fire fighting equipment and tools and has set aside N\$3,000,000 for purchasing of vehicles fitted with fire fighting equipment. The Ministry has engaged local people and communities to clear fire breaks (fire cut lines) in fire prone areas and a total of 2,205.8 km of fire breaks were cleared, creating 1,097 temporary jobs for 171 female and 926 men. Terms of Reference were developed to

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establish community based fire management units to participate in awareness creation on fire management, fire fighting and clearing of fire cut lines. Only six units were established and functional in Ohangwena, Oshana, Omusati and Oshikoto Region.

The Ministry also produced 139,134 seedlings, of which 58,389 were given to communities at subsidised prices in order to encourage tree planting, while 27,520 seedlings were planted on 68.8 ha of new orchards that were created countrywide. From the existing 150 ha of orchards, a total of 4,880 kg of mangoes were harvested and marketed, locally.

The Ministry continues to implement de-bushing to reduce the extent of bush encroachment on state-owned land in order to increase the land's carrying capacity and improve livestock production. Thirty SMEs were contracted by the Ministry to de-bush Government farms. The total area of 2,268.4 hectares was cleared, creating jobs for 57 women and 746 men.

In efforts to assist farmers during drought, the Ministry embarked upon a new task of harvesting and bale grass in three quarantine camps of the Ministry. The Ministry managed to harvest and bale 4,740 bales, creating temporary jobs for 103 peoples. The new initiative benefited 1,299 farmers who bought grass bales.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the Ministry continued to administer the *Co-operatives Act*, 1996 (Act 23 of 1996) and implement the National Co-operative Policy that creates the legal and enabling environment for co-operative development in Namibia. During the Financial Year 2013/2014, the Ministry provisionally registered 28 new co-operatives. In addition to provisionally registered co-operatives, the Ministry is considering the business plan of Mbangura Woodcavers Co-operative Ltd. for full registration. The Ministry finalised the division of Namibia Farmers Co-operative (NFC) Ltd. into two entities namely; Puika Mo Farmers' Co-operative Ltd. and Waterberg Farmers' Co-operative Ltd. To date, there is a total of 119 registered co-operatives in Namibia. Of these, seven (7) are fully registered and 112 are provisionally

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registered. The Ministry launched the Agriculture Marketing and Trade Policy and Strategy in November 2013.

DROUGHT RELIEF MEASURES

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, I am glad to inform this House that during the Financial Year 2013/2014, His Excellency the Head of State, President Hifikepunye Pohamba, declared drought as a National Disaster. The country received extremely below average rainfalls and the drought was severe in most parts of the country. The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry was tasked with the implementation of Drought Relief Measures.

With regard to the Livestock Marketing Incentive Scheme, the total number of small stock unit off-take is 364,000 and the amount spent as farmers' subsidy is N\$25,526,480.00. Meanwhile the large stock unit off-take is 104,865 and the amount of N\$30,088,660.00 was spent as farmers' subsidy. However, a total amount of N\$895,475.00 was paid out as farmers' subsidy for the leasing of grazing in commercial areas. In addition, N\$328,140.00 was paid out to farmers for transporting their livestock to areas where grazing was available. The total amount spent for Drought Livestock Marketing incentives for both large and small stock is N\$55,615,140.00. The processing of farmers' claims for the subsidy is continuing.

In an effort to make water available for human consumption and livestock drinking, the Ministry drilled 307 boreholes of which only 237 were successful and a further 24 were installed. Furthermore, the Ministry completed the extension of 10 pipelines in order to make water available to the communities. In addition, the Ministry rehabilitated 58 boreholes and 23 water points. In an effort to make water available where boreholes and water points were not feasible, the Ministry procured six (6) water tanker trucks and distributed among the following Regions; Hardap, Karas, Kunene, Omaheke, Oshana and Zambezi.

**NEW PROGRAMMMES AND ALLOCATION FOR 2014/2015
FINANCIAL YEAR**

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, in line with the Ministerial Medium Term Plan, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry is implementing four Programmes, namely:

- 1. AGRICULTURE**
- 2. WATER**
- 3. FORESTRY**
- 4. SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

Guided by these four Programmes, I would like to motivate the Budget Allocations for the Financial Year 2014/2015. In doing so, the Honourable Members are referred to the technical paper containing detailed information on the previous year's achievements and planned activities for the coming years.

I am motivating a total Budget of **N\$2,618,452,000.00** for the Financial Year 2014/2015 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. This represents a 10% increase on last year's allocation. Of this total, **N\$1,131,652,000.00** or 43.2% is for the Operational Budget, while the remaining **N\$1,486,800,000.00** or 56.8% is allocated to the Development Budget. Overall **N\$1,068,185,000.00** or 40.8% is devoted to the development of the Water Sector and to supply water to rural communities and towns; **N\$990,787,000.00** or 37.8% is for the development of the Agriculture Sector, while **N\$159,799,000.00** or 6.1% is for the development of the Forestry Sector and **N\$399,681,000.00** or 15.3% has been allocated to the supervision and support services.

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, I shall now elaborate programme by programme:

1 AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME

Agriculture is critical for both economic development and in meeting the

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country's regional and global commitments which include among others the Millennium Development Goal on poverty and hunger. The purpose of this Programme is to promote animal health; to increase agriculture productivity; to enhance agricultural production at national and household level in a sustainable manner and reducing poverty; to encourage diversification; to support rural income generation projects and to promote private sector investment in agro-processing industries. In order for the Agriculture Sector to achieve its objectives, an amount of **N\$990,787,000.00** is required for this Programme to carry out the following activities:

The expansion of the Okongo silo from a capacity of 500 metric tonne to 3,000 metric tonne will commence during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Ministry will continue with the construction of a cold storage facility and the construction of the office, houses and pump station as well as the construction of silos with a capacity of 2,000 tonne at Mashare. The Ministry will conduct an in-depth study with regard to the development of new irrigation projects at Liselo of approximately 2,000 hectares and Katima Farm approximately 250 hectares in Zambezi Region as well as for Zone Agricultural Project in the Kavango West Region. The construction work at Etunda, ORIP, Ndonga-Linena and Musese Irrigation Projects and Kalimbeza Rice Project will be completed during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Ministry will start with the Earth Works of the Fresh Produce Hub in Windhoek and continue with the construction of the second phases of the Fresh Produce Business Hubs in Rundu and Ongwediva in order to stimulate domestic horticultural production.

The Ministry will complete the construction of the Rundu Technology Centre and the work to construct the Ongwediva Technology Centre shall start within the course of Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Ministry has embarked upon a programme to upgrade several abattoirs in the northern Regions of Namibia with the aim to develop and

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improve the marketing and processing facilities in the Northern Communal Areas in line with the NDP4 goals. Currently, the abattoirs in Eenhana and Outapi have been upgraded and are at the final stages of completion. Training Programmes were developed based on increased value addition and manufacturing opportunities in the NCA. Meanwhile, the tender for refurbishment and demolishing of Rundu Abattoir were advertised. After the evaluation process, work on the Rundu Abattoir is expected start in the first quarter of Financial Year 2014/2015. In the second quarter of Financial Year 2014/2015, construction of the Rundu cold storage and processing plant will also start. A request to the Zambezi Regional Council for serviced land near Bukalo to construct a meat processing/cooking facility in Zambezi Region has been submitted and awaits approval by the regional council. The construction of a cold storage and meat processing facility at Ongwediva Fresh Produce Hub will start in the first quarter of Financial Year 2014/2015.

The construction of various veterinary infrastructures will continue in the new Financial Year. The construction of internal checkpoints at Okaukuejo, Werda, Rooidag is underway. Tender for the construction of the Okahao State Veterinarian Office and Veterinary clinics at Tses, Okalongo, Ruacana, Omundaungilo, Omauni, and Ondangwa (state veterinarian office and laboratory) were awarded and construction is planned to start during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

In an effort to enhance the quality of livestock in the country, the Ministry will continue to implement the Livestock Scheme referred to as the Provision of Livestock Breeding Material directly to Communal Farmers or Bull Scheme as it is commonly known among farmers. This Scheme is aimed at assisting communal livestock farmers to acquire good quality breeding bulls at subsidised prices. The Ministry shall continue to introduce high quality breeding animals to communal as well as commercial farmers through specialised schemes and open auctions to enable them to improve their herds.

2 WATER PROGRAMME

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the purpose of this Programme is to ensure water security, by providing the necessary information for the coordinated planning, development and management of water resources, developing and upholding the water management systems, initiating, planning and implementing the development of rural and bulk water supply infrastructure, supplying water to rural communities, to coordinate the management and implementation of the Sanitation Policy and Programmes. For this purpose, an amount of **N\$1,127,192,000.00** is required:

In our quest to ensure water security for the country, a number of new water supply pipeline projects have been initiated and are being developed. Feasibility studies for the following projects will commence in the Financial Year 2014/15; the Omukandu Oshituntu Water Supply Scheme, Okankolo - Onkumbula Water Supply Scheme, the Khorixas borehole Water Supply Scheme, Eenhana - Oshikunde Water Supply Scheme, Otjombinde Water Supply Scheme, Daures Water Supply Scheme and a viability study of the Etaka canal. The feasibility study will be followed by planning and design reports, after which the construction of these water supply infrastructures will commence.

The construction of litapa-Okeeholongo Water Supply Project, Ruacana South Water Supply Project in Omusati Region, Oshivelo-King Kauluma to Omutsegwonime Water Supply Project and the Ondangwa-Omuntele Water Supply and pipeline extension in the Oshikoto Region will commence in the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The currently on-going construction of Katima Mulilo -Ngoma Water Supply Scheme (Phase 2) and Katima Mulilo - Kongola Water Supply Scheme (Phase 2) in the Zambezi Region will continue in the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The construction of the Neckartal Dam in the //Karas Region will continue. This project is of national importance and is critical for the

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upliftment of the livelihood of people in //Karas Region in particular, and Namibia in general.

Regional Water and Sanitation (WATSAN) Forums are to be established in the remaining four Regions (Erongo, Kavango West, Kavango East and Zambezi Regions). The objective of establishing the regional WATSAN Forum is to coordinate and facilitate stakeholder participation in planning, implementation and reporting for water and sanitation projects and activities in all Regions, countrywide.

Health awareness will be created through community education and participation in sanitation and hygiene practices. This will lead to an increase in coverage and use of improved sanitation facilities in both urban and rural areas of the country.

3 FORESTRY PROGRAMME

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the purpose of this Programme is to develop and manage the forestry resources to enhance socio-economic development and environmental sustainability in order to ensure that forestry activities are undertaken in different areas throughout the country, the Ministry requests an amount of **N\$399,681,000.00** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Ministry will continue with the implementation of the de-bushing project to reduce the extent of bush encroachment on state-owned land in order to increase the land's carrying capacity and improve livestock production. Preparations are underway to extend the de-bushing activities to privately-owned lands on subsidised costs. The Ministry will continue to promote the value addition of the bush cleared and create the much needed jobs for Namibians.

The Ministry will also continue to implement the forest protection and conservation project. Through this project, the Ministry will acquire fire fighting equipment and tools including fire beaters, high pressure pumps, fire bombs, drip torches, wind-driven knapsack sprayers and fire

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signboards to indicate fire-prone areas. Local people will be engaged to clear fire break (fire cut lines) in fire prone areas. The establishment of community based fire units will continue to the rest of the country.

In an effort to expand tree planting and orchards development throughout the country, the Ministry plans to produce 200,000 seedlings from Ministerial nurseries of which will be planted on a new 50 ha orchards plantation and distributed to communities.

Phase II of the Community Forestry in Namibia (CFN) project was awarded to GOPA to implement community based forest management in Zambezi, Kavango East, Kavango West and Eastern part of Otjozondjupa (Tsumkwe constituency), While Sustainable Management of Namibia's Forested Land(NAFOLA)-Project supported by Global Environmental Funds (GEF) started with a project preparatory phase to collect baseline information and economic value and marketing of forest products survey. The project document prepared and has been approved. The project will support sustainable management of Namibia's forested land through community based forest management in the Regions of Otjozondjupa, Omaheke, Kunene, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto and Ohangwena.

4 SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Honourable Chairperson, Honourable Members, the purpose of this Programme is to facilitate the policy formulation leading to the creation of legal framework for the Ministry; the implementation of policies; the promotion of agricultural and agro-industrial development; the mobilisation of technical and financial resources; the development and maintenance of an agricultural information system; the administration of the *Co-operative Act*; and the promotion of marketing of agricultural products. It also provides administrative support to the programmes and to ensure proper financial management, optimal deployment of resources the acquisition and development of physical infrastructures, Information Communication Technology services, transport and communication, consumables, employee safety and wellness, utilities, legal costs, assets

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management and protection, public relations, publications, capacity building and staff development. It also caters for emergency relief assistance in the Agricultural Sector. In order to implement these Activities, an amount of **N\$399,681,000** is required.

The Ministry will continue to provide support to cooperatives in the country. The Ministry will also continue with the provision of business development services for the development of co-operatives. These services are done in the form of annual monitoring visits to co-operatives, accounting and audit services, preparation and review of Business Plans and Proposals and training through the Co-operative College.

Other activities under the Programme includes agro-production feasibility studies, market research and development, as well as ensuring Namibia's compliance to the agricultural trade regulations and membership contributions to the agricultural related organisations and institutions to which Namibia is a member such as Food Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and International Cooperative Alliance (ICA).

CONCLUSION

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, may I finally point out that what I have presented are essential highlights and summaries of achievements for 2013/2014 and the plans for the Financial Year 2014/2015. I therefore draw the attention of the Honourable Members to the Technical Paper, which contains detailed information on the Ministry's Programmes, Projects and Activities. Furthermore, the information and valuable documents tabled by the Honourable Minister of Finance also provide sufficient factual information.

Allow me to inform this House that the country has received good rainfalls except the extreme northwest where rainfall is still poor. The country is expected to receive average to above average rainfall and the drought situation is expected to normalize.

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The Fourth National Development Plan process calls for a collective approach where both Private and Public Sectors are expected to work together and implement programmes and projects that are geared towards achieving the NDP4 desired outcomes. Therefore, I thank the local and international co-operating partners, farmers, the Private Sector, including Non-Governmental Organisations and Government agencies, for their continued support and confidence to invest in Agriculture and Forestry as well as Water and Sanitation Sectors in Namibia. We must continue to strengthen these relationships to achieve overall development goals of our sectors for the benefit of all the citizens and residents of Namibia. It is the commitment of the Ministry to ensure that the Sector contributes optimally to economic growth and that Namibia is able to feed itself and export the surplus.

Finally, I would like to thank the Ministerial staff for their dedicated hard work and commitment.

HON ASSSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Before I call upon the E-Minister to introduce his Vote, I would like to share some good news with all the Honourable Members.

The good news is that the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry has donated boxes of dates to all the Honourable Members. At the closure of the Session today, each Member may take one box from the boxes available in the lobby at the entrance. Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Vote 29 – **“INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY,” N\$566,864,000.00** for introduction by the E-Minister. Honourable Minister of Information and Communication Technology, you have the Floor.

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HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY:

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committees, Honourable Members of the National Assembly, it is my distinct honour and privilege to present to this august House, Vote 29 of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The Government of the Republic of Namibia has declared the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Sector as one of the critical pillars of our economy. The ICT Sector continues to make significant contributions to economic development and competitiveness through innovation, research and development. Hence, MICT endeavours to promote local software development to facilitate online service delivery.

For the Financial Year 2014/2015, MICT has been allocated an amount of **Five Hundred and Sixty-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty Four Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$566,864,000).**

In summary, allow me to briefly highlight how the allocation will be utilized for the implementation of the development goals of the ICT Sector as embodied in NDP4 and Vision 2030 through the following Programmes:

PROGRAMME 1: ICT DEVELOPMENT

An amount of **Eight Million, Nine Hundred and Fifty Six Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$8,956,000.00)** is allocated towards developing adequate state-of-the-art ICT infrastructure that is aimed at creating a conducive environment for the accelerated growth and usage of ICT services.

This includes effective monitoring of implementation of the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Migration Plan and Consumer Awareness Campaign in order for Namibia to meet the international deadline for DTT migration by 17 June 2015. The funds will also be utilised to finalize the

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legal framework for electronic transactions, *Cybercrime and Data Protection Bills* as well as to develop E-waste and Broadband Policies.

The Ministry will further facilitate the establishment of the Namibian Domain Name Association; conduct ICT stakeholders' workshops; establish and maintain an authoritative system of measuring and publishing ICT statistics; establish the Universal Access Service Fund and update the National ICT infrastructure map.

PROGRAMME 2: PRINT MEDIA AFFAIRS

Under this Programme, an amount of **Twenty-Four Million, Eight Hundred and Fifty-Three Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$24,853,000.00)** is allocated for the production and dissemination of information to the public. This includes the publishing of Namibia Review, Government Information Bulletin and MICT Update.

The coordination of media liaison activities such as the dissemination of Cabinet Decisions, issuing of press releases, translation of publications into other Namibian languages, as well as advertisement of national events will also be covered under this programme. The Ministry further plans to publish the Namibian Constitution in Braille in order to cater for the visually impaired citizens.

The Budget will also cater for the rollout of Activities of the Nationhood and National Pride (NNP) Campaign Programme.

These Activities will include the popularization of NNP campaign through media adverts, printing of memorabilia, formation of regional NNP structures and other outreach activities.

For New Era Publications Corporation, an amount of **Twelve Million Namibian Dollars (N\$12,000,000.00)** is allocated to implement its business plan towards becoming self-sustainable. The funds will also be utilised for the gathering and production of news in Namibian languages.

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Furthermore, an amount of **Twelve Million Namibian Dollars (N\$12,000,000.00)** is allocated to the Namibia-Zimbabwe joint venture company, NAMZIM. These funds will be utilised for the gathering and production of news articles and opinion pieces from an African Perspective, as well as promoting SADC as an attractive investment destination.

PROGRAMME 3: AUDIOVISUALS AND COPYRIGHT SERVICES

An amount of **Sixty-Two Million, Two Hundred and Ninety-Nine Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$62,299,000.00)** is allocated for Audio Visual Production, Copyright Services and Regional Offices. The Ministry plans to produce Thirty-Four (34) video documentaries on Government policies, programmes and activities, as well as to conduct film and video screenings across the country with the aim of educating the Namibian youth on social issues facing them.

A Film and Video Classification Committee will be constituted to benchmark and draft a film and video classification policy. In addition, film and video classification and rating system will be established in order to set standard for the local Film Industry.

With regard to Copyright Services, the Ministry will continue to advocate for copyright and intellectual property protection through information sharing and public participation platforms. The aim is to sensitize the public and inculcate a culture of zero-tolerance against piracy.

An amount of **Eight Million, Five Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$8,500,000)** is allocated to the **Namibia Film Commission (NFC)**. The NFC will commission two (2) feature films, four (4) documentaries, two (2) short films and one (1) animation film during the Financial Year 2014/2015. The Commission will also host the first ever Children's Film Festival under the Namibia Eco Kids Film project to promote environmental awareness.

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In terms of training, the Commission will provide mentorship programme through incubation project to SME film businesses, in order to develop the industry to contribute to job creation and poverty reduction. The NFC will continue to create good incentives to attract major foreign film production to Namibia.

An amount of **Three Hundred and Eleven Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Three Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$311,923,000.00)** is allocated to **Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC)**. The national broadcaster will continue with the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) rollout and it is anticipated that by June 2014, sixty-five percent (65%) of the Namibian population will be covered.

The funds will also be utilized to continue with the expansion of digital television channels, upgrading of the studios and the development of local content. As part of the ongoing DTT migration rollout, NBC television is now available through the digital set-top boxes on three channels, namely NBC1, NBC2 and NBC3.

For Namibia Press Agency (NAMPA), an amount of **Twenty Million Namibian Dollars (N\$20,000,000.00)** is allocated for the Operational Activities, covering the gathering and production of news stories for print media and radio stations. It will also cover the production of audiovisual news and documentaries for online and television viewers. Furthermore, NAMPA will continue with the provision of mobile news and public relations services to complement its current product output.

PROGRAMME 4: COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

Under this programme, an amount of **One Hundred and Six Million, Three Hundred and Thirty-Three Namibian Dollars (N\$106,333,000.00)** is allocated for the implementation of the Ministry's Operational Activities. These include policy supervision, human resource management, financial management, internal auditing, logistics as well as Information Technology support services.

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Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, the following are State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and State-Owned Companies (SOCs) that do not receive funding from Government. However, they have a national obligation towards the implementation of national projects:

TELECOM NAMIBIA

During the Financial Year 2014/2015, Telecom Namibia will implement a number of projects as part of its contribution to NDP4. These include the expansion of national fibre optic backbone network from 9625 km to 9925 km of fibre optic cables by 2015.

The national backbone capacity will also be upgraded by a high capacity Dense Wavelength Division Multiplex Optical Highway System, which was completed during the previous financial year. This system can accommodate multiple of 10 GB/s wavelengths from a single 10 GB/s system. The broadband access technologies will be expanded and the number of fixed broadband clients will increase from 40,594 to 41,600.

On the Government Network, Telecom Namibia is making an investment of about **Sixty-Seven Million Namibian Dollars (N\$67 million)** to establish the network infrastructure required to provide interconnect capacity for the GRN service hubs at the 14 regional capitals, as well as five locations in Windhoek.

The Government of the Republic of Namibia will be making an investment of about **Twenty-One Million Namibian Dollars (N\$21 million)** to deploy IT equipment at the 14 Regional Councils. Part of this investment is meant to establish fibre links to interconnect the Regional Councils to the existing Telecom Namibia national Internet Protocol/Multiple Protocol Label Switching network.

This investment will establish the underlying infrastructure, required to provide E-Government services. This network layer is optimised to transport data in a cost efficient, secure manner and at high speed between

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all Ministries and the public at large.

Pivotal to this network are the two central service centres, reachable from any ministerial office across the country. This network allows the general public to access all the future E-Government services.

Furthermore, the Broadband data links were established to connect various border posts across the country to a central control centre in Windhoek. The data links enable the border posts to have real-time capability to communicate important passport data to the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration's Control Centre and regulates entry and exit of Namibian territory.

Telecom Namibia and XNET are currently busy establishing the Educational and Health Networks to benefit the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Social Services with high speed connectivity. This will also provide internet connectivity and national IP transport services to UNAM, Polytechnic and all national libraries.

Communications Regulatory Authority of Namibia (CRAN)

During the Financial Year 2014/2015, CRAN will implement a number of activities that are of strategic importance in the ICT regulatory environment and licensing regime. These include the formulation of Universal Access and Service (UAS) regulations and the establishment of a UAS unit within CRAN; the undertaking of a GAP analysis in rural areas for providing UAS in the future; the commencement of a legal study on postal services; the upgrading of CRAN website for better consumer education; the infrastructure sharing regulations; the Quality of Service regulations for licensees, new spectrum pricing, allocation and usage regulations.

Namibia Post Ltd (NAMPOST)

In its efforts to take postal services closer to the people, especially in rural areas, NAMPOST will open five new post offices during 2014. These

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new offices will be opened in the following Regions: Ohangwena, Omusati, Khomas, and Otjozondjupa. This will bring the total number of post offices to 141 countrywide.

NAMPOST is also in the process of introducing business centres across the country, with the aim of providing access to basic computer and internet services to the public using the postal infrastructure. Plans are further afoot to cooperate with NBC in the sale and distribution of NBC branded DTT set-top-boxes in order to ensure the widest reach.

It is worth mentioning that the Government of the Republic of Namibia has identified financial inclusion as an important objective and target. To this end, NAMPOST has put in place mechanisms that will allow it to deploy the postal infrastructure in such a way that it will increase its participation in ensuring access to affordable financial products.

Mobile Telecommunications Company Ltd (MTC)

During the Financial Year 2014/2015, MTC will upgrade and improve the network connectivity in rural areas, with high speed 3G and 4G services. The Environmental Impact Assessment studies and site acquisitions are already done and the project will commence in the first quarter of 2014.

The Nationwide Transmission Backbone Fiber, which targets 4,655 km in MTC nationwide transmission backbone will also be completed by 2016. This state-of-the-art ICT infrastructure has facilitated the introduction of 4G/Long-Term Evolution (LTE) services and improved mobile penetration rates. The National Fibre Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) Backbone connecting the WACS landing point from Swakopmund to Windhoek, to Velloorsdrift at the South African border and reaching Oshakati in the north of Namibia is being expanded to cover Rundu and Katima Mulilo towns during 2014. MTC contributes 1.7% to the GDP.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, in light of the above, I humbly submit Vote 29 to

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the amount of **Five Hundred and Sixty-Six Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty Four Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$566,864,000.00)** for your endorsement. I thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister.

Honourable Members, I have a humble request and want to remind you of the five points we are going to comply with:

1. E-Control Mechanism will be applied. In other words, only five minutes will be allocated per Member taking the Floor;
2. Only stick to the details of the Vote;
3. No repetitions;
4. No intervention unless you take the Floor.
5. No one will be allowed to contribute after the Minister's reply.

Honourable Members, I would really like you to comply with that.

Vote 09 – **“FINANCE”** put for Discussion. Any discussions?
Honourable Witbooi.

HON WITBOOI: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise to support the Vote 09 of the Ministry of Finance and I would also like to compliment the Ministry for the usage of ICT, especially at the border posts. Honourable Minister, I have a few questions for you and the first one is on the foreign currencies at border posts. Honourable Minister, officers at border posts are working with

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foreign currencies on a daily basis, however, they are experiencing some problems because the updated exchange rates are not readily available on a daily basis. As a result they end up using the previous (intervention)

HON MEMBER: Page?

HON WITBOOI: The page is somewhere in the Statement. They end up using the exchange rates from the previous day which can have an economic impact on our country by either losing or benefitting, which is not healthy for all the countries involved. Honourable Minister, my question now is; is it not possible for the Ministry to ensure that border the posts are linked in such a way that they receive the updated exchange rates timely?

My second question is on the *Treasury Act* about the sale of E-Waste. Last year, during September 2013, the City of Windhoek in partnership with TransWorld Cargo has introduced a project on the recycling and management of Electronic Waste in Windhoek and one of the various problems hindering the project is the Government Policy under the *Treasury Act* to sell all E-Waste materials through Government Auctions. My question is; can the Honourable Minister of Finance enlighten this august House on the auctioning of E-Waste in relation to the Windhoek E-Waste Project which needs to be further extended to other towns as a national priority?

Secondly, is this Government Auction of E-Waste not another dumping of waste material back into our communities? Thirdly, what is the Government's position on E-Waste Management and how will Government support this important project in line with the *Environmental Management Act* and the *Public Health Act*? I thank you and I support the Vote.

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**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE
HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Shixwameni.

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Let me congratulate the Minister of Finance for quite a number of improvements and engaging in issues that would improve the collection of taxes such as the Semi-independent Revenue Collection Institutions. I have only two small questions and the first one is; what is our strategy for substituting the SACU income because it looks like it is reducing in the MTEF? Are we expecting to find some alternative avenues of replacing the E and the C forms of SACU or not?

The other one is the debt concerned; although we borrow domestically more than we borrow from other countries or other international institutions what is the strategy around debt management? Last year, you gave us a debt management strategy, however I do not see that this year. Maybe it was distributed whilst I was not around.

My last question is the concern that you expressed about the *Public Service Bill*. When I read in these books I see that there are a lot of vacancies that need to be filled and we are worried that the Public Service Bill is already too high. Is there a strategy in place to deal or at least manage the *Public Service Bill* so that it is limited to a certain extend? Those are my three small questions.

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE
HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you

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very much Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. My question is related to the issue of the Tender Board. When I was a Backbencher, the problem, that still continues, has been the expedition of the Tender Board decisions. Tender Board sits and decides on the tenders. The implementation of these decisions take some time and before you know it the Financial Year has come to an end and the money goes back. My question to the Ministry is; are they putting measures in place to ensure that the process is expedited so that we do not have money going back when the Tender Board decides on the projects to be embarked upon?

Secondly, there is this information that is not really being disseminated. When you owe Government, even ten cents for tax, they will always make sure that they get those ten cents back. Government owes Political Office-Bearers refunds for tax on housing allowance but this information is given in piecemeals. I received information but Office-Bearers who have retired are not aware of this information that Government owes them money on the housing allowance that has been taxed 100%. Can the Ministry make sure that it disseminates information? The same way it sends letters to us when we owe on taxes, can it also sent letters to all the Office-Bearers that it owes money? That is what justice is all about. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Angula.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you. This Vote is the heartbeat of the Government, it is the repository of the liquid assets of the State. I, therefore, support the Finance Vote.

However, I am worried looking at the revenue side, just as Honourable Shixwameni has indicated, something like 30% of our revenue comes from SACU and about 20% comes from personal income tax, meaning that the Productive Sector is not really making much contribution. Does

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the Minister have a plan as to how to make sure that the Productive Sector, the Mines, the Fisheries, Agriculture and others make a meaningful contribution to the Budget? I thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Moongo.

HON MOONGO: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson. First of all I would also like to support Vote 09. However, I have a tiny weenie question (intervention).

HON SHIXWAMENI: Ask the bigger one.

HON MOONGO: When there is under spending and money has to be returned to Treasury, is there no system to check whether the Ministries have accomplished the work before you receive the money back into the coffers of the Government rather than to accept the money while there is no progress in the development of the Ministry? Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Kaiyamo.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Thank you. I would wholeheartedly like to support

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this Vote and I want to know from the Honourable Minister whether there is no possibility that, whenever your Permanent Secretary is communicating to her Colleagues in a Ministry, a copy be sent to the Minister because it is sometimes embarrassing. Sometimes there are deadlines to be met by the Permanent Secretary of Finance but one ends up picking up information in the corridors. What I am trying to say is that, some of these deadlines are not met because sometimes the Minister is not aware of what is happening in that division. I want us to have a peaceful co-existence between the Ministers and the Permanent Secretaries so that we are on the same page all the time. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I would like to call upon the Honourable Minister to reply.

Honourable Minister, the Floor is yours, please.

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you very much Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I want to thank the Honourable Members for expressing their support and for the interest shown in the Vote of the Ministry of Finance - Vote 09. I will provide answers to the queries that were raised by the Honourable Members.

The first query was from *Honourable Witbooi* who wanted to get information concerning E-Waste disposal at the Windhoek Municipality and how that is aligned with the central system at Treasury.

I think given the fact that the Honourable Member posed the question with regard to a specific Local Authority, I would feel comfortable to confirm the actual situation with that case because we are not talking about the

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general principles and come with detailed information regarding the case of Windhoek Municipality.

With regards to foreign currency, as far as I am aware we do not provide exchange rate services at the borders, although we may receive payments that are made at the borders. When we have to provide foreign exchange services, we normally contract a private company that does that for us. As far as I know they are supposed to be acquainted with the information on the prevailing exchange rates, but I will be happy to follow up and establish whether there are specific situations where inconveniences were experienced by any one on account of the quality of the services that they provide at the borders. I would also be happy to have further discussions with the Honourable Member if she could shed more light on the specific issue.

However, with regard to the availability of general information to the Customs Officials at the borders, we do have arrangements with the Central Bank through the IT System that we have - the ASYCUDA, for them to upload the prevailing exchange rates on a daily basis. As far as I know, that system is supposed to be working, if there are problems, I would established that. In other words, we are connected in real-time or live at the borders. In general, the procurement and disposal systems of the Local Authorities, Regional Councils and State-Owned Enterprises are governed by the Laws that regulate the affairs of these institutions and are not regulated by the central system of Central Government. This is actually why I said that I want to go and find out what is the situation with the City of Windhoek. The only aspects of these systems that are governed by Central Government systems are those that are implemented with transfers that are provided from Central Government through the Budget. Therefore, if we provide a subsidy to the Municipality of Windhoek or any other Municipality, we may require that the tendering process should comply with the principles of the Central Tender Board, but besides that, they are supposed to have their own systems until the new Procurement Law comes into force when we want the principles that are established in terms of that Law, to actually apply across the country to all public structures.

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The other question was from *Honourable Shixwameni* who wanted to find out what the strategy for replacing SACU Revenue is. I take it that the Honourable Member actually wants to say; what are the measures that we have instituted to replace the loss of revenue as a result of a decline in revenue from SACU?

I have already indicated that we are implementing a very ambitious revenue management reform agenda that entails both strengthening of compliance with the Tax Laws and introducing new sources of revenue. I have been coming with a number of Bills to this house asking for Parliament to either approve measures to close loopholes or to introduce new taxes and as I have indicated, we are also reviewing our systems and procedures at the Ministry, including undertaking a business process reengineering, introducing an integrated tax assessment system and now establishing a semi-autonomous revenue agency in order to improve the efficiency in the administration of Tax Laws.

Besides that, what we would need to do would have to be done at national level where we broaden the base of the economy so that we broaden the revenue base because at the end of the day, without increasing tax rates you can only increase revenue if you broaden the base on which you are charging your taxes that are growing the economy. That would not only require increased resources allocations but would also require improved efficiency in the use of resources which should include both the improved targeting of resources and reduction of wastages in the use of the resources that we have. This is something that we all have to contribute towards achieving.

The Honourable Member, also wanted to know about the debt management strategy and he referred to a usual tradition of the Minister indicating what the strategy is for the year and that that was not indicated this year. I want to believe that by that the Honourable Member was probably asking for the Government Financial Operation Section of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework. That portion is still contained in the Medium Term Expenditure Framework at the end, from Page 363, so you would have information about financing for the Budget, where we

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are going to raise the funds from. Besides the revenue that we are going to generate from the sources that have been established under the Tax Laws, how we are going to finance the deficit and how the borrowing is apportioned between the domestic sources and the external sources.

We do have a debt management strategy that is of a medium term duration. We, therefore, do not necessarily change the strategy every year, we have it for a period of time until we realise a need for change and we revisit it now and then to amend it. For now what that strategy is saying is that, we raise our revenue from taxes and levies that we should continue to review in order to optimise the sources and that we can borrow from internal and external sources. And that in borrowing we do not only look at the cost of borrowing we also look at how the financial operations of Government would support the development of the capital market and that is why we apportion our borrowing in such a way that up to 80% of our borrowing is from local sources so that we can utilise our local savings. We borrow only up to 20% from external sources to limit our exposure to forex fluctuations and to make sure we support the domestic capital market.

Besides that I talked about the Public Private Partnerships Policy (PPP) that was approved by Cabinet and the fact that we are now working on a Law. We have finalised the guidelines and we are also looking at the organisational structure for a PPP unit within the Ministry of Finance which is going to enable the Government to encourage both financial and technical resources of the Private Sector, besides the traditional borrowing, to be channelled towards the development of a strategic national intervention. That is what I am able to say with regard to that and I hope that I responded to the question of the Honourable Member.

Honourable Mushelenga, the delays in the implementation of projects result in the return of funds at the end of the Financial Year. We have indicated that we are looking at this issue and from the Treasury point of view we are going to contribute towards addressing that in two ways. In the first instance, we have indicated that we would insist that funding requests are based on proper planning. We no longer want Ministries to come and say - *I need so much for the feasibility study and so much for*

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implementation. How do you know how much a project costs before you carry out a feasibility study and have a quantity cost estimate that is scientifically based? We are, therefore, requiring that the phases should be implemented in a sequence so that the Budget is based on well-researched information. That is the first part.

On the second part, we are busy reforming the procurement system, as you may be aware, there is Bill on the Table already that will make sure that we have appropriate institutions and processes at the Ministry level as well as at the National Tender Board and that we have the skills needed to drive the process that will also enable the central offices like the Procurement Policy Office to monitor the performance of Ministries with regard to the implementation of contracts. In terms of that Bill, Ministries would be required to have procurement plans. Therefore, you do not just have a Budget and embark on contract implementation on an *ad hoc* basis. The Ministries are expected to remain in charge of the implementation of the interventions that resort under their offices because there is not much the Ministry of Finance can do to get the Ministries to implement their Programmes except for these measures that I have alluded to.

As for the tax refunds, this was a mishap, my team is up there. I have learned that our housing scheme was not registered for a number of years with the tax office as is required under the *Income Tax Act*. The Act says you are entitled to this tax reduction provided that that scheme has been presented to the Revenue Office and has been approved. Therefore, for a number of years, maybe because we were new at that time, this application was not made to the tax office. The Office was eventually approached with an application after a number of years and it was approved. However, the information was probably not widely disseminated. I did not know about that before I came to the Ministry of Finance, I only came to know about it at the Ministry of Finance. We have made an attempt to disseminate the information and if it is still not available, my colleagues here and I are going to strengthen our efforts to make sure that the information is propagated. We will also rely on Parliament to assist us with those who have already gone on pension because we may not be able to contact them individually, we can only

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publish it through the media.

Honourable Nahas Angula, I think I have already responded to your question on the 30% from SACU by indicating that we are embarking on a Tax Reform Programme that is going to make sure that we improve efficiency of collection, we strengthen compliance enforcement, we improve public awareness to encourage voluntary compliance and we are introducing new taxes. What we need to do collectively, as a Government, is only to make sure that our interventions are effective, that they would actually not only take up money through the funding that is provided under the Budget but they generate commensurate returns in terms of growing the economy and broadening the revenue base so that that enables Government to sustain the expenditures that are related to the implementation of those Programmes.

Maybe I also need to indicate that according to the figures that are contained in this document that you have distributed, I was trying to look for that page where we have given a disaggregation of revenue but I cannot find it. (interjections) No, it is there, I only do not know the page number. Page 6 of the MTEF, the Estimates of Income and Expenditure. If you look at that, you will see that the trend is that the internal sources of revenue are gaining importance in the total Government Revenue. The revenue that we generate from Pay-As-You-Earn and taxes from incomes and profits of companies and Value Added Tax are generating more revenue as a proportion of total Government Revenue compared to the previous year. The SACU's importance in terms of the ratio of income that is coming from SACU has been on a declining trend and that is good for us because it means that we are not overly dependent on SACU. I think it is because of that, that about three or four years ago, when the SACU pool was negatively influenced because of what was happening around the world - the global economic crisis, we had adjustments that required us to pay back part of the receipts that we had received in the previous years. Our share for one year went from something like N\$8 billion to N\$3 billion if not even N\$2 billion. During that year, we were still able to increase our own Budget by close to 20%. That was already an indication that we are not so susceptible that when there is a problem at SACU the Budget is destabilised. That was only because at that time we had already

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started with the revenue reforms that enabled us to increase our collection from Inland sources.

We are hoping that when all these reforms are undertaken and the dedicated tax office, that is semi-autonomous has been established, we would see revenue increasing its share as a proportion of GDP.

For now, I think although these reforms are very important, we need to take solace from the fact that revenue as a share of GDP is increasing. Revenue is not only increasing in absolute terms, it is increasing as a share of revenue and that you do not really find in many places. I, therefore, think that we are doing relatively well in that regard. We should address issues of the *Wage Bill* because that is a real concern. If we continue to collect our resources only to pay our salary, then there we will have a serious problem but inasmuch as it relates to revenue collection, I think we are doing relatively well.

Of course, the taxes from Pay As-You-Earn and the taxes from incomes and profits of companies is coming from incomes of companies and the employees in different sectors of the economy whether it is Agriculture or the Mining Sector, but I will agree that there are a number of Sectors which we believe can contribute more and some of the measures that we have instituted:

1. The export levy on the export of raw materials.
2. The measures that we are taking to curb transfer pricing and scheme capitalisation are going to assist us to close the loopholes in terms of tax compliance by large companies which are multinationals for the most parts that are operating in Sectors such as mining.

I am also hoping that when our Value Addition Policy is fully implemented, we will encourage more value addition to the economy by having increased processing at home that would not only create jobs and contribute to tax revenue through Pay-As-You-Earn, but would also increase earnings from Corporate Tax. Besides that, I believe that the relevant Ministers are the ones that are supposed to come up with

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strategies for the development of these Sectors and the optimisation of the benefits from the Sectors to the economy. We can really only deal with tax collection.

Finally, I am sure no one would want to ask further questions because finance issues are very boring and you are bored already by the answers that I am providing.

Honourable Moongo wants to know whether the Ministry of Finance checks to find out whether the Programmes for which funds were appropriated were carried out before receiving the balance that remains unutilised at the end of the Financial Year. The answer to that is really what I have already indicated at the beginning that at the end of the day the Ministry of Finance is only responsible for the financial aspects of the Budget but it is not us that hold Ministries accountable for the implementation of their Programmes. We only hold them accountable to their compliance with the financial system so they are not answerable to us about why they have not implemented a certain Programme.

They are supposed to answer to this House through the Accountability Reports, so we are actually supposed to look at the Accountability Report and see whether the unutilised balances is because the currency appreciated and although the imports, for example, have taken place, the Ministry needed less than what was appropriated because of that or because of the improvements in efficiency or what is the reason that a Ministry has not fully utilised the funds that were appropriated.

Finally, *Honourable Kaiyamo* wanted to be copied in on the correspondences that are exchanged between the Accounting Officers at Treasury and the Accounting Officers in the Line Ministries. I want to advise the Honourable Member that when it comes to this Treasury Directives, for example, you will get flooded with these correspondences you may not even be able to read all of them because these exchanges are taking place almost on a daily basis. Maybe what we need to do is to continue to impress upon our colleagues, the Accounting Officers that we as the Policymakers are also interested to know how the institutions that we head are being administered because there seems to be a mistake in

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understanding that Policymakers have no role to play in the administration of Ministries. Therefore, they do not need to be briefed about anything but I believe that once we have cleared that out with the Accounting Officers they will brief us appropriately.

However, on critical matters like when we send information about these advance funding that are made available to Ministries before the Budget is passed because I realised that some Ministers actually did not know about that, - every year before the beginning of the Financial Year we tell them that a third of the Budget that is being considered in Parliament is already available to them.

Apparently, some of them do perhaps not pass this information to the Ministers and you even have a situation where some contractors who had delivered services to Government go unpaid because they are saying they are waiting for Parliament to approve the Budget and for it to be gazetted before they can get paid. We do notify them of that, because that is very important. When we give the Ministries the ceilings for the Budget, we also copy in the Ministers on that. As for the rest of the communications is concerned, I do not know, maybe that can be discussed between the Permanent Secretaries to make sure that the Ministers are in the know. Thank you very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister. Any objection? Agreed to.

Vote 23 “**WORKS,**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable *Ekanda*.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I rise to support Vote 23.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 23
HON IILONGA**

I will start with Page 4, Paragraph 2 of the Honourable Minister's Motivation. There is a statement which says - *no more Government accommodation/houses available for allocation*, I do not see any other supporting message to the Ministries, Agencies and Offices, that they must build their own houses for their officials.

Currently, we have a bitter complaint from one of our Governors who find themselves without accommodation. How are we really going to cope?

On Page 5, Programme 3, on the issue of deteriorating Government accommodation – honestly speaking the Housing Committee is supposed to do its work. The Government is just an employer like any other employer. Most of us here are renting houses or rooms and those rooms are kept clean. Some of those who use those houses are Government employees but they keep their own private properties clean and they do not look after the Government properties.

A person who is so lucky to be accommodated in Government property must keep it clean. Let us imitate private businesses. The worse one Comrade, is that we sell out our houses to private individuals or businesses and these rich people turn the houses either in accommodation or offices and then the same Government goes and pump millions into these houses through rentals. Honestly speaking, how do we really think that we will do better by selling and then pump millions in through rentals?

Capitalism is really a bad system but people think it is good because there is this - '*yours, yours*'. I think we need to look at this issue, let the Government keep its houses because rent is killing us. Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, I think you know how much money I am talking about here, even the money under Programme 4 - N\$116,000,000.00 which you asked for rent. These millions can be used to build decent offices and housing to accommodate our people. Thank you, I support the Vote 23.

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HON MUTORWA

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Mutorwa.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Minister, I support this very important Vote 23, that pertains to the assets of the State. I am going to Page 3 – the Illegal Occupants. Honourable Minister, you are informing us that eviction orders were issued but then you do not elaborate whether action followed the eviction orders since this is an area where I think, all of us as Government must support you because if we allow that then the issue of deterioration of these valuable Government assets or State assets will continue.

On the same page, Page 3, Honourable Minister you are informing us, the last paragraph there, *the Department of Works is addressing the issue of properties that were erroneously transferred to Local Authorities*. I think it is also a statement that needs some elaboration. Where, how, which are these Local Authorities to whom these assets were erroneously transferred to because if it is not so clear, next time we will maybe hear the assets were transferred erroneously to some individuals and it will become even worse?

Lastly, on Page 5, Honourable Minister, Paragraph 2, the issue of Maintenance, Servicing of Lifts - these lifts in our Ministries: One day I decided to do some kind of a research in the Ministry of Agriculture and I have discovered that the contract is actually between the Ministry and the service provider, but my concern is, once there is a problem with the lifts, in our case the General Services Directorate will inform these service providers and the service providers will come and attend to the problem and few things and leave, tomorrow the same problem starts again and they do the same. However, my problem is the money is budgeted through the Department of Works, I just wanted to make sure, how is the

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HON DR ANKAMA

monitoring done so that before these service providers are paid there is some kind of coordination between the client Ministry and the Department of Works? I think the Government is losing there because the problem you call them to fix today is the very same problem they will come and fix tomorrow but every time they come, they are paid. I support the Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Ankama.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERING AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. My standing here is to support this Vote but I also have some few issues to raise. One is what my Senior Colleague, Comrade Mutorwa, has ended with, speaking about maintenance.

Maintenance: I was with the Ministry too but I do not understand, it was for a very brief period anyway. These people who are doing maintenance, I do not know whether they do not have the materials or whether they do not have the capacity. They go to building number one or house number so and so, if someone was brave enough just to go and observe - these guys will go in blue overalls around 10:00, just go there between 11:00 and 13:00, you will find them laying on their backs in their blue overalls they will go back repeatedly, for a month, to attend to the same little problem that they are unable to fix. I just do not understand whether it is the capacity or whether it is a matter of control. I do not know. That is something that we should look at probably. That is maintenance.

I have also looked at, for example, the Government Garage, the materials that they were supposed to have ordered are outdated. When I look at this personally, I would say maybe they ordered these material because they are conniving with their friends so that they can buy from *Factory So* or *Factory A* in order to deplete the Budget. I do not know why they buy

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HON DR ANKAMA

things that are not up to date with the current situation.

Programme Number 5, under Construction Buildings; construction is a problem, I do not know if it is perhaps because we do not have quality cement any longer. A building that has just been constructed crumbles after a year, it goes down or it cracks. Is it a matter of building materials, is it a matter of workmanship or is it the design? From Architects, Quantity Surveyors to workmanship, that is the guys that are doing the actual work, somebody must be doing a shoddy job. As a result there are some of us (intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Angola, you are allowed.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: I am keen to hear about this building which crumbled after six months. Where is this building? Where is the building which crumbled after six months? (*Laughter*)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Let me say this, maybe my Senior Comrade will understand if I tell him about a building that is complete on paper but when you go there you find nothing while this person has been paid. I wonder whether the Colleague has heard about this; I once went to Oshakati and there was (interjection) Let me just explain. When I was a Deputy Minister, I went to the High Court in Oshakati. There was supposed to be Quarters – a double storey for the Judges, I think, but there was nothing, it was just half built and the whole building crumbled, I mean it just fell. (Interjections) No, it was supposed to be a double storey. I think it might be still there. This thing fell as he was putting up the second base. It collapsed.

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HON NUJOMA

I asked where this guy was and apparently he was given another contract at Rehoboth (interjection) I could not tell. I asked; where is the guy and how come he received the money? It stops somewhere there. What I am trying to say is that workmanship should be seriously looked into. I have got buildings that I have supervised myself but (intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Chief, your time is up. Honourable Nujoma.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support this important Vote of the assets of the State. On Page 10 there, I will speak on similar terms like My Brother here, Honourable Dr Ankama. Maintenance; I just have a query about this road network, particularly, in Windhoek and other towns. What you observe is that after three months of rain, just the little rain we get here and you will see serious pot holes all over. The other day I was travelling from my house going to town (intervention)

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Nujoma, that is Vote 24 –on Transport.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Oh, this is Works. Oh, sorry!.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Namwandi.

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HON DR NAMWANDI / HON MOONGO**

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much for this opportunity. I rise to support Vote 23 of the Department of Works. I am going to be very brief and I am concentrating my comments on Programme 3 – Maintenance of Government Properties. I have noted with great satisfaction that the Ministry and the Department is doing what it can to ensure that the properties of the State are well maintained. However, one is disheartened by the Government employees who are accommodated in State properties or houses. You know, if you go around Windhoek, not only Windhoek, anywhere in Namibia you will be able to identify a house which is said to be Government property.

I cannot understand why our people, employees of the Government are vandalising their own properties. This mentality or attitude of saying it is *Horomende* is not benefiting the interest of the whole Nation. I want to suggest that the Ministry takes a serious step and put mechanisms in place to curtail these type of activities. We cannot afford to have people who are privileged to stay in Government and State property while they are vandalising the very same State properties. They do not appreciate those properties, they must be kicked out irrespective of who they are and those houses must be given to those who need them.

I also think that it is about time that the Government takes this issue very seriously. We cannot afford it, that is not the first time we are seeing people living in Government houses, if you go elsewhere in the world people are taking care of State Properties, so this is the suggestion I am making, Honourable Minister. With that I support the Vote.

**HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE
HOUSE COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Honourable Moongo.

HON MOONGO: I would also like to support the Vote. Honourable Minister, after 24 years of Independence the buildings of the old

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HON DR ANKAMA

traditional houses and offices were destroyed and we want this Vote to address this issue during your term, please. These buildings are dilapidated because they were destroyed by bombs and so on, during colonial times . There are cracks and they look very bad. I hope you understand what I mean. Thank you.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Ankama.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you. I will now be more brief. I was talking about supervision when it comes to the construction of Government buildings. We have got Quantity Surveyors and from an engineering point of view (interjections) I am not an engineer but if you look at the design of these buildings, the Quantity Surveyor should know exactly what type and the quality of materials to be used and the cost of going to check the progress of a particular building. Let me give you an example of Omuthiya Hospital; do the Quantity Surveyors go there and if they do what do they do? They use money to go there but do they really do anything?

You may look at the buildings that I have supervised. Government buildings are so expensive and the quality is compromised, I do not understand that.

The last thing I wanted to talk about is Government Houses. Currently we have people who are occupying these houses and some of these people are leasing from others. A person working for the Government is given a Government house and then this person leases it to another person, some are foreigners. If the media is around, let them go and do a round up today or tomorrow to see what is happening there. That is a fact and I would like to see Government taking serious steps. If it is Government

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HON NGHIMTINA

officials they should be Government officials but they should also pay. How many are there who do not pay? I would like to support this very important Vote.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I would like to call upon the Honourable Minister to reply.

HON MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT: Thank you Deputy Chairperson of the whole House Committees for the opportunity to answer to the questions of the Honourable Members.

The first one is *Honourable Ilonga* who supports the Vote. His question was whether there is alternative accommodation for Government employees if there are no Government houses available. The behaviour of Government employees occupying Government houses prompted the Government to sell the houses to tenants because the bill for the maintenance was too. As a result Cabinet took a decision to sell those houses to the tenants who were living there and when that happened the situation changes quickly. Once the house is bought it is automatically decorated and it does not look the same way it did when it was a Government house. This is what is happening.

What is the alternative? I sympathise with those who do not earn much but for those with a better salary, the Government has a 100% housing scheme through which you can buy or construct your house. However, such people are a drop in the ocean but there is already a system for Government employees to take up the 100% Government Housing Scheme and pay until the house is paid off. It is an asset for yourself.

You will have your own assets when you become old Or even if you become disabled, you would have your own accommodation.

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Government houses are deteriorating and this problem is caused by the *I-do-no-care-attitude* of the people who occupy these houses.

Honourable Namwandi said that one can identify a Government House anywhere, even by the curtains without looking at the number of the house whether it has a *BM* number or something like that. People should keep the houses clean for their own hygiene.

Like I said it was a Cabinet decision to sell the houses because of the huge maintenance bill.

Programme 4, where we have N\$165,000,000.00 for paying rent as well as buying land for the Government. The rental money we are talking about is for Government offices and not houses because we do not have sufficient office complexes for the Government and we are buying land because we know that we need to have land in every town to construct our own offices, secondary schools or even universities in the future. We should not only think that the University should only be in Windhoek and not in other towns of the country. It is, therefore, very important for the Government to buy land. We reserve it for future use.

Honourable Mutorwa, thank you for the support. You wanted to know about what is happening with illegal occupants and whether we issue eviction orders. Yes, we give what we call Eviction Orders - the process is that we tell a person to leave the Government house because he/she is an illegal occupant. It becomes illegal sometimes because of family issues, maybe they were living together and the main occupant gets transferred to another town or retires, so they leave the houses to their families. Sometimes these people do not want to leave the houses and therefore, we get Court Orders for the people to vacate the place.

When they leave, they leave unsettled water and electricity bills with the Municipalities. We, therefore, negotiated with the Municipalities to suspend services if the bill goes up to more than N\$2,000.00 because when a tenant moves out, the burden remains with the Ministry of Works and Transport.

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HON NGHIMTINA

Then on Paragraph 3, Government Property wrongly given to the Local Authorities, yes, this is happening, especially when new towns are proclaimed. Most of the time you have houses which belong to the Government but were wrongly given to the Local Authority and now once you do a follow up you will identify that some properties belong to the Government. Therefore, most of the time we inform the Local Authorities that these properties were wrongly assigned to them. It is being done and most of the time they give them back.

Servicing of lifts: It is not only an issue in other Ministries but the Ministry of Works and Transport as well as. I do not know what is happening. I have two lifts in my Ministry, when the other one is working the other one will be out of order. Sometimes you think that maybe someone is taking spare parts from one lift to fix the one that is working.

It is a problem, I think my people are here, they can also attest to that. We must also be on the lookout for those who are maintaining the lifts that they do a proper job. It is disheartening, I have even seen that the lifts in the Ministry of Home Affairs have not been working for nearly a year. Luckily it is not a tall building it is just three floors but it is bad, it is not good at all.

The other problem is payment; whether the Ministry of Works and Transport is properly monitoring before payment is done. It is one issue that our people need to take seriously. We must certify that the job was properly done before making any payment. ..

Chief Ankama, thank you for the support. I hope you are speaking out of experience as you were a Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Works. You were talking about the technicians who attend to Government properties. They arrive in the morning and lie on the grass for the whole day then come back again the next day. They probably do not have enough money or skills. I can come up with something, even if it is not going to be popular but it is something that can work. If the Civil Servants were employed on a contract basis, work would be done in this country. We do employ Permanent Secretaries on a five-year renewable contract based

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on performance. A five-year contract does not mean that it is free, there must be ongoing performance appraisal to make sure that they are really working, if not, then they can be relieved of their duties. This method will save our Government. I think we should look into that. I know there is going to be a fight because the Labour Office will come and say that there is no security. However, other countries are doing it. You can go up to sixty years as long as you are performing.

Government Garage: Honourable Chief, you already know that this is under Vote 24 and not 23.

Construction of houses that crumbles after 6 months: You have learned about the one in Oshakati, after I sent you to look at it. It is very ugly. Our brothers – SME owners are given contracts and they want to be paid upfront forgetting that they were given a task to first do the job and then get paid to grow their businesses with the little profit they make.

In the past cement was not of good quality but now it is different with Ohorongo Cement. It is in two or three stages, you only have to ask which one you want for plastering or construction.

Supervision of Contractors by Quantity Surveyors and Consultants: We are giving the contract to a contractor but there is a consultant who should see to it that the building is in order.

The problem we have in this country is that these specialists are in demand. Some of them might even have more than thirty or forty projects at a time in Katima, Opuwo, Keetmanshoop or even Windhoek. I do not think they have sufficient time to supervise all the projects, not only for the Government but also for the Private Sector. We must, therefore, talk to Honourable Namwandi here to encourage our young people to take engineering subjects seriously. If we ignore engineering, we automatically invite other people to come and do the work for us in our own country.

Honourable Chief, I think I talked about the illegal occupation of

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Government houses as well as the measures to be taken.

Honourable Nujoma, thank you very much for the support even it is not the Roads. It is very important because we have a lot of rain this year and we are expecting to suffer a lot. Some bridges will be destroyed and there will be potholes all over until the rain is gone. That is only when we can repair all the roads. You can repair today once the rain comes again another pothole comes resurface. Potholes are not caused by small cars but by big trucks and it is one issue we have to think about as Parliamentarians as well as Government. We made the mistake by not giving TransNamib enough money so that heavy materials can be ferried by rail.

Even if we pump a lot of money into the roads, it is going to be destroyed by these trucks. If we have a good railway system we can pass a Law that prohibits trucks from carrying heavy loads on the roads. Let us allocate enough money to TransNamib in the future in order to maintain our rail system and have sufficient locomotives.

Hon Moongo, thank you very much for the support. The Chief of all the Traditional Chiefs is here. It is a good thing to encourage the maintenance of all the buildings of the Traditional Offices but that is a different Vote you are talking about, it is under the Ministry of Regional, Local Government, Housing and Rural Development. Thank you very much.

HON ASSISTANT DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister. Any objection? Agreed to.

Vote 14 – “**LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE,**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Any objection? Agreed to?

I shall report progress and ask leave to sit again.

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

ASSEMBLY RESUMES

Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

HON SPEAKER: The work is done. We shall continue tomorrow at 14:30. Any objection?

In terms of Rule 90(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 17:46 until Tuesday, 01 April 2014.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 17:46 UNTIL 2014.04.01 AT 14:30

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
01 APRIL 2014**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: I call the House to order. Can I ask the Honourable Members to look straight in the direction of the Speaker? Thank you.

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

MOTION ON BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

HON DR AMWEELO: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 12, 20, 21, 22, 29 and 31 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90, not interrupted, if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please table the Motion.

The Secretary will read the First Order.

**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

01 April 2014

**COMMITTEE STAGE: APPROPRIATION BILL
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Committee Stage - *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister of Finance Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee?

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any objections? Who seconds? Agreed to. The Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee will take the Chair.

As I leave, the Honourable Minister of Fisheries apparently brought something from the sea and he wants you to have a look at it.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON 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 on Monday, the 31st of March 2014, Votes 01 to 10, 11,13,14,15 to 19, 23 to 28 and 30 had been agreed to and Votes 12, 20 and 29 had been introduced.

Vote 21 – “**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES,**” N\$800,962,000.00 put for

01 April 2014 **COMMITTEE STAGE: INTRODUCTION VOTE 21**
HON NGATJIZEKO

introduction by the Honourable Minister of Safety and Security. I call upon the Minister to take the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

INTRODUCTION

Honourable Members, allow me to congratulate the Honourable Minister Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila for her continued good work in her capacity as the Minister of Finance. We wish her with her dedicated team of staff, all the best in their endeavours to steer our economy to greater heights for the prosperity of our Nation.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I would now like to take this opportunity to introduce Vote 21 of the Ministry of Safety and Security, that is the Namibian Correctional Service Department, for your consideration.

Our Ministry is requesting a total Budget of **Eight Hundred Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty Two Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$800,962,000.00)**, of which **Six Hundred and Forty Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty-two Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$640,962,000.00)** is for the Operational Budget and a **Hundred and Sixty Million Namibian Dollars (NS160,000,000.00)** is for the Development Budget.

PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the Department of Correctional Service has the following Programmes: Safe Custody; Rehabilitation; Re-integration; and Coordination and Support. In light hereof, I will briefly reflect on some achievements made during the implementation of the Budget:

Safe Custody

The Namibian Correctional Service has successfully managed to keep safe custody of offenders sent to prison. In the period of 2013/2014, the monthly average number of offenders in our correctional facilities continued to stand at approximately 4,200 with the majority of offenders being at the ages of between 18 and 29 and most of them sentenced to periods of between 1 month and 2 years for mostly property related offences.

At those facilities where the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy is implemented, we continue to classify each offender in accordance to the risk they pose to themselves, other inmates, staff and the public and thereby assign them to a suitable level of security (i.e. maximum, medium, low-medium or minimum) for placement.

This Strategy to classify offender populations remains an important determinant in two of our facilities in terms of minimising escapes and other untoward incidents; it also serves as a saving mechanism as resources are directed to where they are most needed. As a result of this approach, not many security incidents were reported in the Namibian Correctional Service facilities during the review period. We only experienced 3 escapes in the 2013/2014 period. One of the escapes was from a public hospital where the offender was admitted for treatment, while the other escapes involved three offenders from inside Windhoek Correctional Facility. All the escapees were re-arrested.

The unit management facility differs from the old traditional built prisons facilities as it enhances safe custody and is regarded as the safest system in terms of inmate supervision and control to avert escapes and institutional incidents. The projects that are ongoing in terms of unit management are as follows:

- Windhoek Prison Unit Management Conversion;
- Hardap Prison Unit Management Conversion;

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HON NGATJIZEKO

- Divundu Rehabilitation Centre Unit Management Conversion;
- Oluno Prison Unit Management Conversion; and
- Walvis Bay Prison Unit Management Conversion.

Rehabilitation

The Namibian Correctional Service continues with its efforts in achieving successful rehabilitation of offenders through the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy (ORMCS). During the review period, a National Training team was appointed and was trained by a Consultant on the delivery and facilitation of the training of Case Management Officers and Unit Managers who are key staff in the ORMCS. The National Training Team will carry out all training aspects and facets of the ORMCS, thus taking over some functions from the Consultant and thereby minimise spending on consultation. The period also saw Unit Managers, Correctional Supervisors and Case Management Officers at Elizabeth Nepemba Correctional Facility receiving refresher training on Case Management assessment tools and procedures. In addition, various projects have also been undertaken to perfect the rehabilitation activities in the Namibian Correctional Service. These include projects such as:

- a. Aligning the offender education activities in the NCS to the ORMCS;
- b. Enhancing the role of programme officers in Unit Management;
- c. Development of Pre-release framework and programmes; and
- d. Development of a framework for Community Supervision in Namibia.

Furthermore, in order to maximise our rehabilitation potential, the Namibian Correctional Service intends to rollout the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy to the Hardap Correctional Facility and the Evaristus Shikongo Correctional Facility during this year.

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HON NGATJIZEKO

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the most serious criminal activities in our country seem to be significantly linked to low education, lack of thinking and living skills as well as substance abuse. In order to mitigate these criminogenic factors among offenders, during the review period the Namibian Correctional Service continued to deliver programmes such as literacy education and the two core rehabilitation programmes, namely: Thinking and Living Skills (TLS) and the Manage my Substance Use (MMSU) to offenders. I am proud to say that a high number of offenders have gone through and completed these programmes while we have a significant number still continuing to undergo these Programmes.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Namibia Correctional Service continues in a sustainable way to supply maize meal and bread flour to all its institutions with some significant level of surplus which is sold to correctional officers.

We are also proud to announce that the Evaristus Shikongo Correctional Facility (previously known as Farm Scott Open Prison) in the Oshikoto Region was inaugurated by His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba and we have now transferred a number of offenders there. This means that food production and other agricultural activities that are ongoing at that facility will significantly be increased and improved. The facility is a 5,000 hectare farm consisting of 31 grazing camps, 100 hectare fodder under dry land, and 40 hectare for irrigation pivots for fodder, 1 hectare is for fruit trees and 30 hectare is for yellow maize. However, our main production line at that facility is cattle and small stock and it currently provides 89% of red meat requirements to correctional facilities around the country through its meat processing plant.

Re-integration

Following the much appreciated promulgation of the *Correctional Service Act*, 2012 (Act 9 of 2012) and its Regulations, we have engaged on various projects intended to operationalise its provisions with regard to the Re-integration Programmes for offenders particularly those that are released on Parole and Remission.

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HON NGATJIZEKO

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, as I earlier stated, most offenders that are admitted in the Namibian Correctional Service facilities are sentenced for petty offences ranging from theft and housebreaking and are hence sentenced to shorter periods of between 1 month and 2 years. Therefore, in the review period, the Namibian Correctional Service engaged on efforts to enhance the Community Service Orders initiative that will enable the Justice System to divert petty offenders from costly incarceration and instead sentence them to community-based sanctions to work and give back to the community. In this regard, the Namibian Correctional Service appointed additional staff to complement the already existing staff in the Community Service Orders office.

The Namibian Correctional Service is busy conducting a thorough assessment of the status and challenges of Community Service Orders. The Community Service is a preventative method, it prevents people from going to prisons over petty crimes, particularly the young offenders. The offenders serve their sentence working within the community. There are Community Service Officers appointed to supervise and monitor the work of those offenders. After the assessment, the Ministry will consult all stakeholders with regard to the implementation of Community Service Orders. We intend to rollout the Community Service Orders concept to more Regions in this Financial Year.

Staff Development

Honourable Members, since the Financial Year 2009/2010, we have been reporting that a number of our staff are on the degree course in Criminal Justice (Correctional Management) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminal Justice which the Namibian Correctional Service jointly developed with the Polytechnic of Namibia (PoN). This programme is progressing very well, and last year officers who completed their studies successfully graduated and obtained their degrees in April. Again in this year, a total of 6 correctional officers are graduating. For this academic year, 8 correctional officers are in their third year, 9 in the second year and 10 in their first year.

Apart from the above Degree Programme, we have another 13 correctional officers enrolled for nursing qualifications at Health Training Centres of the Ministry of Health and Social Services with the intention to curb the acute shortage of nurses that we are currently experiencing in the Namibian Correctional Service. We have other officers enrolled for qualifications including Law, Public Relations, Public Administration and Psychology in various tertiary institutions nationally and internationally.

Health Care

The Namibian Correctional Service continues to partner with various key stakeholders in order to deliver adequate health services to offenders. These partners, through the Ministry of Health and Social Services, have been contributing significantly to the combating of serious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other diseases. These stakeholders are Centre for Disease Control (CDC), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Global Fund (GF).

The CDC continued to fund the salaries of Community Counsellors who are providing the voluntary counselling and testing services in our institutions. There are twelve (12) HIV/AIDS Community Counsellors deployed in Namibian Correctional Service facilities around the country. These Community Counsellors are also providing education and awareness campaigns to our offenders. There was a request by the Ministry of Health and Social Services for the Ministry of Safety and Security to incorporate these Community Counsellors into the organisational structure of the Namibian Correctional Service and thereby pay their salaries. The Ministry of Safety and Security has accepted the request and will take on board these Community Counsellors in due course.

The Namibian Global Fund Programme, during the review period, spent N\$126,010.40 on activities such as HIV/AIDS Education Sessions, Workshops and Support Groups to inmates as well as also disseminated HIV/AIDS Education and Information Materials to them. Furthermore,

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the Global Fund also conducted training of correctional officers and nurses on HIV/AIDS during the review period.

The UNODC, during the review period, spent an amount to the tune of N\$275,000.00. The Activities undertaken by the UNODC during the review period included testing of correctional officers for cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure; training of trainers in HIV/AIDS as capacity development to implement effective sustainable HIV response in correctional facilities; conducting monitoring and evaluation meetings; supervisory visits; funding of the commemoration of World Aids Day at one of our facilities including sponsorship of materials and clothing.

At this juncture, allow me Honourable Members, to express our gratitude to these critical social partners for their continued assistance.

CHALLENGES

The Namibian Correctional Service have some of the following challenges:

Correctional Facilities:

Our Correctional Facilities are not correctly placed in the country. They are mostly located in the previously white dominated towns and cities. Therefore some areas that are densely populated do not have correctional facilities. For example Oluno Rehabilitation Centre currently services Oshana, Omusati, Oshana, Oshana, Oshikoto Regions and to some extent Kavango and Caprivi Regions. As a result, we often experience perpetual overcrowding at some of our facilities and devote much time and resources on transporting offenders to remote areas for courts and other activities. The Department also has a challenge of transporting prisoners to court, as it is costly and is a security risk to both the officer and prisoners. The Ministry will consult the stakeholders, particularly the Ministry of Justice to have special courts in some parts of the country.

Security Equipment

The need for appropriate security equipment such as communication devices, transport, standby power generators, fire-arms, handcuffs, straight-jackets and scanners is critical for the maintenance of security and order in a sensitive environment such as corrections. Insufficient security equipment leaves us vulnerable to smuggling of contraband into our correctional facilities and open to riots, attacks by offenders and public, escapes, smuggling of dangerous articles into our facilities and many other vulnerabilities.

Materials and Supplies for Offenders and Staff

As parties to the United Nations and the African Union, we strive to live up to UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the African Charter on Human Rights. This means we are expected to provide inmates with adequate food, water and electricity, clothing, open space, ventilation etc. However, the inadequacy of funds does not allow us to provide these services as required and it often results in legal action by offenders.

Furthermore, our staff are expected to present themselves in a manner which portrays a professional image requiring them to dress in proper uniform. However, this is also not often the case due to inadequate funds.

Manpower

The Namibian Correctional Service is experiencing an acute shortage of staff of over 60% due to the lack of funds.

The shortage of staff, particularly custodial staff responsible for security at facilities, is a serious security threat both to our facilities and the community at large because there is always the potential for escapes, riots and other serious incidents when staff are not enough.

The other critical shortage is that of medical personnel (i.e. doctors and nurses). Currently, the Namibian Correctional Service is utilising the

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services of medical personnel at Public Hospitals; meaning that a large number of offenders have to be escorted to outside Public Hospitals on a daily basis because of a lack of medical personnel within correctional facilities. This practice is not only a dangerous security risk, but the Ministry of Health and Social Services has also indicated its concern regarding the overloading of their staff and raised security related complaints.

Construction and conversion of several correctional facilities was completed, e.g. Evaristus Shikongo Correctional Facility, Hardap Correctional Facility and the Female Correctional Facility in Windhoek. However, we are unable to fully staff these facilities because of a lack of funds. Therefore, the additional funds that the Ministry of Finance provided will be used to recruit new correctional officers in order to address this challenge. Furthermore, the Offender Risk Management Correctional Strategy which we intend to roll-out to these facilities require specialised staff such as Social Workers and Psychologists who are critical in delivering rehabilitation programmes, but again without adequate funds, we are unable to recruit them.

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/2015

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, I would now like to take this opportunity to introduce Vote 21 of the Ministry of Safety and Security: the Namibian Correctional Service for your consideration.

The total Budget allocated for the Financial Year 2014/2015 amounts to a sum of **Eight Hundred Million and Nine Hundred and Sixty-two Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$800,962,000.00)**, of which **Six Hundred and Forty Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty-two Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$640,962,000.00)** is for the Operational Budget and **One Hundred and Sixty Million Namibian Dollars (N\$160,000,000.00)** is for the Development Budget.

The following four Programmes have been identified to be implemented

in the next Medium Term Expenditure Framework. They are:

Programme 1: Safe Custody and Rehabilitation

An amount of **Seven Hundred and Fourteen Million, Four Hundred and Thirty-Nine Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$714,439,000.00)** is allocated to Safe Custody and Rehabilitation.

Programme 2: Compliance and Control of Correctional Facilities

An amount of **Fifty-two Million and Fifty-eight Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$52,058,000.00)** is allocated to Compliance and Control of Correctional Facilities.

Programme 3: Reintegration

Five Million Nine Hundred and Fifty Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$5,950,000.00) are allocated to Reintegration.

Programme 4: Supervision and Support Services

Twenty-eight Million Five Hundred and Fifteen Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$28,515,000.00) is allocated to Supervision and Support Services.

CONCLUSION:

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee
Honourable Members, in conclusion, I now have the pleasure of requesting this beloved august House to approve the sum of **Eight Hundred Million, Nine Hundred and Sixty-two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$800,962,000.00)** for the Namibian Correctional Service. I thank you.

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, Honourable Minister.

Vote 22 – “Fisheries and Marines Resources,” **N\$368,748,000.00** put for introduction. I call upon the Honourable Minister. Minister you have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARIENE RESOURCES:
Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Introductory Remarks

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am delighted to stand before this Honourable House to seek approval of the Budget for Vote 22: **Fisheries and Marine Resources.**

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate my Colleague Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila for her continuous devising of a *pro-poor* National Budget geared towards reducing poverty, inequality and unemployment through job creation as embodied in the theme “***Fiscal Sustainability and Job-Creating Growth - Doing More with Less.***”

Honourable Members, the amount which I look for the House’s approval is a sum of **N\$368,748,000.00 million** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

This amount will be used by my Ministry in fulfilling its mandate of sustainable management of the living marine and freshwater resources and to promote responsible development of aquaculture. This will in turn lead to the improvement of the lives of fellow Namibian through increased food security, sustainable employment, poverty reduction and overall economic growth of our country.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am

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glad to report to the House that the fishing industry reported positive performance in 2013 in terms of catches, market prices and marketing of products. It is a known fact that the Fishing Industry plays a vital role in the Namibian economy with respect to value addition, employment creation, investment, export earnings and the general contribution to GDP.

The year under review experienced good earnings for the Fishing Industry in terms of market prices fetched by fish and fishery products exported, which was also supported by the favourable exchange rate in terms of the Namibian dollar against the major trading currencies.

We have been monitoring the fuel price fluctuations due to fuel being one of the major operational costs for the Fishing Industry.

During 2013, the fuel price closed the year at N\$11.11 which represents an increase of N\$0.67 from the N\$10.44 per litre recorded at the end of 2012. This is a minimal increase if compared to N\$1.32 observed between 2011 and 2012. However, favourable exchange rates helped to ease the impact of the ever-increasing fuel prices.

The Fishing Industry continued to play a vital role in employment creation with a total work force reported to be 13,380 in 2013 as compared to 12,131 workers recorded in 2012. The Industry has also made N\$50.8 million in socio-economic contributions, such as donations to the communities, bursaries for university students etc.

The Fishing Sector remains the 2nd largest earner of foreign currency behind mining, while the contribution to GDP is showing a gradual increase.

The value of fish and fish products for 2012 is estimated to be N\$5, 205 billion compared to N\$ 4. 9 billion recorded in 2011. During 2011 and 2012, the Fishing Industry contributed 3.7% and 3.9% to our GDP, respectively.

Notwithstanding a decline in the TAC in some species the contribution of

the Fisheries Sector to GDP showed an increase and is forecasted to slightly improve in line with the global economy recovery.

We expect the trend to continue as the Fishery Sector gradually recovers in its performance and contribution to GDP and employment creation. The Government continues to encourage value addition in the Fishing Sector especially in the horse mackerel through canning onshore, in the quest to maximize the value of our fish and fishery products in the market and create new employment in the Fishing Sector.

Value addition will also serve as a competitive advantage for the Fishing Sector in terms of market diversification.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, allow me to motivate for specific Programmes, as follows:

Out of the total of **N\$368,748,000.00** allocated to Vote 22, an amount of **N\$309,248,000.00** is budgeted for Operational Activities, while **N\$59,500,000.00** is earmarked for expenditure on Capital Projects. Out of the Operational Expenditure, **N\$13,068 000.00** is allocated to Fisheries Observer Agency (FOA), while **N\$16,150,000.00** is allocated to Namibian Maritime and Fisheries Institute (NAMFI).

Lastly, an amount of **N\$500,000.00** will be transferred to the Luderitz Water Front Development Company (LWFDC) as part of our Ministry's contribution to that project.

The allocated amounts will be utilised as follow:

Programme 1: Survey and Stock Assessment

The main purpose of this programme is to assess the status of the fish stocks, as well as that of the marine environment in order to provide scientific advice to the Government on the sustainable utilisation of such resources.

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The Ministry was fortunate to receive additional funds, especially for activities under this Programme, which will ensure the continuous sustainable utilisation of our marine resources and the conservation of our ecosystem.

Seven biomass surveys were conducted to estimate stock sizes and distribution of all commercially exploited marine fish species, namely hake, monk, horse mackerel, sardines, crab, rock lobster and seals.

Furthermore, 15 routine Environmental monitoring surveys were conducted during the Financial Year 2013/2014. The surveys, amounting to a total of 300 sea days, were conducted onboard the Ministry's research vessels, the Research Vessels Mirabilis, Welwitchia and !Anichab.

The datasets collected during such surveys as well as data collected during special sampling programmes at the various Fish Factories in Walvis Bay and Luderitz and onboard commercial fishing vessels were used to determine the status of the various commercially harvested fish stocks and the status of the marine environment which enabled the formulation of scientific recommendations on the sustainable utilization of Namibian's living marine resources.

Based on these recommendations the Ministry was able to set Total Allowable Catches (TAC) and allocate quotas to individual right holders. The survey results revealed that most of Namibia's commercially important fish stocks are in relatively stable states, with some growing, while others, such as Pilchard still need to recover to sustainable levels where they can make a significant contribution to the economy.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, as this honourable house is fully aware, my Ministry has acquired a new research vessel RV Mirabilis, and a sea trial was conducted during the Financial Year 2013/2014, to test the trawling capability of the vessel. We have identified several issues that need to be rectified.

Once all the issues identified have been rectified, the RV Mirabilis is

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expected to significantly improve the Ministry's capacity to conduct marine surveys for the resources and the environment. The vessel is, therefore, expected to fully conduct surveys during the Financial Year 2014/2015. The acquisition of the RV Mirabilis, has resulted in the employment of two engine officers, two senior deck officers, three seamen and three able seaman during the Financial Year 2013/2014, while about 10 more positions are expected to be filled in the future.

Furthermore, during the 2013/14 Financial Year, the Ministry also embarked upon the development of the Horse Mackerel Management Plan, in collaboration with the Angolan Government and with the assistance from the ACP Fish II Project. This plan is now at an advanced stage and it is expected to be finalised during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, the Ministry will continue to carry out scientific surveys and research activities aimed at assessing the population dynamics and distribution of our commercially important stocks, such as hake, monk, horse mackerel, pilchard, crab, rock lobster, seals as well as those of the marine environment in order to provide the necessary time series for stock assessment purposes.

The Ministry also plans to conduct a survey for orange roughy during the Financial Year 2014/2015, in order to determine whether the status of this stock could allow for commercial exploitation of this resource to resume. The orange roughy fishery was put under a moratorium during 2009 fishing season due to poor catches recorded prior to that fishing season.

During the Financial Year 2014/2015, the Ministry shall make use of its research vessels to conduct surveys on our commercial fish stocks as mentioned above as well as research on the marine environment.

The Ministry intends to inter-calibrate the newly acquired RV Mirabilis with the existing vessels to enable a comparison of the time series data. As a result, funds should be availed to cover the operational costs for

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research vessels, inclusive of routine maintenance, fuel, lubricants and international statutory requirement of the classification societies.

It is further anticipated that the Ministry will complete the Horse Mackerel Management Plan, and embark on the development of the Pilchard Management Plan. The implementation of Management Plans is required for Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAF) that has been agreed upon by Fishing Nations and the Food and Agriculture organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to start in 2010 already.

EAF implementation shall see Fishing Nations moving away from target oriented fisheries management towards considering a broader spectrum of the entire ecosystem, including socio-economic issues, when managing fisheries resources.

Moreover, due to the increasing interests in mining for marine industrial minerals, such as Phosphate, the Ministry shall undertake an Environmental Assessment (EA) for seabed mining, which will be based on the *Environmental Management Act* of 2007. The process will start with a scoping study in 2014/2015, to be carried out by SINTEF Fisheries and Aquaculture, an impartial Norwegian company with global expertise in similar areas and will be followed by a strategic environmental assessment (SEA).

The SEA will enable the Ministry to develop an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the sustainable co-existence of marine phosphate mining and fisheries, which is the first of its kind and will have global implications. The Ministry shall thus require the necessary funding to be able to carry out this mammoth yet crucial task.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, to fulfil our responsibilities under this Programme we require **N\$91,779,000.00** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Programme 2: Human Resources Development

The Programme is aimed at equipping staff members with different skills and training development programmes in various fields at all levels in the Ministry.

During the Financial Year 2013/2014 the Ministry has administered thirty four (34) bursaries and scholarships with fourteen (14) new bursaries awarded to staff members as a contribution to the accumulative target of 30 per MTEF period.

Eight (8) bursary holders have completed their studies and obtained Certificates, Diplomas and Honours Degrees, while others are continuing with their studies in various fields. It is expected that more bursaries will be awarded to more staff members in the Financial Year 2014/2015, and the process to award new bursaries has commenced.

In order to address the strategic needs of the Ministry we have trained a hundred and fifty (150) staff members in various skills development fields, during the Financial Year 2013/14. Notably, the number of training courses was in Electronic Document Record Management System (EDRMS), maritime training, report writing and database maintenance.

In addition, the Ministry through the Namibian Maritime and Fisheries Institute (NAMFI) has trained personnel in navigation and basic safety in compliance with International Convention of Standard of Training and Watch-keeping for seafarers.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, an amount of **N\$1,863,000.00** under Vote 22, as per MTEF, has been allocated to this important Programme for the Financial Year 2014/2015. This amount has significantly increased by a tune of **N\$500,000.00** as compared to the Financial Year 2013/2014.

I, therefore, would like to applaud the Government for meeting our request and enable our Ministry to meet some of the targets in human

resources development. I would like to assure the House that with this amount, the Ministry will address the training needs as identified in the Report by the National Technical Training Needs Assessment (TNA).

Programme 3: Marine and Inland Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure that fishing and fisheries related activities within the Namibian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and inland water bodies comply with the country's fisheries legislation. Further, the programme ensures that fishing activities by the licensed Namibian flagged vessels outside our EEZ are done in conformity with international laws and applicable conservation measures of regional fisheries management organisations to which the country is a party.

The Namibian MCS operations are based on the deployment of inspectors onboard the two fisheries patrol vessels and two patrol aircrafts. monitoring and control of fishing related activities at the harbours and fish processing plants, coastal and inland patrols, and the inspection of rivers and inland freshwater bodies. The Ministerial MCS Programme is supplemented by the Fisheries Observer Programme since 1992.

Furthermore, another MCS tool to monitor fishing activities is the vessel monitoring system (VMS) which was commissioned during the Financial Year 2013/2014.

The Ministry through the Fisheries Observer Agency places fisheries observes onboard each licensed Namibian fishing vessel. The main functions of fisheries observers are to observe the fishing activities onboard the vessels and report to the Ministry the compliance with the fisheries legislation as per the *Marine Resources Act* of 2000.

The fisheries observers are further assigned to collect basic scientific data on the commercial fish resources onboard the fishing vessels. The data collected is processed and analysed by our scientists at the National Marine Information and Research Centre (NatMIRC).

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The MCS remains important and an effective fisheries management tool through which Namibia has managed to protect, conserve and enhance the sustainable harvesting of our living marine resources.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, on the 18th of April 2013, I informed this august House that we have recorded a break-through in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing within inland fisheries. However, a number of fishermen still continue to take advantage of the vastness of the freshwater fishery area and the none availability of inspectors especially in Kavango East and Kavango West Regions.

I am glad to inform you that under this programme, the Ministry will continue to undertake special operation like the one carried out over the Kavango River in November 2013. The Ministry is further considering the strengthening of MCS in the Kavango Regions to ensure the effective enforcement of inland fisheries legislation.

The joint operations between the fisheries inspectors and other Namibian law enforcement agencies will also be considered during the course of the Financial Year 2014/2015. In addition, I would like to thank the Ministry of Justice for responding to our request to grand the fisheries inspectors with the status of peace officer in terms of the *Criminal Procedures Act*.

In order to carry out activities under this programme during the Financial Year 2014/2015, an amount of **N\$145,565,000.00** is requested.

Programme 4: Promotion of Marine & Inland Aquaculture

The purpose of this Programme is to ensure responsible and sustainable development of aquaculture, and sustainable utilization of inland fisheries resources to increase export earnings, enhance food security, reduce poverty, generate employment, improve rural livelihoods, and increase investment.

However, due to the drought experienced during the Financial Year

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2012/2013, production of inland fisheries aquaculture fish has decreased dramatically. Surface water has been in short supply during this time due to insufficient precipitation. Things are now optimistic because the majority of our country has received above average rainfalls.

The sustainable utilization of our inland fisheries resources is a high priority for our Ministry, and we commit ourselves to continuously monitoring of the inland fisheries resources in order to determine fish catches as well as the biological diversity and health of the resources.

In order to protect our Inland fisheries resources, the Ministry will embark on the following activities during the Financial Year 2014/2015: namely:

- The creation of Fish Protected Areas (FPA's) will receive high priority in order for organised communities/conservancies to protect their local fisheries resources from external unauthorised exploitation.
- The implementation of a closed fishing season during the breeding season is also high on the agenda.
- The strengthening of our partnerships in several trans-boundary management initiatives with riparian states such as Botswana, Zambia and Angola so that we can monitor the impact of fishing on the shared inland fisheries resources efficiently.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, there are currently four aquaculture centres producing fingerlings for fish production by fish farmers, cooperatives and MFMR fish farms. These centers are the Hardap Inland Aquaculture Centre (HIAC), Omahenene/Onavivi Inland Aquaculture Centre (Onavivi IAC), Ongwediva Inland Aquaculture Centre (OIAC) and Kamutjonga Inland Fisheries Institute (KIFI).

Fingerling production and dissemination to fish farmers is conducted at the Hardap, Omahenene and Kamutjonga Inland Aquaculture Centres.

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The Omahenene Inland Aquaculture Centre supplies the Government owned Epalela Fish Farm with fingerlings for production.

We envisage the upgrading of Kamutjonga Inland Fisheries Institute and the Hardap Inland Aquaculture Centres to fish production centres as well.

Most of the funds allocated to these centres during the year under reporting went into their various activities (fingerling production, trainings, extensions, fish productions, and research). Funds will be needed to continue with aquaculture activities at all the centres mentioned above as well as for the new Hatchery in the Zambezi Region and the new Leonardville Fish Farm establishment in the Omaheke Region.

In addition, the Ministry will upgrade Fonteintjie Fish Farm in the Karas Region and renovate Mpungu Fish Farm in the Kavango West Region in the Financial Year 2014/2015. The Leonardville Fish Farm in the Omaheke Region is near its completion and an amount of N\$9.8 million was spent on the construction of accommodation facilities, dry shed, and electrical works during the reporting period. The total cost of this farm is estimated at N\$24 million.

With respect to Onakalunga Fish Farm in Ohangwena region, an amount of N\$1.3 million was used for the construction of the 1st phase (erection of a fence), and N\$5 million is required for the next phase of development in the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I would like to report that the capture and subsistence inland fisheries from rivers, lakes and oshanas in the Zambezi, Kavango, Oshana, Ohangwena, Oshikoto and Omusati Regions play an important role in the daily lives of our rural communities.

The fishing season in the Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshikoto and Oshana Regions was severely affected by the drought during the Financial Year 2012/2013 season as no seasonal flooding occurred during the rainy

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season. Oshanas did not receive water, which severely affected the capture of fish from these natural resources.

However, the capture fishery in the Zambezi and Kavango Regions continue to contribute to food security and income generation throughout the year. The Katima fish market sold 1,963 ton of fish during the Financial Year 2012/2013 with an estimated value of N\$15 million.

The fish yield from the Zambezi Region floodplains is estimated at 5,340 ton per annum (N\$41 million) with the majority coming from Lake Liambezi. It is difficult to monitor the sale of fish from Lake Liambezi as not all of it is sold at the Katima Fish Market.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the Master Plan for Aquaculture has now been completed and will be submitted to Cabinet for endorsement before the launch takes place during the Financial Year 2014/2015. The Master Plan puts in place firm and pragmatic measures to kick-start and accelerate the nation-wide freshwater aquaculture development that will ensure equitable access to natural, human and economic resources and opportunities, as well as create the platform for social justice for women, men and the youth.

It further identifies key areas and provides a road map for sustainable development of marine aquaculture in order to generate socio-economic benefits to our people.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, apart from money appropriated by Parliament, we are also receiving financial and technical assistance from our development partners in the field of aquaculture: namely the Kingdom of Spain, the People's Republic of China, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Republic of Cuba.

The Government of the Kingdom of Spain has been supporting aquaculture development by providing financial and technical assistance to Namibia since the establishment of the Aquaculture Directorate in 2004.

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The latest addition to their support is the construction of a hatchery in Katima Mulilo to the tune of NS6 million which will be completed before the end of the Financial Year 2014/2015.

The main objective of this hatchery is to supply fingerlings for outgrowth to communal and commercial farmers in the Zambezi Region, thus our way of bringing service closer to the people.

In the same vein, the People's Republic of China has provided a grant of N\$15 million for aquaculture development in Namibia, a portion from the N\$65 million given to Namibia in 2009. This grant will be used to upgrade the Hardap Inland Aquaculture Centre (HIAC) in the Hardap Region.

A Chinese construction company has arrived in Namibia and the process of signing a construction contract between the Ministry and the company is at an advanced stage. The centre will serve the southern regions of the country by supplying fingerlings to fish farms in the south.

I am equally pleased to report that the implementation of the South-South Cooperation Programme in support of aquaculture development between the Republic of Namibia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is

progressing well and activities identified under this Programme are being implemented.

The Programme is funded by the Kingdom of Spain to the tune of US\$1.8 million for the duration of five years, ending at the end of 2015 calendar year. The Vietnamese South-South Cooperation technical assistance in support of aquaculture development is identified under the National Programme for Food Security (NPFS), as one of the key Sectors with potential for rapid growth and rural development.

Furthermore, Namibia's bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Cuba where aquaculture specialists from Cuba are attached to the Government

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owned fish farms assisting in fish feed and fish production activities has yielded positive fruits.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, in order to carry out activities under this programme during the Financial Year 2014/2015, an amount of **N\$49,761,000.00** is sought for support.

Programme 5: Coordination and Support Services

The purpose of this Programme is to provide administrative support to the Vote's Programmes and ensure proper financial management, optimal utilisation of resources such as human, financial, information technology, maintenance, logistical management and capacity building.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, major activities to be carried out under this Programme are such as the extension of the Head Office to ensure that the Ministerial staff members are housed adequately.

However, the construction work of this project is still on hold due to unforeseen technical circumstances involved in tendering and awarding process of the project. I have no doubt that, should the technical hiccups be ironed out, we will be able to commence with the construction and the amount of **N\$18,000 000.00** budgeted for in 2014/2015 will be utilised.

The Ministry is faced with the challenges of securing finances to acquire new and suitable vehicles that meet the operational demand of the Ministry.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, in order to carry out Activities under this Programme during the Financial Year 2014/2015, an amount of **N\$64,050,000.00** is sought for support.

Programme 6: Policy and Economic Advice

The main purpose of the Programme is to advise the Ministry on socio-economic outlook and performance of the fishing industry and also to analyse the socio-economic impact of the allocated total allowable catch (TAC) on the Fishing Industry. In addition, through this programme, the Ministry honours Namibia's obligations to regional and international fisheries organization to which Namibia is party to.

It further covers the socio-economic appraisal of Total Allowable Catch (TAC), for every commercial fishery which is done at the end of each fishing season and before the new Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the following season. Socio-economic recommendations are also presented to the Marine Advisory Council which in turn advises the Minister on the appropriate TAC for each fishery. In addition, the programme enables the Ministry to review the policy framework that governs the fishing sector operations as well as fishing rights.

The Ministry carries out annual analysis on the economic performance of the Fishing Industry in terms of employment, investment, socio-economic contribution and value addition. This is done to ensure that maximum benefit from the living marine resource is accrued to the economy.

There is also a continued dialogue between the Ministry and the Fishing Industry through this Programme to keep track of the effectiveness and the realisation of the Namibianisation policy.

The Ministry continues to support the consumption of fish locally through the **Namibia Fish Consumption Promotion Trust** (NFCPT) whereby fish are made accessible and affordable in all fourteen regions. The Trust carried out Promotion Programmes, such as road shows and demonstrates on how to clean and prepare fish cuisine.

During the Financial Year 2013/2014 the Trust hosted the **National Fish Consumption Day** (NFCD) in Omaheke Region on 14 September 2013.

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It envisaged that the third NFCD will be hosted by the Otjozondjupa region in the month of September 2014.

The Trust has distributed **6,700 metric tons** of horse mackerel in the Financial Year 2013/2014 compared to **4,600 metric tons** distributed in the Financial Year 2012/2013. This is a clear indication that the appetite for the consumption of fish is improving, and we believe that Namibia's per capita consumption of fish is improving for the better.

The Ministry will continue to allocate a horse mackerel quota to the Trust for it to be able to distribute fish at below market price through the country. The Ministry is committed and focused on market diversification and continues to encourage the fishing industry to jointly participate in international seafood expositions as a way to showcase and promote our fish and fishery products.

However, due to insufficient funds the Ministry was not able to participate in international seafood expositions in the Financial Year 2013/2014; therefore it is our wish to participate in at least 4 expositions this Financial Year.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the Ministry has embarked upon the revision of the two main policies and legislative framework guiding the operations of the Ministry in the management of the fishery resources, namely the Inland Fisheries Policy and Marine Resources Policy.

The *Inland Fisheries Act* has been reviewed and the process is at an advanced stage to review the Policy document before they are submitted through the normal legislative making process. The review of the Marine Resources Policy, Act and Regulations will commence during the Financial Year 2014/2015, starting with the revision of the Marine Resources Policy. This project is expected to take approximately three years to be completed.

The reasons for the review of the two sets of legislations were to

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strengthen the legislative framework by accommodating recent development in fisheries management globally, regionally and nationally and well as to address any shortcomings identified in the implementation and enforcement of the legislation.

Lastly, the Ministry is at an advance stage of developing the Shellfish Sanitation Regulations which is aimed at ensuring food safety during production, harvesting and transportation of Shellfish intended for human consumption. It is expected that the regulations will be finalized during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, in order to carry out Activities under this programme during the Financial Year 2014/2015, an amount of **N\$14,801,000.00** is sought for support.

Programme 7: Non Tax and Revenue Administration

The main purpose of this Programme is to verify landings and the collection of State revenue in the form of quota fees and by-catch fees from the fishing industry.

In order to carry out activities under this programme, the Ministry during the course of the last financial year has embarked upon the Revenue Collection and Debtor's Management System (RCDMS) project, which is aimed at assisting the Ministry to operate in a more efficient way.

The main reason for developing such a system is a result of the challenges the Ministry has faced in the collection of Government revenue; thus the System will improve revenue collection as it will enable the Ministry to bill right holders with ease by issuing quarterly invoices.

In order to carry out activities under this programme during the Financial Year 2014/2015, an amount of **N\$928,000.00** is sought for support.

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Conclusion

Honourable Deputy Chairperson Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, allow me to submit, to this august House, Vote 22: **Fisheries and Marine Resources** for 2014/2015 for consideration and approval. I thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. I did not want to interrupt you and I thought I should remind the Honourable Members at this point that we have an invitation from the Honourable Member who has just spoken. The Honourable Minister of Fisheries invited us to taste some of the food items he described in his Motivation Speech.

Vote 31 – **“VETERANS AFFAIRS,” N\$1,558,243,000.00.** May I ask the Honourable Minister to introduce the Vote?

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Honourable Members, let me say the following before I make my Statement: The Government Accountability Report 2012/2013 of the period under review and the Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks for the Financial Years 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 have been made available to you. Honourable Members, these books have been available to you for you to read. All the facts and figures can be found there and you will then come and ask me tomorrow. I will, therefore, not bother you with a long Statement. I will be brief.

Honourable Members, the Ministry of Veterans Affairs’ mandate is to initiate, promote and implement Projects and Programmes that address the socio-economic needs of the veterans including keeping the national

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liberation history alive. Therefore, I am now taking ground to motivate Vote 31 for your kind consideration and approval.

Firstly, I want to congratulate the Honourable Minister of Finance, the Director General of the National Planning Commission and their staff for a well composed budget which indeed aims to support inclusive growth in a fiscal sustainable manner and by doing so, enable us to achieve our national development goals, investing in our future and to raise the living standards of our people.

Secondly, I want to draw the Honourable Members' attention to the Government Accountability Report of the Financial Year 2012/2013, which detailed the activities of the year under review. Therefore, for the detailed Activities of what had happened, fact and figures are available in that Accountability Report Pages 378 - 38s. The execution rate of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs for the Financial Year 2012/2013 stands at 99.88%.

Thirdly, I am now moving to present the budget request for the Vote 31, Ministry of Veterans Affairs for the Financial Year 2014/2015:

The Ministry is requesting the Honourable Members to support and approve the allocation of **One Billion Five Hundred and Fifty Eight Million Two Hundred and Forty Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,558,243,000.00)** to enable the Ministry to carry out its Mandate as outlined in the Medium Term Expenditure Framework 2014/2015 - 2016/2017 on Pages 358 - 362.

The Programmes under Vote 31 and the funds allocated for each of programme and its Activities are as follows:

PROGRAMME 1: VETERANS WELFARE DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of this Programme is to coordinate the designing, monitoring and evaluation of activities that are aimed at improving the welfare of veterans of the national liberation struggle. An amount **One Billion Four**

Hundred and Seventy Eight Million and Eighty One Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,478,081,000.00) is allocated.

Activity 1: Registration of Veterans and Dependents of Deceased Veterans

The Ministry continues to register many Namibians who feel have contributed to the course of our independence. To date the Veterans Board granted veteran status to 27,014 applicants.

Honourable Members, you may recall that last year, I introduced the *Veterans Act Amendment Bill* 2013, which you unanimously passed. Under registration activity, the Ministry will review the existing regulations and formulate new ones that will interpret those new amendments introduced in the *Amendment of the Veterans Act*, 2013. The Ministry will also continue printing Veterans' Identification Cards until all veterans are issued with their cards.

To cover these Activities the Ministry requests **Five Hundred and Eighty One Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$581,000.00)** during the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Activity 2: Support Package to Veterans (*Payment of Monthly Financial Assistance*)

The Ministry will continue to pay a monthly subvention to unemployed veterans and veterans whose income is below the taxable threshold.

An amount of **Two Hundred and Seventy Million Namibia Dollars (N\$270,000,000.00)** is requested to pay monthly subventions to veterans.

Activity 3: Payment of a Once-Off Gratuity (Lump Sum)

As veterans are approved, the lump sums are paid to veterans as a token of appreciation for their contribution to the liberation struggle.

The Ministry is requesting **Four Hundred and Seventy Four Million,**

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Four Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$474,400,000.00) for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Activity 4: Education and Training Grants to Veterans and Dependents of Deceased Veterans

The purpose of the Educational and Training Grant is to provide financial support to veterans and dependents of deceased and living veterans who wish to further their studies or obtain vocational skills at institutions of higher learning in Namibia.

A total amount of **Five Million Namibia Dollars (N\$5,000,000.00)** is requested to implement this activity for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Activity 5: Funeral Grant

For this Activity, the Ministry requires **Three Million Namibia Dollars (N\$3,000,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Activity 6: Individual Veterans' Projects

Veterans continue venturing into projects in areas of property development, livestock farming, transportation and crop production. Some projects are successfully implemented and veterans are reaping the fruits of their projects. An amount of **Six Hundred and Twenty-One Million Namibia Dollars (N\$621,000,000.00)** is required for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Activity 7: Housing

To date 122 houses were constructed for the elderly, sickly and severely disabled veterans since the inception of the Programme in 2012.

We envisage constructing 70 houses across the 14 regions of the country in the 2014/2015 financial year. The Ministry, therefore, requests **Fifteen Million Namibia Dollars (N\$15,000,000.00)** for this purpose.

Activity 8: Resettlement

The Ministry envisage acquiring 3 farms during this Financial Year and it is requesting **Fifteen Million Namibia Dollars (N\$15,000,000.00)** for that purpose.

Activity 9: Development Planning/Projects Management Programme

The purpose of this activity is to plan and implement Ministerial development projects and to facilitate the implementation of Veterans projects in the areas of poultry farming, agriculture, brick making and recreational facilities for veterans to improve their income and livelihood that are income generating and self-sustainable. An amount of **Twenty Three Million One Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$23,100,000.00)** is allocated with the following sub activities:

i) Etaka Veterans Recreational Centre

An amount of **Three Million Namibia Dollars (N\$3,000,000.00)** is allocated.

ii) Ministerial Capital Projects with Three Sub-activities

- (a) Acquisition and Construction of Offices for MOVA Head office and Regional Offices:

An amount of **Four Million Namibian Dollars (N\$4,000,000.00)** is allocated.

- (b) Agricultural Support Programme

An amount of **One Hundred Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$100,000.00)** is allocated.

- (c) Construction of Veteran Houses

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An amount of **Sixteen Million Namibia Dollars (N\$16,000,000.00)** is allocated.

Activity 10: Veterans Association Grant

An amount of **One Million Namibia Dollars (N\$1,000,000.00)** is needed to enable the Namibia National Liberation Veterans Association to do its work during the 2014/2015 financial year as per their mandate and in accordance with the *Veterans Act*, (Act No 2 of 2008).

Activity 11: Improvement of Welfare for Ex-Plan Combatants

This activity is aimed at the improvement of the welfare of Ex-PLAN combatant veterans who were actively involved in combat formation up to 1989, who are unemployed, retired, disabled and Robben Island Political Prisoners. An amount of **Fifty Million Namibia Dollars (N\$50,000,000.00)** is allocated for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

PROGRAMME 2: LIBERATION STRUGGLE HERITAGE

The aim of this Programme is to ensure that the history of the liberation struggle is preserved and kept alive for the present and future generations. This will be done through undertaking research, documenting, collecting and preserving information and/or materials on the history of the liberation struggle. The project will also include the building of outdoor museums, the identification of sites where acts of the liberation struggle took place and the marking and erection of monuments at the sites.

In order to undertake these tasks, the Programme needs **Eleven Million Six Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$11,600,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

PROGRAMME 3: COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The main objective of this Programme is to ensure an enabling and

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conducive environment and to the improve performance culture in the Ministry.

An amount of **Sixty Eight Million Five Hundred and Sixty Two Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$68,562,000.00)** is allocated with the following Activities:

Activity 1: Capacity Building

To enhance the capacity of staff members for them to effectively and efficiently deliver services to veterans of the liberation struggle the Ministry has financially assisted 13 Staff Members to undergo qualifying courses at the University of Namibia, Polytechnic of Namibia and The International University of Management during the Financial Year **2013/2014**.

An amount of **Nine Hundred and Thirty Three Thousand Namibian Dollars (N\$933,000.00)** is requested for this Activity.

Activity 2: Monitoring and Evaluation

The Ministry conducts periodical monitoring and evaluation of individual veterans' projects in order to ensure that the Veteran's Projects are sustainable and progressing. An amount of **Three Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$300,000.00)** is requested to execute this Activity.

Activity a: Veterans Sensitization

The Ministry regularly sensitize and provide relevant information to veterans with regard to the benefits of veterans and about the Ministry's Programmes for veterans. An amount of **Three Hundred Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$300,000.00)** is requested.

Activity 4: General Administrative Services

This Activity focus on the general administration support services of the Ministry.

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An amount of **Twenty Six Million, Four Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$26,465,000.00)** is requested for the Ministry to carry out this activity in the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Activity 5: Personnel Expenditure

This aims at the management and monitoring of remuneration expenditure, benefits, and other personnel expenditure of the Ministry.

An amount of **Forty Million, Five Hundred and Sixty Four Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$40,564,000.00)** is requested to cater for this Activity in the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, it is against this background that those Activities of the Ministry of Veterans Affairs, Vote 31, are being presented and I am requesting the support and approval from you Honourable Members for a total amount of **One Billion Five Hundred and Fifty Eight Million Two Hundred and Forty Three Thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$1,558,243,000.00)** for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

Honourable Members, I anticipate your full support and I thank you all.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much for that brief introduction. It is very much appreciated. Honourable Members, we now move on to the next item on our agenda.

Vote 12 – “**GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE,**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? I recognise, Honourable Jankowski.

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you Honourable Chairperson of the Whole

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House Committee for granting me this opportunity to make a contribution to Vote 12.

One of the important measures of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare is to reunite society, both female and male, to empower them and to ensure that women are granted equal opportunities in decision-making and politics. This Vote will give participants in the society to build on the values of gender equality, social economic and political empowerment.

I appreciate the improvement of this budget allocation and the promise to reach out to more citizens in terms of service delivery. In Programme 3 (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Please let her continue in peace. Yes, you have the Floor, please continue.

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Programme 3 will ensure sustainable development in the communities. Honourable Members, our women are breadwinners who wake up at 05:00 every morning without seeing their children and their husbands and they come back very late in the evening. My plea to the Honourable House is to establish after care centres for our children so that they can be looked after. That is my contribution towards Vote 12 and I thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. That was short and sweet. Honourable Shixwameni, please.

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HON SHIXWAMENI: My contribution is very short. I support the Vote, but I still think that the money allocated to them is very little. I wish that they could have been allocated more money and I hope that the Honourable Minister and staff will be able to lobby for more money to be allocated to this Vote next year.

I would like to touch on two issues one of them is the *Divorce Bill*. When we, as the Committee on Gender, went out in the community this has been a very serious concern, particularly this whole story of the red line marriages needs to be addressed whether we like it or not. We need to address and resolve it. The *Divorce Bill* has to come to this House as quickly as it can so that it does not take up to 20 years to dissolve a marriage. Most people cannot afford to pay for divorce proceedings and the Honourable Minister of Justice, through the Law Reform Commission, should really wake up and make sure the *Divorce Bill* is brought here.

Let us free people that cannot stay in matrimony anymore as easily as possible. It should not take a couple more than N\$100,000 to just get a divorce. (Interjections) I can tell you that my marriage is very stable and we are very happy. However, I do not want those who have problems in their marriages to be frustrated because the Law provides that you get married by a Pastor and then the marriage must be dissolved by the High Court or the Supreme Court. If the Pastor that married you can dissolve a marriage as simple as that then it should not take N\$100,000 to dissolve a marriage. I think that this one needs to be attended to. (Interjection) Those of you with problems in your marriages can talk about it but we need to address this issue.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Yes, Honourable Angela, speaking on a Point of Order.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: The Pope has a representative here

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and he is listening. Are you aware of that?

HON SHIXWAMENI: I am a devoted Roman Catholic person.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable, he is trying to respond to the question and then you can come in after he responded. Yes, please.

HON SHIXWAMENI: I can tell you and I can confess in this Chamber that I am a devoted Roman Catholic person, but I have my own differences with the Roman Catholic Church. I have argued it when my late uncle Bishop Hausiku was the Arch Bishop here. I argued with him. I gave him a book called *Fidel and Religion*. That does not take away my being Roman Catholic. Pope Francis, I think, is still doing a very good job and we must encourage him that he continues doing what he is doing.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Can I suggest that we stick to the Budget? I think we are drifting away from the issue. Honourable Nujoma.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Honourable Shixwameni, the Chief Justice of Kenya, just a few days ago, was reported in the newspaper saying that for those of you who have a lot of problems, the Courts have a lot of backlog all over because of petty issues. Everybody was saying that it has now become a common Language, *we will meet in Court, we will meet in Court*. He suggested that; *please go back to our old cultures, go*

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to the witchdoctors. Do you agree with him?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Yes?

HON SHIXWAMENI: I think the *Divorce Bill* is on Page 10. I do not believe in witchcraft, for your information, but I think that we should address that as a serious issue. It is not a joking matter. It is a serious issue that needs to be addressed. Let us bring the *Divorce Bill* to the Table. Let us address that and release those ones that are having problems because the issues of Gender-Based Violence are linked to this matter. You go and pledge *till death us part* while you are burning in the house. Let us do that for the sake of our Nation.

The second one is the issue of Orphans and Vulnerable Children. Honourable Saarah Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, I hope that the issue of Orphans and Vulnerable Children will be addressed next year. The N\$200 or N\$300 that they are receiving now is peanuts. I travelled with some Members to Ohangwena and Oshikoto and I can tell you I was literally in tears. There was a time that these kids were just there. The community overlooks them and you can just imagine yourself what one can do with N\$300. Honourable Members, imagine yourself going to the shop with N\$300. What can you buy with that? This is a serious issue.

I do not know where that Report has ended up but that Report needs to lie on the Floor of this Parliament. The OVC Grant needs to be improved, very seriously. That is all that I want to say because they are really suffering. We had to take out money, I do not know with whom I was on that Committee meeting. We had to take out money. There were these people that were in this house, they told us that they have not eaten for two weeks in Ohangwena. It is true. That Report is lying somewhere

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down here. (Interjections) Retired General, you know yourself that you can stay in the field as a soldier. You can even stay for a week without eating and only depend on wild fruits. You know that you can depend on wild fruits for two weeks. Let us address the issue of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children.

The Honourable Minister spoke about the issue of teenage pregnancies. It is not only politics. These are serious problems that are affecting our country. I do not know because people drive in darkened cars and they do not see these things. These things are available from the statistics. They are available from the Namibian Statistics Agency, an Agency that we have established ourselves in this Chamber. These statistics are not forged. Teenage pregnancy is particularly prevalent in Kavango and Ohangwena Regions. The Honourable Minister will agree. Read the statistics. (Interventions) Just go to Stytler, he will give you these things free of charge and please if you cannot read, contract somebody to read for you because as lawmakers and Leaders of this country we cannot ignore the statistics as they are being put out. The teenage pregnancy issue needs serious address.

**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE:** Thank you very much. Honourable Kaiyamo, please.

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND
IMMIGRATION:** I support this Vote wholeheartedly and would like to underline the following as a foot soldier of the Ministry. The ECDs are very important parts of our collective responsibility and I appreciate the ECD centres in our Regions.

Comrade Minister, my only request is that some of these ECD centre, Colleagues, especially those who are involved should be included and travel with the Honourable Minister when he is travelling abroad so that

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they can be exposed to good practices. What I am saying is that they must be exposed to other realities in Africa and other countries abroad. Lastly, the amount allocated here is not enough and I would like to ask the Minister of Finance to add to it so that our ECDs can improve. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kavetuna, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORT AND CULTURE: Thank you very much, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I am rising to support this important Vote. Firstly, I would like to talk on the issue of homes of safety and shelter. I think that it is very important that we should look at ways how we can improvise on creating this environment for many women rather than putting up shelters in every centre but try to improvise on ways how we can protect women without putting up shelters, maybe identifying Institutions like Churches. Otherwise, if we wait for shelters, it would be too long for some people who are living under abuse to be protected.

My other concern is on the Maintenance Court. I have said this and I feel strongly that the children are marginalised in many ways because the fines that are being given to parents, especially the *tates*, to pay to maintain the child are peanuts. Sometimes it is between N\$150 and N\$250 even if the parent is a Minister. Let us try to look at the quality of life of this child instead of giving an amount, whether it is N\$150 or N\$250.

I would like to recommend to the Ministry to have a legal desk in order to advice women in terms of divorces and to assist women on procedures to

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follow when they are in these kinds of situations.

The next point is on the adoption process under the Children's Vote. The current process is un-African, it is cumbersome and it is too long. When I want to adopt a child of my sister, even if I am a teacher or in any other profession, why do I need to go through scrutiny, whether I have a husband or not and whether I am living happily? Let us make it African because we want to assist children who do not have parents. It should be made easy so that when I come and say I am her sister and I want to assist, let somebody help me and give me authority to look after this child.

The last one is on the issue of economic empowerment of women. Honourable Minister, we have given this money, the N\$5,000, and it is scattered around. It does not make an impact. Can we start piloting on projects where we can put massive money from our pool in order to see how much employment are able to create and what kind of improvement we are bringing rather than giving these small things. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Mushelenga, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

My concern which I also raised last year here is the gender *biasedness* of the Gender Ministry. I did caution here that we must be very careful when we talk of the Gender Ministry that it should be a Gender Ministry and not Women Affairs Ministry. When you look in the MTEF document on Page 122 the main objectives of the Ministry are; *to improve the status of women and girls to ensure equal rights, opportunities and conditions for both men and women to realise their full Human Rights as well as for contributing to and benefitting from economic, social, cultural and*

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political development.

It is well and good when we talk of both men and women to realise their rights with regard to benefiting from economic development but now when you look at the Ministerial targets; Target 7 talks about the empowerment that is benefiting of women and men from the micro business development support. It says by the end of 2016/2017 MTEF 42,005 women out of 140,000 unemployed women while 9,800 out of 90,000 unemployed men would be economically empowered through micro business development support. Basic mathematics tells you that here it talks about 30% empowerment of unemployed women and 10% empowerment of unemployed men. I think that the Ministry should carefully look at this because then they are no longer talking about gender equality. You are disadvantaging one gender while furthering the other. Unemployment is just unemployment. If you have both women and men unemployed, why do you not take equal percentage from that number? Why do you have 30% favouring women, 10% favouring men? Otherwise, we would think it is still a Ministry of Women affairs. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I need help because as I was going through the Motivation, I was trying to understand the core function of this Ministry by looking at the things that have been listed there. The Honourable Minister was happy to see the OVC Grants increased with N\$50. That is one thing that the Ministry was supposed to have been fighting for in order to have a proper increase.

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If one looks at Page 8 – what the Ministry is planning to do with these small projects, these are business related projects. There is a Ministry responsible for creating business opportunities for all Namibians. It has nothing to do with the Ministry of Gender. The function must be with the relevant Ministry. What is the core function of this Ministry? If one looks at the function of Rural Development, the Ministry of Local Government is responsible for Rural Development. (Interjections) You are listening to a politician from Okakarara. This is Okakarara English. If you look at the function of that Ministry, the Ministry which was supposed to be looking at gender-related issues is also involved in Rural Development.

You split the Budget into various Ministries that were supposed to be consolidated into one Ministry and have proper planning and implementation of development. If the Minister has nothing to do, then obviously we may not keep that Ministry. We cannot just create a Ministry for the sake of creating a Ministry. A Ministry must have a responsibility and concentrate on that. These various functions being divided among various Ministries do not make any sense.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order, Honourable Mutorwa.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I think the Honourable Member is Out of Order because he is trying to convey the message that the Minister is responsible for creating Ministries. Constitutionally that function of creating Ministries and Departments is the prerogative of the Head of State. I think it would be much better if the Honourable Member can just confine himself to what is in that Statement.

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Member, please continue.

HON TJIHUIKO: I am just sending a message to the appointing authority. On Page 11, this is what the Minister had to say: *I would like to applaud Honourable Saarah Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Minister of Finance for increasing our budget allocation for Income Generating Activities from N\$1 million to N\$7 million.* Income Generating Activities is a starting point of any business that we call informal businesses. You graduate from the Informal Sector to formal, then to small and you go up. It must be located in the relevant Ministry. This increase will assist the Ministry to (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Another Point of Order, Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, the Honourable Member from one of the most unpopular Parties in this country is just making cheap political propaganda. He is not addressing the Budget. He is busy making cheap politics because one; Comrade Mutorwa has made it clear, I will not repeat that. He is busy manipulating propaganda. He wanted to talk about the N\$50 increase and he did not even substantiate what he was talking about.

He ended up in the air. He knows that there are rural people, specifically Programmes of Government are cross cutting depending on the Sector that you are trying to address. He knows that. It is a political year and these are cheap talks from a Party that has failed severely and a Member who will not be here next year.

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**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE:** Can we confine ourselves to the Budget?

HON TJIHUIKO: Let me try to confine myself to the Budget because the Honourable Member that has just spoken is the one that has been kicked out of the *Think Tank* because he just portrayed himself as being very important. I think that is one of the good acts that he is doing.

Coming back to the point; the mobilisation during 2013/2014 resulted in the Ministry providing start-up capital. The Ministry is providing start-up capital. The Ministry has become a bank giving people money and the Ministry has created 322 jobs more jobs than the Honourable Minister of Finance has created through TIPEEG.

Why can we not have all these functions into one Ministry? Now you have this 322 that has not been counted in the TIPEEG because of the difference. How many jobs have been created? I think my concern here is that we should be focused by having a Ministry concentrating on one area and doing it perfectly.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, before you rule me Out of Order, let me touch on the last point that I really wanted to raise. That is the question that the Honourable Member has just mentioned, the N\$50. If we concentrated on the core functions of this Ministry, the money that we are spending on business development that was supposed to have been done by a Ministry responsible for that, could have been used for the purpose of empowering our OVCs. The money is there. The only problem is that we are spending the money on the wrong project. This is the money that we could increase the contribution from N\$200 at least to N\$300 with. We are now increasing it with N\$50 because we want to be seen to be doing something in all the Regions where we were not supposed to be. Let us concentrate and let us be focused for God's sake! Having said that, I support the Vote.

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HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila please.

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I want to express my support for this Vote - **GENDER AND CHILD WELFARE.**

I must say that I am disturbed by some of the comments from some of the Honourable Members. I thought that Honourable Tjihuiko knew better than what he just pronounced now and I am taking solace in the belief that probably those pronouncements were only made because the elections are soon to come so that he would look like he is more sympathetic than other Members of the House on these issues.

I cannot bring myself to believe that Members of Parliament would not see the need for having a dedicated Institution and dedicated efforts aimed at ensuring that there is gender mainstreaming of the various issues that concern development in our country so that we can just go through the Programme of the Ministry and say this activity ought to be with this or another Ministry. I believe that the Government thought very hard about the need to have a Ministry to promote gender balance issues and that is how a decision was arrived at to establish this Ministry.

Having said that, I want to say something on the OVC Grant. It is actually quite interesting how the Opposition Parties hijack the efforts of the Government. Whenever we identify an issue and we try to work at it, they would come and belittle the efforts that we are making and make calls for all sorts of things so that when we progress with those efforts and we eventually address those issues, they would say I am happy now that my proposal is being implemented because I am the one that implemented it. It was the SWAPO Party Government that decided just as it has done with the Old Age Grants, to start looking at the OVC Grants.

We are not only looking at increasing the level of the grants. We are actually looking at ensuring that the Programme is rolled out to many of

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HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

the children who are currently not covered. If you look at the targets of the Ministry in there, that is a very important goal where they have set very ambitious targets for themselves. As I have indicated, trying to increase the level of the grant for one child forgetting the fact that the grants are availed to a maximum of four children only, in a society where the average size of a family in the rural areas can be seven children and you can have one grant parent taking care of up to eight children but receiving grants for only four. For us to turn a blind eye to that and just talk of an increase or try to belittle efforts that ensures that all the children are covered is just indicative of political bias that underlies some of the interventions that we are making.

It is not allowed to raise a Point of Order because we have three minutes.
(Intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Yes?

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am just on a Point of Order to clarify one point. We are not denying that Government has introduced what the Honourable Minister just alluded to. However, it is not a matter that we do not have money. That is our argument. It is a question of a certain N\$7 million that the Honourable Minister has put aside for this development. If that money was used for the purpose for which the Ministry was established, we could have increased the N\$50 to N\$500. That is the point. The money is there. It is a question of how we spend that money.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Let us not have a dialogue. Honourable Minister, please continue.

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HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I have tried to address that point here that the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare has the responsibility to ensure that gender is mainstreamed in the Activities of all Ministries. Therefore, you cannot just say that because a certain issue is being addressed from a general point of view by an Institution, there should be no Activities in the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare to make sure that women also benefit equitably from those kinds of Activities by making sure that there is mainstreaming as I have indicated and that women are assisted by way of training and coaching, helping them to make a beginning so that they can also benefit from the initiatives that are being implemented in other Ministries. I think it is very important that the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare has budgeted for Activities including accessing of credit facilities and I want to commend the Ministry for that. I want to encourage them to continue indeed.

With regard to the grant, I wanted to say, just as we have done with the Old Age Grants, we have instituted a system where we would continuously review these grants to make sure that we do not only reach everyone who is in need of help but that we gradually adjust the levels of these grants up to a point where they start making the most optimal impact that we can possibly afford with the resources that are available to us.

I think that for the Opposition Parties to come every year and say - *this amount is not enough it ought to be that amount*, it is just a charade because they know in a systematic way that we normally address issues and we will continue to address these things. I wanted to make a final point with regard to how the caretakers of the OVC sometimes mishandle these children and take them up only so that they can access these small grants from the Government. I think some of them expose them to danger by encouraging them to go out there and beg for money.

I have seen some small children here in Windhoek that are being send to the street to beg for money but when I followed up their specific cases, I found out that they were actually covered by the Ministry's Programme and were getting grants but you will find six year olds, nine year olds on

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the street with begging bowls, sometime standing in the middle of the street.

I know that the Ministry is probably making efforts in that regard and I want them to continue with their efforts to visit these children and make sure that where they are accommodated, they are given the proper care that they deserve and that these funds that we are providing are not diverted to other uses by those that are taking care of them. And most importantly, that they are not being encouraged by their caretakers to act in ways that may compromise their safety.

Otherwise, I want to thank those Namibians who volunteer themselves to foster these children and encourage them to continue making these sacrifices.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Wonderful, thank you. Can we move on to Honourable Moongo please?

HON MOONGO: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. On Page 10, the Honourable Minister is suggesting very good Programmes, especially Programme 3, to educate the community so that they can be self reliant, but we need practical actions. All these years we have been talking about good Programmes but you do not find any changes in the rural areas.

We need to see visible changes and not only mere talk. The Ministers are reshuffled from one Ministry to another but you do not see any changes. There are no practical changes. We need practical, visible changes, which improves the living standards of woman and not only mere talk. With this, I support the Vote.

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HON DINGARA

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Dingara, please.

HON DINGARA: Thank you very much, Professor, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I just rise to support Vote 12 of the Ministry and I want to concentrate on Page 11. The increase of grants from N\$1 million to N\$7 million was good news. The SADC Region consists of 55 countries and Namibia is the second country in Africa which gives grants to its senior citizens. The qualifying age to receive Old Age Grant from Government is 60 whether the person has worked before or not. Out of all those countries Namibia has become the number one country where orphans receive monthly grants to pay for their uniforms and food. Orphans in Namibia are cared for or loved by force because there is money involved. You will find people adopting orphans because the more orphans are under your care, the more money you will receive from the Government.

At international conferences we walk around with pride because other countries cannot boast of the same treatment Namibia accords to its citizens. When a person is declared disabled by a medical doctor that person immediately qualifies to receive more than N\$500 per month.

Some Honourable Members here are saying that the Ministry is becoming like a bank. It is not a bank. The bank borrows while the Ministry gives money freely to people who want to grow on their own. I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I think that is helping us to make some progress. May I ask the Honourable Minister to respond to some of the specific questions?

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HON NGHIDINWA

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Comrade Jankowski, thank you for your advice to have Early Childhood Development centres in all Regions. According to the statistics carried out in 2003, we have so far 2,000 Early Childhood Development centres throughout the country. I believe we will take note, to see where we do not have those centres and continue to establish such.

Honourable Shixwameni, thank you very much for your support. However, the *Divorce Bill* is under the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration, who are the custodians of the *Marriage Act*. I want to remind you that divorce is not a solution because children become the victims of divorce and end up suffering because of the consequences of the two people who decided to marry each other and later refuse to compromise on how to resolve their problems.

Couples should try to go for counselling in order to settle their disagreements and continue to live happily in their marriages, like you mentioned – you are happily married. Honourable Minister Saarah Kuugongelwa-Amadhila already responded on my behalf to the issue of Orphans and Vulnerable Children . We have at least increased the grant with N\$50 and that is the responsibility of the Government and not of the Opposition Parties.

On teenage pregnancy; yes, it is on the increase and it is the responsibility of all of us including parents and all the stakeholders because even if the Government comes up with Programmes to reduce that the question of our role towards our children will come back to us as parents. Therefore, we all need to tackle the problem of teenage pregnancy collectively as this also contribute to Gender-Based Violence. The majority of people who are impregnating these children are already working, have their own businesses or have already finished their education and are simply undermining these poor girls. We must all assist these children in those Regions to understand the importance of their future and the facts of life.

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Honourable Kaiyamo, thank you very much. You supported us. You even attended our workshop, on Early Child Development Centre in the capital city, last week. Thank you for your advice on the exposure of kindergarten teachers. We can do that when we have enough resources. However, we are trying to have exchange programmes for those who are in the rural areas to come to urban areas so that they can learn what others are doing.

Honourable Kavetuna, there is an ongoing Programme on homes of safety and shelter. You should come to my office, we do not want the men to know about this, you know the behaviour of some of our men. The Maintenance Court is also under the Ministry of Justice but we always hold workshops together with the Ministry of Justice to address issues of maintenance, juveniles and other Programmes relating to children, once a year so that we resolve some of those problems. Honourable Kavetuna, you also mentioned the adoption process and we are waiting for the *Child Protection Bill*. There is information which will address those irregularities we have in the adoption process. I think when the Bill is tabled we will be able to address those things which have not benefitted African children according to our traditions. Let us do it during the Bill when it is tabled here.

Honourable Tjihuiko, I would like to invite you just to come and see for yourself. I wanted to specifically refer you to Omaheke Region where you come from, to see for yourself how this Income Generating Projects are benefiting women who started with small projects and how they are aiming to become macro businesses owners. Just go and visit Okayovi Laundry in Gobabis. She started at her own house and she now wants to expand that project to become bigger. You can see how this woman is doing and how she has employed other women in her project. They are doing very well.

Honourable Saarah Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, thank you very much for your support. Your message is loud and clear, it educates some of the Opposition Party Members, like Honourable Tjihuiko, who want to campaign in the Chamber. OVCs are the responsibility of the

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Government as I mentioned earlier and Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila educated you on what is the role of the Government and how we are doing it. On the children who are on the grant system and later on end up on the streets; we are working 24 hours with the Ministry of Safety and Security to make sure that all the street children are brought to the Ministry of Gender Equality then we assess the situation at their homes. If the environment at home is found to be non-conducive we recommend them to the children's home here at Eros. As I mentioned one day in my Ministerial Statement here, we send them to school and some of them do change their behaviour and are doing well.

Honourable Moongo, the third Programme is ongoing. It started when this Ministry was established but we want to introduce new things like training women to become professional domestic workers or to come up with internet cafés and many other things. We already have centres throughout the country as I mentioned earlier.

We are going to introduce different Programmes in order to empower both women and men. We are not only giving this Income Generating Projects to women alone, there are also unemployed men who are applying and are approved for the grants. Men are getting the same benefits the women are getting but remember that the 30% empowerment for women is meant to bridge the gap of unemployment because in the past women were not benefitting in different Sectors of the economy.

If you look around the shops, most managers and owners are men. That is why this Ministry was created in order to motivate women to come up with projects and become businesswomen just as we have businessmen. That is the main objective of this Ministry.

Honourable Dingara, thank you very much for your support and the information shared with us.

I thank you all very much for your support.

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HON TJIHUIKO**

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, and I am sure the two Colleagues Honourable Kavetuna and Honourable Tjihuiko have taken note of your kind invitation. Any objections? Agreed to. Thank you very much.

Vote 20 – “**AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY,**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Tjihuiko, please.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. The first one is on Page 21. Honourable Minister, I just wanted to congratulate you on your efforts here that the Ministry has employed our young people to reclaim land that has been taken over by the bushes. You need to be highly commented there. You have done a good job and I think we should continue trying to expand these type of projects in order for us to reclaim the land that is taken over by bush encroachment.

The last comment that I wanted to make, Honourable Minister, is that I am very happy about the Government’s effort to provide water to the rural communities. Obviously, one cannot be hundred percent happy with what is going on but at least one can see that some effort has been made to try and address that issue.

Honourable Minister, my question is that, apart from the boreholes that the Government has drilled with their own money, who should be reporting on the boreholes that have been drilled under the German/Namibia Special Initiative? I am sure that there are number of (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Yes?

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HON UUTONI

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: On a Point of Order; Honourable Tjihuiko, can you promise this august House because it happened when we were discussing the Votes of Parliament – the National Assembly, Foreign Affairs and Justice, where you asked questions but immediately you ask questions you disappear. When the responses are given you are not here. It happened also when you were criticising the National Assembly and then with Foreign Affairs and Justice. Can you promise this august House now that you will wait for the answer because you always ask questions and you disappear? This time you wait for the answer. Do not disappear. Can you do that?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Can you please continue?

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Minister, I promise that I will wait for the answer.

What I wanted to ask the Honourable Minister is that, I think the effort that is being made through the Namibia/German Special Initiative, especially on the issue of boreholes, had contributed to the Government effort and one would have liked to see how this is being coordinated and how many boreholes, through the German Special Initiative, have been drilled and where. With that, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Uutoni, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank

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HON ANGULA

you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

In the first place, let me express my support for this Vote. My question, Comrade Minister, is on Page 25 under 4.3.2. Comrade Minister, here you have mentioned that the Ministry of Agriculture will continue to implement the Forest Protection and Conservation Project. I am happy to hear about the protection of the conservation and the forest. Comrade Minister, checking through this Vote, I wanted to see if your Ministry has a strategy on how to protect crops that are being destroyed by the worms.

This year the worms/*goggas* in the northern areas are too many. This year, I was telling myself that I will no longer depend on drought relief, but last week when I went to check my mahangu field, I was so demoralised and I will thus, still depend on drought relief. There is nothing. The *goggas* are there. (Interjections) Do not say that I am not qualified. I have people there that I have to support. Comrade Minister, I want to see a strategy because the Councillors are just making announcements over the radio.

Maybe the only solution now will be to dig trenches, but until when? The Honourable Minister here has a strategy on how to protect the forest but not our mahangu. Comrade Minister should come up with such a strategy as a Ministry so that in the next year we are not told to dig up trenches. I thank you and I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Angula please.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, food is life, water is life, forestry is wealth. I, therefore, support Vote 20; that is number one. Number two, I would

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HON WITBOOI

like to congratulate the Honourable Minister and his Ministry for intensifying food growing through the green scheme. I hope that the cost of producing the food through the green scheme and the value of the crops are now balanced to break even. Otherwise, you might be seeing a lot of food but produced at a high cost.

Having said that, I was perusing this document very carefully, being a smallholder farmer, and I was trying to see what benefits I get from this Vote. We the small holder farmers have a lot of problems; problems of proper seeds, seeds which will not require too much water to germinate, problem for weeding, problem of fighting the worms as Honourable Utoni was talking about there and the problem of marketing our products, but we do not seem to get any assistance from the Government.

I want to assure you that if you want to fight poverty or to fight rural-urban migration you must help the smallholder farmers so that they can produce in surplus, which they can sell and also pick themselves up. Honourable Minister, I appeal to you and your Ministry to think about the smallholder farmers. I thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Witbooi, please.

HON WITBOOI: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I want to express my support to the Vote of this Ministry. Honourable Members, please allow me to put my question in peace and harmony as the Honourable Minister ended his Motivation with a verse from the Bible. Please do not confuse me as I am new. Honourable Minister, my question is about the speculators; those people who buy and sell livestock. They are buying livestock as they want without following the correct

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HON WITBOOI

procedures. That means they are buying livestock without any proof of ownership.

Honourable Minister, they even recruit people in the villages and on the farms for this exercise. This is a practice or an exercise that has been going on for years and if I say years, then it means many, many years, especially in the Gibeon communal area. As a result, the communal farmers are suffering at the hands of these speculators buying livestock without any documentation. Honourable Minister, this is a very serious situation.

Can the Honourable Minister, please, inform the House which legislation regulates these speculators as it appears that there are no control mechanisms in place to protect the communal farmers from these suspicious acts. It also appears as if the Namibian Police find it difficult to deal with these type of cases because of the loopholes that we have in our Laws. We should find a way to close those loopholes.

Honourable Minister, some of the Members even recommended that this program be stopped and everybody to use auctions. There are auctions every month. Auctions are not held after every three months - no! We have auctions every month. Therefore, I humbly request the Honourable Minister to conduct a Ministerial investigation. Honourable Minister, I have done proper research. I know what I am talking about and I, myself, was a victim and till recently I was a victim where I physically ended up in the kraal of speculator under the protection of the Police. With that, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you and I suppose the information you have should be communicated to the Honourable Minister, if you have not done that. Can I call upon Honourable Simataa, please?

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HON SIMATAA / HON KAZENAMBO**

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole Committee.

I am taking the Floor to sound my support for Vote 20, a very important Vote, indeed. Listening to the Minister motivating this Vote and also perusing through the technical document provided, I am satisfied that Namibia as a Nation is marching with confidence towards food self-sufficiency. I commend you, Comrade Minister and your staff, for a job well done.

The only small query that I have Honourable Minister is on Page 10 on Paragraph 2.1.7 and that is the Namibia Livestock Identification and Traceability System (NamLITS), which is now in full swing in both communal and commercial areas. My inquiry, Comrade Minister, going forward particularly in communal areas, is it possible for communal farmers to be provided with ear tags so that they can tag their animals, particularly the weaners, cows, on time and submit this information to the various veterinary offices so that tagging can be done timely and in so doing, we can avoid the possible losses, particularly of weaners. Otherwise, Honourable Minister once again I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. I call upon Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Let me use this opportunity to remind the public out there that the *moaning* and *booing* Opposition Members are once more not allowed to drink water and food.

Coming to the Vote, I rise to support the Minister wholeheartedly and I

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HON KAZENAMBO

want to talk on Forestry.

Comrade Minister, having supported the Vote and talking on Forestry, I would like to appeal, through you, especially on the marketing component of Forestry. I am aware that the Ministry is protecting and conserving forestry and developing community, especially in the Regions stated here, amongst them Otjozondjupa and the list goes on. Comrade Minister, forestry product materials can be used to fight unemployment. It can be used for commercial purposes, especially in the Construction Industry.

Comrade Minister, we can create more jobs through forestry products for example by setting up plants for manufacturing furniture. At the earlier time, at Independence there was a company in Okahandja, MKU, if I still remember the name correctly. They used to produce all types of furniture and if we can produce these types of furniture, we can work with our Ministry of Education to provide them with furniture processed from our forestry products to furnish our schools. We can as well even cut costs in local shops.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order, Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: On Point of Order; I just wanted to ask the Honourable Member a small question because he is making a very important point about the locally manufactured furniture that was in Okahandja. Where are we going to sell these furniture? Obviously, if we are selling this furniture to schools you are hundred percent sure that Government will not buy from locals. They even import uniform from China. What are you talking about?

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HON SHIXWAMENI

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Kazenambo, can you continue please and do not get into a dialogue.

HON KAZENAMBO: Yes, so that we can provide school material, especially furniture and we can manufacture planks, mattresses and ready manufactured products from plants so that we can use them for housing purposes. *There he disappeared like the Minister said.*

That is my appeal so that we can establish factories and there are Regions that are specialising in the manufacturing of furniture like Kavango, and Zambezi. I was rising to support and make this suggestion so that we can consume our local forestry material. With these few words, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Can I call upon Honourable Shixwameni, please?

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Let me start off by saying that the Ministry is doing quite well with the green scheme - the hubs and the silos that are being established. Congratulations for that. I hope we can have more but I also hope and wish that when everything is said and done the locally produced products shall be affordable because when you go in the shops, the locally produced food stuffs are even more expensive than those that are brought in from South Africa. We will have to see a balancing act here, between the Ministry of Agriculture which is striving to make sure that we are food

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HON SHIXWAMENI

self-sufficient and our products are affordable because it does not help that we produce food that the locals cannot afford. However, congratulations for all the things that you are doing.

Page 5, the Veterinary Cordon Fence; I think this issue has come here throughout the Fifth Parliament. I remember that last year you promised that you would be the happiest man if you can see to it that the Veterinary Cordon Fence is removed. Despite the effort that you are doing of trying to get markets for people to knock off the Veterinary Cordon Fence, I think I do not know what must be done. How fat is your dossier in terms of presenting it to the international community to remove this Veterinary Cordon Fence because it is truly affecting the people that live in those areas that we have not mainstreamed, particularly farmers who are producing food that we are not benefiting from that?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order, Honourable Ilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Honourable Deputy Chairperson, may I ask Honourable Shixwameni a question?

Honourable Shixwameni, I just want to find out when Honourable Shixwameni and *Ekanda* went to visit a sick person in hospital because of this FMD, did you ever visit someone? Do you know that when Honourable Lucks comes to the north of the cordon fence he never asks you whether those cattle have veterinary certificates to prove that there is no disease? He just says; *dit is lekker, ne!*

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Can you continue?

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HON HAINGURA

HON SHIXWAMENI: Exactly, Honourable *Ekanda* is emphasising that. I think there should not be any reason any longer that justifies the existence of the Veterinary Cordon Fence, however, the Minister last year tried to eloquently explain this thing but we need to have movement around the Veterinary Cordon Fence. The other one is the water provision. I appreciate the fact that the Ministry is doing its utmost best to rollout several water schemes in the rural areas but I have my own problem that I want to ask the Honourable Minister to clarify.

There is the Kavango water scheme that will provide water to Grootfontein. Two/three years ago, I asked a question about the people alongside the old tarred road and the piping around Mururani-Rundu road and Rundu-Divundu road, when is that going to be completed? It is so funny that people who live alongside the river and thus, close to the water cannot get water whilst we pipe water from Ruacana through to Oshakati, Omuthiya and Oshivelo. I think there must be an explanation to that situation.

The Forestry thing has been dealt with by Honourable Kazenambo and I don't need to repeat. I do not want to be wished dead. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you, Honourable Haingura, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 20 and to congratulate the Honourable Minister and his staff for a job well done when it comes to food production like Kalimbeza. When I visited Sikondo, I could see that the community was so happy that they could get maize to feed their families. This is

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HON DINGARA

commendable. Comrade Minster, I just have a small question when it comes to boreholes. When people experience problems with boreholes they struggle to get technical assistance. You call these people but they would not turn up. If they come, they just do some small repairs. At the end of the day you will wait maybe for three to four weeks while your animals and the people are enduring suffering. I request that they respond on time.

Honourable Minister, on Page 24, I want to commend you for the creation of health education on sanitation and hygiene in the community. This Programme is welcome because it will assist us in the reduction of diarrhoea among the under five year olds because our community needs to know the importance of washing hands and that the water they are drawing from the river needs to be boiled before consumption in order to reduce diarrhoea. With those few words, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Dingara, please.

HON DINGARA: Thank you very much, Professor Katjavivi, the Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 20 because when the Honourable Minister was our class teacher, I was convinced that he did not belong to a classroom but to the entire Nation. He was a man who could deliver and he continues to do so with the food production and we are proud to see that on television every day.

During his time as a teacher he could answer any questions we asked him and that is why I want to ask the Honourable Member one or two questions. During the rain, all the dirt flows into the river and the people who live along Zambezi, Kongola and Kavango rivers drink from these rivers. .

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When you follow the Kavango River and go up to Mohembo Border Post and cross into Botswana, they used to experience the same problem of dirty water from the river. They, therefore, started pumping water from the river, filtered it and then supplied taps. I was thinking that if these colleagues can afford to do that, we can also. I would, therefore, like to request the Honourable Minister to look into that and maybe build a pipeline next to the gravel road from Nkurenkuru, Kongola and Zambezi rivers to filter the water so that the water is clean.

The other thing that I wanted to say is, during my travels to other SADC countries, I have realised that they have changed the way they plant while our people in communal areas continue to plant in the old way. We waste the entire big land and the production is so little. My suggestion to the Honourable Minister is that the Ministry must make it a priority to train these people to move away from traditional planting so that we can produce more from a small piece of land.

I would also like to comment on the issue of fertilizers. Most fertilizers, if not all, are manufactured in South Africa while some come from Australia. Transporting these fertilisers to Namibia is so expensive that when we use them here our food production becomes more expensive than in South Africa. Can we not manufacture our own fertilisers in order to reduce the price our food?

Comrade Minister, I have taken note of the priority on the rural water supply. I wholeheartedly support Vote 20, Comrade Minister. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Nambahu, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

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I also want to congratulate Comrade Mutorwa, wholeheartedly. I was reading this book here, it is comprehensive and it has a lot of information. This year we are talking about water resource management as a Law. We are no more complaining about it being passed. Congratulations in that regard.

I would like to raise one or two points. There are many good things that I see here, for example, the water principle, the ownership and all that has now been owned up. The principle whereby water is governed, has been integrated as is recommended by the Law.

I want to make a comment or two on Forestry; taking into account the comments made by the other Colleagues – the production of furniture. I think that is a direction we should take by going along the philosophy of the hubs. At some stage, I was talking about the original evolution of the Namibian political economy since Independence. There was a time when we were talking about us not needing to participate in marketing. We should concentrate in the production even if you produce or manufacture. Comrade Mutorwa, as a good teacher I think you will be able to explain this better, because if you manufacture or participate in that cycle you still have to sell and still have to market your products. There was a time, Comrade Minister, when you met some of us at the DBC those days when we were attempting to produce tomatoes. What is the point when you sell your products to this shop and it tells you that *my buyer is in South Africa unless you go and negotiate with my buyer in South Africa, you cannot come here and place your products on my shelves.*

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order.

HON TJIHUIKO: On a small Point of Order; Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I am just a bit concerned

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that the Honourable Deputy Minister of Justice is giving us a very good lecture on development, but recently the Honourable Deputy Minister and his Colleagues were given an opportunity to plan and implement. They were both fired because they were not up to standard. Is it fair for him to now try and lecture us here? Is that fair? Should the Honourable Minister listen and answer that, while the two Colleagues were literally fired because they were not up to standard? They were just wearing suits - white shirts and blue suits. Is that fair?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I do not think there is a difference between a small Point of Order and a big Point of Order. I think we need to narrow that into a particular specific Point of Order under which you would like to speak. Let us not carry on. Can I ask Honourable Nambahu to please continue?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much. You do not do something for which you have no power to do it. When you are saying fired, I do not know whether the person you are talking about has the power of firing and whether you are not misconstruing that. Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I think you put it very clearly that there is small talk and then there is big talk. I will not confine myself to a small Point of Order. I will go to my point.

I think it is a good idea to continue and complete the production cycle because if you have a buyer who is in South Africa and you are leaving this country to go and negotiate with somebody in South Africa to place products onto the shelves in your country, you are not independent and I think we should continue along the lines of producing and having hubs.

The other point is the dams. There are provisions made for dams in the Water Law, which are the dams that we construct as earth dams. (Intervention)

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HON MOONGO / HON MANOMBE-NCUBE**

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I am sorry, the time is up. Honourable Moongo please.

HON MOONGO: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I would like to say something because I posed many questions to the Honourable Minister, to which he gave me proper answers and I am very happy about that. I was happy that his Vote got enough money so that he can promote traditional skills within his Ministry. We are not European people making Laws that favour them, we have to consider an African natural law like skills, which can tell us how to detect water in the ground, traditionally. There is a method of making fire; if you take this bush and mix it with the other, you will produce fire. We forgot those things. We are not European just to make one-sided Laws. I appeal to the House to consider including natural skills into our Laws. With this, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Manombe-Ncube.

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Allow me to, firstly, congratulate the Honourable Minister on the efforts he made during the severe drought that we were faced with, especially, making sure that people are drinking clean water and on the implementation of the drought relief measures that he had taken.

Honourable Minister, my question is on the Veterinary Doctors. I think

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HON DR AMWEELO

they are very inaccessible in some Regions . We are having problems to find them in time when there are sick animals. If you are lucky and you happen to find them, they will only give you advice over the phone on what to do, which is sometimes difficult for uninformed people who are not doctors. I would like to find out, Comrade Minister, what happened to the system where the doctors used to go out to immunise animals on the farms? That is all and I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Doctor Amweelo, please.

HON DR AMWEELO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I only have two points, but firstly, I would like to thank the Honourable Minister for everything he has done with regard to the food. Last year we visited three Regions with the Committee and we found that the top soil on most of the mahangu fields become eroded and degraded because of the impact of climate changes, like floods. The soil is taken away by flood and sometimes by wind. I have a proposal for the Ministry to come up with a pilot project for the youths in Regions to start with reforestation. This will create employment for the youths and they can plant more trees to prevent the problems of erosion and degradation. That is number one.

Number two; I would like to thank the Honourable Minister for coming up with these projects. It is very important but when you are travelling, people urinate along the roads everywhere. I would like to suggest that we erect toilets, especially at the resting places along the roads so that they cannot pollute the environment. Otherwise, I support the Vote. Thank you very much.

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. With all those questions, may I now call upon the Honourable Minister to respond? Did I leave out anybody?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Comrade, may I ask for your indulgence just to finish my point on the dams? These dams are killing people and animals. They do not conform to any standards because they were dug when people were making roads. There is a particular one that I can make an example of, if you are travelling from Ondangwa to Oshikango – there is a huge deep pit. That dam does not dry up and it does not belong to anyone. People fall in there because it was not dug according to any standard.

I suggest that discussions should take place and these dams are placed under one Ministry or they are dug according to certain standards. They are there killing people and they do not belong to NamWater. They are not for agriculture and they are also not for those who dug them. Where do they belong? It is just a question that I would like our Government to look into. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much for bringing that important issue up. Can I call upon the Honourable Minister to respond to some of the issues that will require your answers? Thank you. You have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Professor.

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I do acknowledge the support from the Honourable Members to this Vote. It is very much appreciated.

Honourable Tjihuiko, I agree with you. You commended the Programme. The specific question that you raised is on the boreholes that are being provided through the German Special Initiative - I am going to be very careful here, but I think in the Government set up, the National Planning Commission has a role but then my understanding is that that support is provided directly to identified communities and the communities themselves will identify specific projects to which these funding should go. Some of them are boreholes, and some of them are any other projects. Without running the risk of giving false information, all that I can say is that these boreholes are not directly under the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry's Department of Water.

Honourable Erastus Uutoni, Deputy Minister, you see, yesterday I did quote something from the Bible, and everybody was laughing. Your question is very specific; what is it that we have in the Ministry to protect - the word is *protect* the crops against worms. Maybe not a direct Programme to protect, in nature there is this thing called the food chain, the inter-dependence of different organisms. It is so that when you cultivate like now, of course the birds are happy and the worms also come up and there is no way that you can put up a Programme to completely prevent them hundred percent because that is how creation was done. However, to answer your question Honourable Deputy Minister, in the Ministry, through the Directorate of Extension and Engineering Services when, for example, we are faced with the problem of worms that attack crops, yes, our experts in that Directorate when contacted, will go and spray to fight the worms, that is what we do but there is no specific Programme that will say, once the worms come, protect the crops. It will never come, and I do not think there will ever be a Programme like that.

Honourable Minister, Nahas Angula, thank you very much for your support. The green schemes, cost and value are balanced. I can only comment here to say that in a country like ours, with a harsh climate and unpredictable rainfalls, I think the decision of the Government to look at

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irrigation agriculture and to use whatever water is available as our share to irrigate was the correct decision. Yes, the cost of putting up these projects maybe is high, but I think the result that comes out of it is justified. It is definitely justified.

I fully agree with you with the role of smallholder farmers, from time immemorial, even before the irrigation agriculture came, people lived on the land, toiled and worked the land with rudimental implements but as time goes the implements are improved.

In the Ministry, that activity has been recognised and Government came up with a Programme which we call the Rainfed Agricultural Programme where Government maybe in a small way, for the time being, supports the smallholder farmers on their land, on their plots to modernise and to make things a little bit easier by providing ploughing services at a subsidised rate, by providing improved seed, at a subsidised rate, even the weeding services not completely hundred percent, the marketing, for sure, in the case of crops through our Programme of putting up silos in terms of grain, of putting up fresh produce hubs in terms of horticulture products and in terms of the meat, the abattoirs - all these are geared towards providing market access to the farmers.

Again, I am saying for now, these services that are being provided, even for me as the Line Minister, I will not say they are hundred percent adequate. They are not, but I think it is something significant coming from the side of the Government that we need to recognise and embrace.

Honourable Witbooi, in the way that you explained the issue so well, I detect some criminality in what is happening there at Gibeon because I know even in other communal areas it is not easy to just take a cow from here and take it somewhere else without the involvement, for example, of Traditional Leaders and the veterinarians.

For the movement of livestock, you must have a permit from a Traditional Leader, clearly stipulating that I am taking this particular cow or ox from here to that point to sell. If in Gibeon these speculators just go and grab

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other people's animals and go and sell, I am not denying it but I can use this platform to send out a clear message that I think something wrong is going on there and the people who are suffering in silence should be vocal and report these particular activities to the law enforcement agency because again, I am saying it is theft that I am detecting here and in terms of theft, there is this stock theft that is already there with heavy penalties. It is already there but honestly speaking I think nobody can be clever enough to say if you take somebody's livestock as you have explained, to still say that you are doing something legal. I think there is criminality involved there. Of course, our officials in the Ministry, I see our Permanent Secretary sitting up there, will use our own veterinary offices to definitely go down on the ground and establish exactly what is happening but I can smell some criminality there.

Honourable Simataa, On the NamLITS, the ear tags are available in the communal areas. We have launched that Programme. Well, everything is expensive, but I think this one is not that expensive but it is definitely there in the communal areas.

Honourable Kazenambo, what you have raised is what I always preach in the Ministry. I think the potential of our forest resources and the value is not yet fully exploited. I see that in our Directorate of Forestry, much emphasis is put on protection which is good but we have not reached a stage of developing Programmes to sustainably utilise forest resources to achieve the objectives exactly as you have outlined but we are now currently busy really, as you have said.

Why should we import toothpicks? You were right, there was a time before Independence in the Kavango Region when these furniture in schools and offices were from local forestry products. There was a factory in Kavango. When I was the Minister of Youth, I fought very hard to get it to the Ministry of Youth but now that I am in the Ministry of Agriculture where Forestry is, I want it back so that we can revive it. Places like Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Ohangwena and many others have some potential to utilise our forestry products sustainably and to create employment using our products. Some people will say - *but where is the*

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market? Why are we importing all these things that we are using here? Why can we not produce our own things and have a surplus to export to other countries?

The point is that I fully agree with you. I think we admit that, Honourable Permanent Secretary up there, as we always say, I think we need to be innovative enough in the Directorate of Forestry. Many ordinary people rely on the forestry products for many things. I fully agree with you there.

Honourable Shixwameni, My Young Brother, you will remain My Young Brother because you are friends to my brothers. I think the issue of pricing, whether it is locally produced food stuffs or other things - let me explain it this way from my own perspective:

I think it is the capitalist system that we have that is always driven by maximum profits. I am saying this because during the production, if you go to these Green Scheme Irrigation Projects to buy vegetables, maize or water melons, you will get them at very affordable prices but once somebody, the second person has bought it from there and you want to get it in the Supermarket, one big water melon which you got at Sikondo, Sitemo or at Etunda at let us say N\$50 is probably cut into four parts and you pay more than double the original price. While I agree with you, I think the locally produced goods whether it is foodstuff, should be affordable but we have to be content with the system of capitalism, which is, you get something and you want to maximise on it.

You were right in raising the issue of the Veterinary Cordon Fence. Let me simply state that we are not sleeping. Last year I reported to the Cabinet and there were specific decisions taken even today this matter was discussed at a Cabinet Committee level on overall policies. However, we are making progress maybe not necessarily in physically removing the fence. If I can take the Honourable House back to 1991; in 1991 at the Land Conference, there was a specific Resolution taken on the red line. That Resolution was that the red line eventually, of course, they used the words *be removed* but then it qualifies that statement by saying in the meantime we have to maintain it in order not to jeopardise the markets

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that we already have. Then there was a third component of that Resolution - it said the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, already in 1991, must do certain things to enable the farmers knock off the red line at least to ease their plight so that they can market their cattle, maybe not necessarily to the European Union market.

We had to put up quarantine camps, auction facilities and do many other activities, including intensifying the vaccination of livestock. I can tell you that every Minister who served as the Minister of Agriculture will agree that, since then, quite a number of those things have been implemented to the extent that today we have the following reality on the ground: In terms of the classification of the disease zones in our country, we have three zones: the protected zone; the infected zone; and the free zone.

The protected zone is from Kunene, Kunene north, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Ohangwena and Kavango west. It used to be the whole of Kavango but in 2008, there was an outbreak of the Foot and Mouth Disease, which encroached up to the Mukwe Constituency and there was a danger of even coming to Ndiyona Constituency. Hence the Ndiyona Constituency and the Mukwe Constituency are part of this because of that incident of the infected zone. The infected zone is largely the Zambezi Region, my political Region. The free zone, as we know it, is the whole area south of the red line.

In the protected zone, at least some remarkable progress has been made to the extent that if you want to take your livestock cattle to the abattoir from Kunene north, Omusati, Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena, Mpungu Constituency, Kahenge Constituency, Kapako Constituency, Rundu Rural, Mashare Constituency, you do not need to take those animals to the quarantine because there have not been any outbreaks in these areas for the past many years. You can just take from your farm to the abattoir.

Unfortunately, so far, the only export abattoir that we have is in Oshakati and once you take it and it is slaughtered there, that particular meat can reach the markets. Of course, the Europeans with the stringent

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requirements will still insist that it does not qualify, but it can go to all the rest of the markets. In the Zambezi Region of course, the prevalence of the Buffaloes make it difficult but as Government, we have a special Programme there. I announced here yesterday about the issue of putting up abattoirs and other things so that the meat there is cooked and tinned so that it can also reach there. Once the cattle are quarantined and after 21 days it is taken to the abattoir, that meat can also be exported to other markets.

Our strategy as Government is that, eventually we must reach a stage where, even if the red line is physically there with its impediment, its negative consequences and disadvantages, we must reach that stage where we can say it does not matter whether it is there. Of course, it is not an easy thing because we border other countries, unless we ensure that there is some form of cooperation with countries like Angola, etcetera. However, something is being done, maybe not necessarily that all of us are be happy but I think something is being done. It is a very complicated thing because you do not want to jeopardise what you have with a decision that is not so well thought of. That is what I can say on the Veterinary Cordon Fence.

On the issue of water pipes along the tarred road from Rundu up to Mururani, yes, I know that you raised this issue last year and I responded. I just want to reiterate what I said last time. It is true that up to now the boreholes that are provided there have served us but we have also already realised in the Ministry that if you look at the population explosion along that tarred road, we can already see that one day more settlements will be coming up, look at Katjina-katji, for example, it is a big settlement. There are other settlements and other activities of Government as well, schools are coming up with a concentration of many people.

Therefore, what I said last year is that we have already initiated a feasibility study which will inform us, and it is in an advanced stage already, in terms of what we are going to do. I can see, maybe not during my time, that a pipeline has to definitely come there one day because of the growing population and other activities that are coming up there. It is,

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therefore, not as if it is forgotten.

Maybe while I am talking about the water, I should also respond to the Honourable Members who raised the issue of the water in the river.

It is true that from time immemorial; we fetch the water from the river and we would drink it sometime without cooking it but with many other activities, I think as you have said, the pollution is also increasing.

I am now answering *Honourable Dingara*, the living pattern in our Region there, where you have one homestead here and another there, makes it difficult but in Settlements and Proclaimed Village Councils, for example, definitely the water that is provided through NamWater is purified. This is purified water but it would be wrong of me to say that we should just forget about the small Settlements there.

We have to find ways but one of the immediate ways I think, is that we also need to encourage our residents or ourselves that maybe the time when the water from the Kavango River was clear and there was not much dirt is long gone now because of the increasing population. I think we will have to revert to what the Colleagues from the Health Sector are telling us - the issue of boiling the water.

Honourable Dingara, you have also made reference to Botswana and I think they have succeeded in their villages, putting people in a large concentration together so that you are able to provide the services to a village, but your point is well taken because these are issues that, if it was fine ten years ago, it is not fine this time of today. The river is being used by so many people and therefore, there is more pollution there, so it is no longer safe as my elder would say those days - *take the water and drink*, we have to do something. I covered Honourable Dingara on that one.

Honourable Haingura, concerning the response of the officials from the Rural Water Supply to the reparation of boreholes - let us make two distinctions. The first distinction is to make it clear that the Directorate of Rural Water Supply is responsible for supplying water to rural

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communities, in other words, where there is a community of people. That borehole was not drilled for John Mutorwa but for that community. Then the other distinction is where John Mutorwa, on his own as an individual, has his farm and has drilled his own borehole there.

If I have trouble with my borehole even though it is in the communal area, it is a private borehole and, therefore, I have to struggle, I have to sweat. Even if I can get the support from the Rural Water Supply people it will at a payment. However, if it is a community borehole, of course they are obviously overwhelmed sometimes - I cannot just defend them. Sometimes they are overwhelmed because there is a problem here, a problem there, a problem somewhere else and, therefore, they can sometimes not attend to your problem in two days' time. It is a problem but they try their level best to respond whenever there is a request, sometime not always to the communities' satisfaction.

Honourable Nambahu, thank you very much, the *Water Resource Management Act* is now an Act. We worked on that one. I think I have covered the forest products as Honourable Kazenambo has also raised the same issue.

On the dams that are constructed, that are dug by the road contractors: Yesterday, the Minister of Works was on the Floor, I do not know whether they are called dams because the purpose of digging them is to get the gravel but I am sure the colleagues in the Ministry responsible for road construction must have some guidelines to say that if you have finished taking out the gravel then cover whatever it is because I do not think that you take out the gravel and then you believe that this must now remain as a dam because, in the first instance, it was not dug as a dam. However, Honourable Nambahu, I do not want to be presumptuous but I think the colleagues in the Ministry responsible for roads will be in a better position to explain this.

We also do not want to get those holes to our Ministry and say that these are now dams, no. I do not think that will be good.

Honourable Moongo, when I listened to you, I understood what you mean. When you talked about traditional skills and what have you, it goes to the essence of what we know and what we used to practice should not just be discarded. That is how I understand your point and I agree with you because sometimes, as you know, before this modern things that we are doing came, our parents had their own way to even preserve seed, whether it was during the drought or not. Therefore, I agree with you even on the issue of making fire, as you have said. It is true but sometimes we get drunk in these modern things because we have gone to universities and we do not respect traditional knowledge because essentially we are talking about traditional knowledge. Traditional knowledge is very important and definitely when you want to uplift the rural communities and you go there and your approach is to say everything that you have done is wrong, you will not succeed but you have to go there, as you have said, and find out - *what is it, how did you survive*. Of course, they will explain to you how did they plant and do many other things and then it is now for you with your modern, scientific knowhow to improve on that and tell them that, if that is how you did it, we would now like to assist you to do more and to get the desired results, scientifically. I am, therefore, saying that I did understand the essence of your question and I fully agree with you. It would be wrong, particularly for our extension workers and others, we do not go with this mentality of knowing everything. Go with the mentality of finding out their problems, how they survived and how you can be of help to them.

That is why the late President Nyerere said - *you cannot bring development to the people but development is about developing the people themselves* and you develop the people themselves by starting with what they regard as the essence that kept them going. I agree with you.

Honourable Manombe-Ncube, the issue of veterinarians not always accessible, not always available, you have a point. If there is a Directorate in the Ministry which is so important, which I think at one point was not given the necessary recognition in terms of its importance it is this Directorate of Veterinary Services. However, I go there and I say - if we regard our own health as important, it follows logically that the health of

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our livestock that sustain our life to be regarded as healthy human beings, should be accorded the same importance.

The situation on the ground is that, and I always do not hesitate to say it, now at least we are getting somewhere but if it was not for the support from friendly countries to provide some Veterinarians, I do not know how we would have survived. Veterinarians from other countries without naming them, I think all of us know. Of course, Namibia did also train some Veterinarians in other countries like Cuba. They are all on board now but we still have a big gap of having enough trained Veterinarians. That is why we are working very hard with the University of Namibia to establish a school of Veterinary Medicine there. The other day I met Professor Hangula, we are making progress so that we have enough Veterinarians because currently, if you look at the situation, you have a Veterinarian based in Gobabis responsible for the whole of Omaheke Region including Otjozondjupa. Of course, I am not justifying that if that Veterinarian is called, he or she should use the same excuses that I cannot be there.

I am only stating the obvious reality on the ground but we are making progress and the Directorate of Veterinary Services needs proper staffing, not only at the level of doctors but animal health technicians as well. Hence, we are even establishing Veterinary Offices throughout the country as I said in my Statement so that the services are brought closer to the people so that the people can be better served, but at this moment I agree with you. We may have some problems somewhere because of the shortages that I have just explained.

Sanitation; I think this is both *Honourable Haingura* and *Honourable Amweelo* - today there is a big workshop on sanitation going on in Windhoek. I attended it, I opened it and Honourable Dr Kamwi was there with me. We have people from a number of countries from Southern Africa participating. The issue of sanitation, which we must tackle in this country is serious. Fortunately, we now have the Policy on Sanitation and the strategy that we must follow, which I distributed yesterday. However, there are many Ministries involved because the Ministry of Agriculture

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deals with water, we are the coordinator. We have our role to play but there are other Ministries Health, Education, Works, Regional and Local Government and Housing, which deal with Local Authorities. I think, even the time when you were the Minister of Works, I would agree with you on the sanitation alongside public roads. If we have provided these places where one can sit and consume your food along the public roads, I think we have to reach a stage where toilet facilities are brought there as well. I think at 24 years down the line we must do that and I think we have to do it as we are moving on. I think I have answered all the . Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much for that extensive and explanatory response. Any objection? Agreed to.

Vote 29 – “**INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY,**” put for Discussion. Any discussion? Yes, Honourable Iilonga please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 29. I will start with New Era on Page 3. Comrade Minister, I always ask and I will continue asking; who gives New Era the right to censor people or to selectively report on some people? Even if I talk nonsense here, please let that nonsense be heard and let the public out there be the judge.

On Page 7, I would like to thank NamPost Limited for a job well done, especially on their service delivery on mail. Although it is not put clearly, here on Page 8, NamPost Savings Bank is doing well. Therefore, I want to propose or suggest to the Ministry of Labour for all our senior citizens

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to register with this bank in order to avoid them queuing outside in the cold or in rain. NamPost Savings Bank has branches everywhere and they will have access to their accounts. It also has good investment portfolios. During my general Budget Speech, I asked my Government to turn the bank into a fresh State Bank so that our money would be safe.

My other comment is on the NBC. NBC is the same. I would like to thank the Head of Oshiwambo Service for covering my address at Okando. However, my address was censored because the most important things I said were not broadcast. They only reported what they wanted. I know it is not a policy of the NBC or New Era but It is certain individuals. If they have personal hatred against this *Omutse Gwateka (broken head)*, let them say it, publicly. They cannot discriminate against us. We have fought for this country and we brought this democracy, which was not there and yet we are discriminated against. I support Vote 29.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Tjihuiko please.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I have two or three points I would like to raise. The first one is on Page 3. I just want to congratulate the Honourable Minister for the N\$12 million that has been allocated to New Era to implement their business plan. Hopefully, in due course, they will be able to sustain themselves. Let them have courage to continue with their good work.

Honourable Minister, on the same page, the maintenance that I have been talking about for the last three, four years and that is the marriage between Namibia and Zimbabwe through the joint venture called Nam-Zim. Honourable Minister, I know that you would agree with me that the other

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partner has not put money into this project. A joint venture is a structure where two partners put resources into a project equally or based on what you have agreed. What I am seeing here is that Namibia is providing hundred percent capital towards the joint venture. That has given me an impression that this is not a joint venture. It is a project where Namibia is paying for this newspaper to provide information that was meant to be provided at the cost of the Namibian taxpayer's money in the cover of a joint venture. If we are intentionally doing that knowing that what we are doing is wrong, then Ministry has been doing this misleading this Honourable Chamber to provide money for a project that is not a joint venture. Paying salaries through taxpayer's money to somebody else who is not a Namibian is wrong.

The Ministry must come out and tell us the reason why they are providing wrong information to this Chamber and misleading us to approve money, believing that this is a joint venture while the Ministry know that they have been intentionally misleading this House. That is wrong. It is not a question of - *I like Zimbabwe or I do not like Zimbabwe*. If you want to give money to Zimbabwe, let us put it that way and approve money for that specific purpose but not intentionally mislead the Namibian people through this Chamber. Honourable Minister, I call upon you to explain why your Ministry is intentionally misleading Namibians for that purpose.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Are you done? Thank you. Honourable Dingara please.

HON DINGARA: Thank you, Comrade Professor - Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 29 and to congratulate the Honourable Minister on what is happening in the ICT Sector. I would like to thank the NBC for migrating to digital and applaud them, through you, Honourable Minister,

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for having managed to broadcast proceedings from this august House live so that the people in Namibia can watch everything, even what Comrade Ilonga is saying without being cut. Now that enough funds were made available, I would like to request the NBC to cover this Debate across the whole Nation so that Parliament can be watched by everyone in the country.

Comrade Minister, telecommunication is important because in the past people used to write letters and wait for six weeks for the letter to arrive just for the same letter to return after six weeks. However, today you can communicate with anyone even in the rural areas. Poor people in remote areas can easily communicate through their cell phones by sending text messages to which they get responses in seconds.

I do not know who is responsible for the network. I know Telecom and MTC are part and parcel of that. Our network at the borders is weaker than the networks in the countries we share the borders with. When you are in Rundu or Katima Mulilo, for example, you must switch off your phone most of the time . Some people do not know how to block outside networks. They roam when they are in Katima Mulilo. Maybe we need to do something by expanding our network there, this includes the one of NBC. The place where my cattle post is, is 30 from the Kavango River but there is no radio reception because it is too far.

When I travelled with the Committee on ICT throughout the country we were very happy with the performance of Telecom Namibia. However, in the Zambezi Region the network is off most of the time and at some schools, you will find that they are paying accounts while they do not even have telephones. They are not in the rural areas, they are just next to the road on the way to Ngoma. Some schools are paying the services of Telecom but they are not receiving these services. I think it is not fair and Telecom must pay the Ministry back until they make these services available to the people. I went to the Office of the Regional Councillor where they installed the box for telephone and internet. Apparently, it has been a year since they have installed that box.

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Lucas please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Thank you very much, Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee for the Floor. I rise to commend the Minister of Information and Communication Technology for a job well done. I am going to be very brief. I would like to strengthen the point raised by Honourable Dingara about network coverage, it is not only a problem at our border points but the number of cell phones have tripled. There is a dire need for upgrading existing facilities to be on par with the demand at hand so that we can enjoy using our cell phones.

The second issue I appreciate is the one of migration to DTT. It has improved the quality very much. One aspect that is disturbing me, despite the introduction of the free channels, NBC 1, 2 and 3 and despite the improvement of the quality of the items shown, I am very disappointed that none of these channels are showing locally produced, Namibian films. We are paying our TV licenses for cartoons that are always displayed and only to be entertained by the Bold and the Beautiful – nothing about Namibian films. Honourable Minister, I think it is high time that whoever is in charge, shows Namibian films so that we can motivate local film producers in one way or the another. Thank you very much and I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Mwaningange, please.

HON MWANINGANGE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy

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Chairperson of the Whole House Committee for the opportunity you gave me.

I have some remarks to make on this important Vote. Firstly, I want to say that information and technology today is very essential to the society in its entirety. Having said that, I am so delighted to comment on the progress made by the Ministry.

On Page 8, it is titled: *Mobile Telecommunication Companies and Other Means of Information* and close to what Honourable Dingara and Comrade Lempy said, I also have a suggestion to make. It might be a layman's suggestion with regard to the services delivered by, especially MTC and Telecom. With MTC, the coverage is such that at times you ask yourself why is it that at certain radius that are closer to this antenna, the communication reception is so poor, while antennas are just maybe in the radius of 10 kilometres but when you go to the remote areas, it is of better quality? Is it a technology which is not properly equipped or what? With the introduction of this 3G and 4G, I have hope that things will change. Therefore, I suggest now by saying this should target the following in the rural areas; schools, clinics and Police Stations, especially those that controls the remote border posts and even along the highways because people are moving with their vehicles on a daily, on our highways where accidents occur.

The coverage is very poor when you are coming from Noordoewer across the Kalahari zone or coming from Kunene crossing into Rundu and Zambezi. Maybe we should introduce a technology that would concentrate at the areas where people are by making use of beams and waves – however, I am not familiar with the terms. These are the few suggestion I would like to make when in future you are developing this new technology. Technology and information are very important nowadays, these are with us 24 hours. Otherwise, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kazenambo, please.

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HON KAZENAMBO

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to wholeheartedly support this critical and very, very important Vote that deals with telecommunication. Telecommunication is very important because information is power. On Page 5 and 8 of the Minister's Speech, that is, the company Telecom Namibia and MTC. Telecom Namibia is on Page 5 of the Minister's address while MTC is on Page 8.

I want to talk to the services that are provided by these two Parastatals. I do not have much to comment on about the Ministry, be it in terms of the policy framework and policy implementation, but I want to talk to my experience of the service provision of these two Parastatals. Comrades, since I have been in this House, I have been talking about telecommunication service provision in the Tsumkwe Constituency, specifically in the area of Omatako and Rooidag Gate. I think //Gam and Eiseb are well covered, in terms of telecommunication, there is MTC.

Comrades, in my culture, sometimes you start whispering and then as frustration comes in you start raising your voice and then frustration sets in and you start shouting. Comrades, I have been whispering on the situation at Omatako, Rooidag Gate and that whole vast area that is used by the poorest of the poor of this society, and I will come again if I lose it. It is predominantly occupied by our poor economically disadvantaged San Community and most tourist use that route. Telecommunication is very, very poor. There is nothing. The Founding President and the Father of the Namibian Nation, Dr Sam Nujoma mobilised NamPower to put a transformer at Omatako Primary School to try to accelerate and avail this critical service and then telephones were provided there. I think it was in the late 90s and the transformer is there. We were promised that once the transformer is there, it would make it easier for the provision of this important service.

Sometimes people say, people only talk but sometimes the way we treat each another creates an impression that you feel discriminated against.

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The Founding Father, Former President Sam Nujoma, I know he is not a Member of this House, but I am using his name for what he did. He mobilised for a transformer there and the phone, as we are talking now, is since that time in a house of a person. For the whole Omatako area, the service of Telecom is there but it is in a house of a formerly advantaged Namibian.

It forces me to start feeling discriminated against that even farmers, even people with cell phones are in the same area where you know that sometimes a situation creates you to start feeling that discrimination. There is a school there with a ladies' toilet and I am linking the two to emphasise my point. That toilet is used by a teacher who comes from a neighbouring farm. Other teachers of colour do not use that toilet. If you think that I am lying, go to Omatako and is the same that other Namibians use a telephone of Telecom which 24 hours at a person's homestead.

Why can you not distribute the service to everybody? Why can Telecom not do that? It is only one person in a village who is enjoying a critical service like this. Again, at Rooidag Gate, the neighbouring farms that are not in the vicinity of 20 kilometers have access to MTC. Comrade, let us be serious! Do you want to tell me that Telecom with its money and MTC which sponsors things here left, right and centre, forward and backward cannot provide service to the poor community on the basis of social responsibility in that area? These companies are not serious!

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Amweelo please.

HON DR AMWEELO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Honourable Minister. My contribution

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will be based on the experience and discovery through the ICT Committee that our country has a very good ICT infrastructure. Congratulations!

We are talking about West Africa Cable System (WACS), we are talking about the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and we are talking the 3Gs and 4Gs, in Parliament, we are busy upgrading our website. All the Members of Parliament are expected to provide their biographies amongst other things to get this website up and running.

I would like to request the Honourable Minister to upgrade our systems so that all the data is linked together and can speak to each other in order to have an e-Namibia and our society becomes an e-Society.

Number two; I would like to thank the Honourable Minister for the *Cyber Security and Data Protection Bill*. However, as you all know that there are technologies or cyber crime that are threatening cyber security. That is why we need to think about something else. In other countries they have established computer emergency response teams to coordinate the country's cyber security defence. Some countries have such bodies in place. Therefore, we need to think about setting up our own body because of this threat. I would also like us to speed up the tabling of the Bill and implementation of thereof.

My last contribution is on Page 3 on New Era. I am happy with the amount of N\$12 million and I think that we should support New Era. Let us support New Era by advertising in the newspaper so that they can start generating their own money. Otherwise, I would like to thank the Minister and support Vote 29. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Ncube, please.

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HON MANOMBE-NCUBE / HON NAMOLOH**

HON MANOMBE-NCUBE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Firstly, let me congratulate the Honourable Minister for a well presented Budget Motivation. I will go straight to Page 3 on the New Era Publication Corporation. Honourable Minister, I would like to find out if the amount allocated for the production of Namibian languages also includes Braille. Braille is the writing system for visually impaired people that enables them to have access to important news.

We appreciate the sign language interpretation on the programmes such as Talk of Nation and the News Bulletin, but Honourable Minister, I would like to find out when this interpretation would also be introduced at the Parliament for the interpretation of the Debates during Sessions because there are important Laws that are being enacted in Parliament, but the hearing impaired people do not follow these proceedings.

Honourable Minister, I would also like to find out about NBC houses, I do not know whether I was supposed to ask the Minister of Works, but these are houses belonging to the NBC employees that is why I am asking under this Vote. These houses are now standing empty for almost a decade if my memory serves me well. I would like to find out what you are planning to do with these houses because they are empty since NBC employees do not live there any longer. Are they not going to be sold like all the houses of the Government? Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Namoloh, please.

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you very much.

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I would also like to contribute to this very important Vote of My Friend.

Honourable Minister, the NBC, like most people said here, has a wide coverage, but unlike in some countries where the car radios automatically change to a different frequency when you go out of range, the NBC does not change automatically. One has to do it manually even if you have the automatic frequency search.

My other comment is on the news readers and presenters on both TV and radio, especially the Oshiwambo service - if you have not listened to the news bulletin in English, you will not understand what they are saying. I one day listened to the news on other channels where they were reporting on space, the Milky Way changing positions and so on but when the Oshiwambo newsreader was reporting on this it sounded like he was talking about *a road with milk in the sky*. In Oshiwambo, it exists. They say - *ondjila yomashini* in the sky so that you understand the Milky Way. It was literally translated.

The other day they were talking about Facebook. Literally, in Oshiwambo would mean a Face Book. For Facebook they say - *embo lii pala*. I think people should be educated. Those reading names on both TV and radio, again I refer to Oshiwambo service, they cannot pronounce people's names. I think they must go through some training to be able to pronounce things properly. I think there is some censorship on the radio now. I was requested to be interviewed on Cuito Cuanavale recently because the day was (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Can you just complete?

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: They refused to air it

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HON BEZUIDENHOUT

live. They said they have to listen to it in order for them to edit it. I do not know what they were going to edit.

Comrade Minister, the other thing is the switch from 3G to 4G. We have not yet established whether 3G is effective in all the areas and you are now introducing 4G. What is the use? 3G is not even in every area in Windhoek . It is only centred in some areas and now you are rolling out 4G. What is the use? I think we need to look into that and those who spoke about rolling out X-Net. What happened to that E-Health, E-Education, which we had with India? What happened to that? It looks like we are abandoning things without checking which is working and which is not working. I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Bezuidenhout, please.

HON BEZUIDENHOUT: Thank you, very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I have a slightly different take on this Budget. Let me start with the worrisome observation. The Ministry of ICT has been allocated N\$567 million to fulfil its mandate. The worrisome part is that 63% of that N\$567 million has just moved out of the Ministry, which leaves N\$210 million for fulfilling the Ministry's actual mandate.

Let us look at the mandate of the Ministry. On Page 339 of the MTEF document it states that the Minister has a two-fold mandate. One; *to lay the foundation for the accelerated use and the development of the ICT Sector in Namibia*; that is the one part of the mandate and that is the area of my concern and my contribution will focus on that. The other part of the mandate is *to coordinate information management within the*

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Government. I think we have established that that is fine. My concern is on the first one.

Some of the key responsibilities of the Ministry are to:

- Provide information to communities and the media;
- Facilitate ICT infrastructure development;
- Provide policies and regulatory frameworks for the ICT Sector; and
- Conduct research and development for ICT innovation.

These two things are taken from the MTEF document. I will share with you what I think or believe. The mandate of the Ministry to accelerate the development of the ICT Sector within the country is extremely important. It is crucial. It is so crucial that Government may have to decide if we do not fund that route, let us pull the plug on E-Governance. If we do not support that route, let us just stop everything and go back to the paper way of doing things. Otherwise, the sweet talking sales people will come and sell things in this country and take us for a ride. I think that the Ministry needs the support of everybody in this country or in this Parliament to place it correctly for the benefit of this country.

If we agree that we want to place it correctly, let us support it. If we cannot place it correctly, let us pull the plug on E-Governance and all these E-Health and E-Education. Another document spells out that Namibia endeavours, plans or strives to be a knowledge-based society and without that framework and support, it is a dream in the sky. Our young people, the current generation or as Honourable Kazenambo would call them the *aweh*, *aweh* generation, is so fixed on the cell phone. Everything they do is on the *cell phone* - all the applications that they use are *cell phone* applications, all the information they consume, *cell phone*, all the decisions that they take, *cell phone*. We as a Government is losing an opportunity to infiltrate that space of the young people where we can assist them to take decisions to become responsible citizens. As I said, we have a vision to create a knowledge-based society but with the right support from the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology.

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During these Budget contributions, we have heard that almost every single Ministry has a database, has a system and has something to do with this and it is not wrong. The country is moving in the right direction but if we allow a non-centralised support system, you can run into trouble. If every Ministry has its own technician and every Ministry decides on its own - the officials, they decide that we will use Norton Antivirus system and the other Ministry decides that we will use AVG antivirus and another Ministry will use something else, in the end these things will conflict with each other in an integrated system.

We need a centralised structure and I think Government has moved in that direction by taking that decision. I am now talking without having concrete information but from the ICT Committee, we were informed that yes, Government is trying to centralise the technical infrastructure of Government. The Honourable Minister has spoken about it in his Motivation but let us not leave the technical staff somewhere else. Otherwise, we may run into conflicts and then trouble. Last year, the Right Honourable Prime Minister has answered a question that I asked him if E-Governance is still a very important central policy of the Government and we as a Committee has taken that up.

We believe that number one; the direction of the centralised infrastructure for Government or a nationwide infrastructure for Government is the right decision to have equal quality at all places for the fast movement of data, for easy and effective decision-making. The Ministry will play its role is on the security part to ensure that whatever is send from Noordoeer gets to Katima Mulilo without interference from other clever people along the road - the WikiLeaks people.

We can do it, but we need to have a single focus point. When I look at what the Minister of Finance said that they need upgraded systems, she mentioned that as a country we cannot be left behind. I agree with the Honourable Minister but we need to play a role or make a structural decision within the technical part of things. As it stands now, I am not convinced that the Ministry of Information Communication Technology is empowered enough to support and to carry out its mandate.

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HON DR ANKAMA

The role that the Ministry of ICT ought to play and the biggest scheme of things is monitoring and managing the entire Government network to mitigate and avoid the issues that I have addressed earlier, cyber security and network safety. MICT must be the custodian of standards. Otherwise, each one does this and that and different standards will apply. Let the focus be on the standard issue.

On the act of implementation and working on the ranking Namibia on the World Economic Forum Index, we are constantly in the 100s, 110s, somewhere there and I think it within the mandate of that Ministry to work with on it. The development of specific ICT strategies needed to develop all things that we need as a country within the framework of the E-Governance (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I think you are lucky that the system has not yet cut off. Can I ask you to wind up please?

HON BEZUIDENHOUDT: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister and I thank the Honourable Members.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much, indeed. Honourable Ankama, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you very much. Through you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I think you should be ready for somebody who usually cut me off. (*Laughter*) I know he is going to do it.

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My Senior Comrade Minister, I support your Vote. I would like to appreciate this DTT Rollout Programme. That is good but it is not good enough because the channels of the NBC are currently just three, I always compare it to the DSTV for that little money, just the beginning but it needs to be at par.

Comrade Minister, on the NBC, I think you seem to be working very hard but you also seem to be working with ruthless people because they are determined to censor some people. Some of us are unwanted on the premises of the NBC. We know that very well. When we make important undertakings around the country, you will never see that being covered but some other people will definitely be covered. That is one thing. The thing is that the NBC has major responsibility all over the country. If you look at the NBC programmes, particularly with these three new channels, it is just cartoons. Who is to watch cartoons? Children? We are not children. Why do you not educate people? There are so many things that have gone untold. The NBC is supposed to educate people. The Nation should be informed about the events that are taking place, including what we are doing here; Programmes that the Government is implanting. Instead of showing cartoons they should air these Programmes.

At the same time, I would like to slightly touch on the failures of the presenters. Presenters should be trained in such a way that they understand what they are supposed to do. If it is a language or if it is a matter of understanding educationally, they should continuously be trained to understand.

The issue regarding community access centres or I do not know what you call them but access centres that we have spoken about a long way back here, as we are discussing issues in Parliament people out there should be able to watch, discuss and give each other feedback so that they can eventually engage us at Parliament level to make informed decision.

On MTC and Telecom, there are so many towers around the country but I do not know whether they share or they do not share these because you will find that there is very poor communication, frequencies or maybe

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coverage in many areas. I do not know whether it is a matter of slots, but you should technically be able understand what it means. We do not get the right coverage. We have the 3G and now the 4G. I think, all these is money wasted so far. I think we should perfect the coverage system first so that we are able to get the value for our money.

The Telecom's Wi-Fi is so poor that you are unable to get what you have paid for within the radius of 300 metres. Why should I pay if I do not get the service? I think somehow we are moving, but we are not moving at the right speed. Therefore, I would like to urge us to look into this. Otherwise, I support this Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I take it that Honourable Kazenambo would like to have a second bite.

HON KAZENAMBO: I want to have a second bite, but I will try to be brief. The problem why some of us come again each time is because we said these things in the previous year and nothing happens.

To come to the point, Comrade Minister, I said the Ministry is doing well but the entities called Telecom and MTC, I do not know whether I should crawl or do what but I am saying this with all due respect to them. Comrade we are feeling the heat. Let us not be made to feel that those who are in the rural areas are being discriminated against. I do not want to use that word but you get that impression. Comrade Minister, you can go to Omatako in the Tsumkwe Constituency and observe this. I am telling you, I do not want to repeat what I said but the point that I want to make is that if we are not careful, we will find that some people in certain parts of Namibia, especially in the rural are discriminated against.

Comrade Dingara has spoken about the situation in the Zambezi Region in

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Katima Mulilo. Comrade, we are not exaggerating these things. It is the reality on the ground and you wonder why. In reality these things that we are talking about here, we will find that the current generation would still fall under the formally disadvantaged people 20 years from now while all these things are concentrated in the urban area and in the farms. I can tell you, I am not a technician but unfortunately I am not blind. My eyes can still see. If you drive around here, the former police zone is overcrowded with these towers. Let us call a spade a spade, even where you find five farms, you will see towers as you are driving around, but the more you go to the formerly reserves areas, you will see one here and another there. Come on! Is it a question of money? I can specifically take the Tsumkwe Constituency and Zambezi Region; the Tsumkwe Constituency and the Zambezi Region are predominantly tourism areas whether you like it or not. You will make an earning from the tourists that are travelling there because they would be roaming and through roaming, you can make lot of money. What justification can you come with to conclude that the Zambezi Region will have a telecommunication and Khomas will be dominant if it is not discrimination by some of these technicians who are in these companies? You are creating an unnecessary suspicion because we know who the technicians are in some of these companies. Whether you like it or not it is a fact.

When you go to Omatako, I am telling you, you will only find one person owning a phone in the house while others do not have. What conclusion do I reach? Comrade, what I am saying is that let us distribute our telecommunication in a fair and equitable manner so that one cannot feel discriminated against. These companies that are pumping money in rugby support for a trip to South Africa, we hear and we read in the newspaper. . Why can Telecom and MTC not take money and say that the Tsumkwe Constituency is occupied by the formerly disadvantaged people who are economically poor and pump money there. Let us stop discrimination. I support your Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Tjihuiko, I have

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HON TJIHUIKO / HON KAAPANDA

taken note of the fact that you had your light on. Were you trying to come back or are you done?

HON TJIHUIKO: I was just about to conclude on NamPost. Honourable Minister, on a very light note, you were saying that you were going to open five new offices during 2014 and this would be in Ohangwena, Omusati, Khomas and Otjozondjupa Region.

What is not clear to me is that, when you were talking about Otjozondjupa, it is between Okahandja and Tsumkwe, it would be better to be more specific and say that we will open one in Otjiwarongo. Then we know where the post office would be because the way you put it, it gives you a room. I do not know why it was put that way. With that, I also want to congratulate the last speaker. Thank you and I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I think you are done. Let me call upon the Honourable Minister to respond to some of the specific questions.

HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

This has been a marathon Session of questions and I will attempt to give answers to the questions posed.

Honourable Ilonga, thank you for your support. You asked whether New Era is censoring some politicians and you seemed to suggest that New Era

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discriminates in its coverage of individuals. There is no equitable coverage when it comes to issues involving individuals where New Era is concerned. I am not sure whether this is the case, New Era being a State-funded newspaper which reports on Government activities, obviously, when a politician is involved in any activity which is enhancing the agenda of the Government, I believe that individual deserves coverage. I would appreciate it if you would cite a particular case that can be followed up and investigated. However, I will caution New Era that discrimination when it comes to their coverage should be avoided at all costs.

You also expressed your appreciation with the work being done by NamPost, you are, particularly suggesting that NamPost should introduce a fully fledged bank. Of course, NamPost is in the process of introducing a fully fledged bank. Discussions are under way and consultation with the Ministry of Finance has taken place. Likewise, consultation with the Bank of Namibia are ongoing. Of course, the Bank of Namibia has certain requirements that NamPost has to fulfil if they want to become a fully fledged bank. As I said, the discussions and consultations are ongoing on this particular issue.

Honourable Ilonga, further went on to thank the NBC for having covered his last meeting he held at *Okando* but he still felt that the coverage was not quite complete. They seemed to have omitted certain things he has mentioned which he believes were very important to the viewers. I think they will get the message even if they are not here because this is a live broadcast.

Honourable Tjihuiko, you expressed your appreciation for the allocation of funds to New Era. I do not know whether you were really serious or you were trying to insinuate as you normally do. You seemed to have been sarcastic. You seemed to question whether the N\$12 million allocated was enough for New Era to implement its business plan. This is the allocation that was approved and we are grateful to the Ministry of Finance for having given us N\$12 million. Of course, New Era is generating its own revenue through various sources, one of them being advertising. New Era's advertisements has been increasing since the

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takeover by the new Chief Executive Officer Dr Mathe and we are grateful for his hard work. We see an improvement at the New Era when it comes to revenue generation. I hope he will continue maintaining this course until New Era becomes self-sustainable and self-financing. Of course, you went on to question whether the NamZim paper, which is a joint venture between Namibia and Zimbabwe, is a valid business proposition that involves two countries or is it just Namibia which takes responsibility of financing the joint venture. Of course, the history why Namibia has been solely financing Namzim paper is well known and Zimbabwe is just emerging out of this Western imposed sanctions and we believe that this sister country will recover financially and will be able to play their part in financing this joint venture project. Let us give our sister country a chance to recover. It is not a good sign to desert your good friend in times of difficulties. Therefore, let us be patient and definitely Zimbabwe a country, which has lot of potential, economically, will recover one day and join us in financing this joint venture.

I have not been misleading this House. I have always been telling the truth that Zimbabwe is facing an economic crisis. Therefore, we cannot expect them to make a meaningful contribution while they are facing serious economic crisis.

Honourable Dingara, thank you very much for your support. Of course, you have mentioned certain problems that you have encountered. You also thanked the NBC for introducing live broadcast for our Parliament. This definitely connects Parliament with the Namibian community out there.

They observe what is happening here and of course, through observing Parliamentary Sessions they learn and make informed decision. However, you also expressed some concerns regarding lack of coverage, as you have articulated in a number of places where there is no coverage. Honourable Members, lack of coverage exists in many parts of our country. There are so many pockets where there are no coverage and we have expressed concern because we received complaints. We have visited many of these places.

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My brothers and sisters when you express your concerns, you are talking to the very same person who shares the same knowledge about this country. I have been to many of these places. I have witnessed places where there is no coverage myself and as far as MTC is concerned, they adopted a new approach when it comes to coverage. Instead of addressing individual areas where there is no coverage, they adopted a new system whereby they requested all the Governors of our 13 Regions, (interjections)

HON MEMBERS: 14 Regions!

HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY: It was 13 then. We will have 13 Governors only but we have 14 Regions because they are the Chiefs of the Regions, to submit lists of places where there is no coverage in their respective Regions so that it can be addressed in a very holistic manner. Some Regions have submitted. Some are yet to submit their lists. This is an ongoing process. Of course, it is frustrating for those that have been without coverage for a long time. It is frustrating even in my own Region where we do not have enough coverage. If you travel from my house to Omakange, Omakange is about 84 kilometres, just less than 3 kilometres from the house, there is no coverage up to 2 kilometres into Omakange.

Honourable Lempy Lucas; commended the Ministry on a good job, but she lamented that there is no coverage in her own village. It is true. If she wants to communicate, she has to find and climb a tall tree at night. She can only climb during the night. There are many places where people want to communicate. They have chosen a tree in the centre of the village on which to climb in order to communicate. It is a serious matter and we are not happy to hear about this. This is what is happening but we are addressing the problem and we are doing it slowly but surely.

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Let us be patient.

HON MEMBER: For how long?

HON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY: Honestly, I do not know and I do not want to mislead the House. The other thing she has complained about is that the NBC does not show Namibian films. I have a list of Namibian filmmakers here. We have almost 48 film producers in Namibia. I have also expressed the same sentiment why NBC just shows South African films. I can enumerate the South African films: Scandals, Rhythm City, Generations, and you name it but when I requested why they are only showing South African films, I was told that the films we see on NBC screen are supplied by big distributors who are buying these films at a very costly price and then they are distributed further at a nominal price. However, I went further to bringing in the NBC and Film Association of Namibia together in one room to discuss and to tell me what the problem is and to discuss the prices as well. They said locally produced films are very expensive. Then I asked the producers whether it was true or not. They said; *well, we are making a living. That is how we live. Our livelihood depends on selling our products. We are professional film producers. That is how we are making a living. However, we are ready to discuss the price.* As we speak, they are now discussing the prices so that they can start sourcing locally produced films. I think that is good news.

Honourable Mwaningange, thank you very much for your support. Information Technology is vital for any economic development, for any operational efficiency and cost cutting measures of any operation that one embarks on. If you want to reduce cost, let us deploy ICT. If you want to grow our economy let us deploy ICT. Let us invest in research and development and produce software that can provide services online in order to improve our service delivery systems.

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I cannot agree more with you on this, Comrade, and we are doing our best in order to develop our ICT Sector but we need adequate injection in this Sector. Of course, MTC has achieved more than a hundred percent cell phone penetration, which is a great achievement for the country. That means we have more cell phones than the number of people in our country. There is room to use cell phones as the system of service delivery. We can use cell phones for E-Learning, for business development, for trade but you have to develop content for that.

We need to do research and find ways of using cell phone for business processes. Of course, more often than not young people approached us with brilliant ideas seeking financial assistance so that they can introduce new products in the market, but because our funding is not adequate, we cannot support them and *Honourable Bezuidenhout* has adequately articulated this issue. I will come to that.

Comrade Kazenambo Kazenambo, for the sake of the House we took a joint trip with Honourable Kazenambo Kazenambo. We went to the area with the purpose of investigating the situation of coverage for both television and radio.

We travelled the whole Region of Otjozondjupa. We saw all these places where there was no coverage. I came back and reported to those implementing Government Programmes. The networks and the towers are implemented by our telecommunication operators namely Telecom Namibia and MTC. My full report was submitted to these telecommunication operators and of course, some work has been done to improve radio reception in //Gam and I think that problem has been solved.

Well, the issue of Omatako I think is one of those teething problems we are still grappling with. What we have been encouraging is that, where there is a Telecom tower for radio and NBC, we encourage that MTC co-locate devices for network. We have done this in Omundaungilo Constituency in the area of Oshikunde and Oshifitu and the coverage problem in that area was solved in this manner. We will discuss the area

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of Omatako. If there is a tower for Telecom Namibia, we will encourage MTC to put on devices that can provide cellular network coverage. On the issue of Telecom transformer hosted in a private house in Omatako, I will go and find out because this sounds a bit strange.

Honourable Dr Amweelo, thank you very much for your support. We are doing what we can within the means at our disposal. You talked about the issue of cyber crime and went on to propose the establishment of the computer emergency response system. Comrade Amweelo, the issue you have articulated is provided for in our *Electronic Transaction Bill* which also has a component of cyber crime and security as well as a component for data protection. We will discuss this issue in detail once this Bill comes to this House because we also need to identify some Government Institutions which are of high security and needs to be protected like NamPower. NamPower is an institution high security because if it is disabled, there would be no power and no communication. We are, therefore, moving towards identifying certain institutions, including the Ministry of Home Affairs, as institutions of high security that need to be protected.

On New Era: We are trying to support it . You suggested that New era should be given adverts by Government Institutions, which is a good idea. You might have seen that Dr Mathe has been visiting all these Government institutions soliciting adverts. His visits were published in New Era. We will continue to invest so that this will boost the revenue collection of the newspaper.

Honourable Manombe-Ncube, Thank you very much for your support. You have asked whether the amount allocated to New Era will also cater for Braille. I tend to believe so, but I am not quite sure. However, Braille is already provided for. You also asked if we can introduce sign language during Parliamentary Sessions; it is a good question and we will look into that. That point is well taken Honourable Member.

Honorable General Namoloh, My Friend and My Commander, you groomed me, thank you very much for everything. Your question is on

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

the radio frequency in cars that goes out of reception: They will look into that. I forgot to say that since we are migrating from Analogue to Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT), I was told that more coverage will be provided even for areas where we have no coverage at the moment. Digital Terrestrial Television will provide more coverage. Let us believe that it is going to happen. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. With those explanations provided, any objection? Agreed to.

Honourable Members, I shall report progress and ask leave to sit again.

ASSEMBLY RESUMES

Progress reported and leave given to sit again.

HON SPEAKER: As the work is done, the House, therefore stands adjourned until tomorrow at 14:30.

In terms of Rule 90(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 20:25 until Wednesday, 02 April 2014.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 20:25 UNTIL 2014.04.02 AT 14:30

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
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The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: Any Petitions? None. Reports of Standing or Select Committees? None. Other Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance.

TABLING: REPORTS OF AUDITOR-GENERAL

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table, Reports of the Auditor-General on the accounts of the:-

- (i) Municipality of Okahandja for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2012;
and
- (ii) Municipality of Henties Bay for the Financial Years ended 30 June 2011 and 2012.

I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Reports. Notice of Motions? Honourable Amweelo.

MOTION ON BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

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**NOTICE OF MOTIONS
HON DR AMWEELO**

HON DR AMWEELO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I Move without Notice that the proceedings on Votes 21, 22 and 31 of the *Appropriation Bill* be, in terms of Rule 90, not interrupted, if still under consideration at 17:45.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

HON DR AMWEELO: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice that Leave of Absence, due to Official Business, be granted to Honourable Schlettwein from 28 March until 16 April 2014. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Who was the person you just moved?

HON DR AMWEELO: Honourable Schlettwein.

HON SPEAKER: Ministerial Statements? Honourable Minister of Health.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:
Honourable Speaker, thank you for giving me the Floor.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON DR KAMWI**

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, during the Motivation of Vote 13 on 26 March 2014, several questions were raised in this august House about the status of uniforms for health workers. The questions were mainly centred on the quality, standards, frequent availability and source of the uniforms of health professionals. I had very limited time to give detailed explanations to this House for clarity purposes. Consequently, a Debate has since ensued and it is my intention to clarify the matter.

Since Independence, the normal practice has been the invitation for tenders for the supply of uniforms for health workers, bed linen, curtains, screens and other related materials. These tenders were mainly confined to local Namibian companies. However, the public and some Members within this House have expressed their dissatisfaction with the quality of the fabric and the workmanship of the uniforms.

Therefore, a desire to act on this was expressed in no uncertain terms.

HON SPEAKER: Let us listen to the Honourable Minister and help him to explain to the societies we serve. Continue, Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE: On the part of the Ministry and the Tender Board, there have been serious concerns about local suppliers not only in terms of meeting the deadlines for timely supply of uniforms and bed linens, but also the quality of the uniforms, the design, standards and textiles as well as timely delivery of ordered materials according to the tender specifications.

As an example, during the 2009 to 2011 tender, out of 63 items, only 40 items could be awarded because most companies could not meet the required specifications. Two companies were thus considered; one was mainly specialising in imports and exports as such these uniforms were

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON DR KAMWI**

not made in Namibia.

The other company had no sufficient capital to import adequate fabric for uniforms and as a result this company could not supply the Ministry with uniforms for two successive years.

The problems of procuring suitable uniforms and hospital materials had been difficult not only for the Ministry but for the Tender Board of Namibia as well.

As a result, Tender Board had to seek technical and professional expertise, which also could not find any other alternative. Therefore, the Ministry decided to take another approach, which entailed the following:

- To set the standards and quality of fabrics to be used for various categories for health workers because fabric standards are categorised depending on the content of the materials used to produce the fabric such as poly cotton, cotton and polyester.
- The design of various categories of health workers' uniforms for summer and winter, rural and urban, office and fieldwork.
- Production of Catalogue to be given to successful tenderers to use the required designs and manufacturing of master samples to be used as an example to give to those who will manufacture the uniforms.
- Upgrading of the tailoring services of the Ministry to be able to produce material or uniforms that are not of commercial quantity that justify tender.
- Procurement of tailor-made fabrics embedded with watermarks of the Ministry to minimise pilfering and stealing, which should be stored and availed to successful tenderers to produce uniforms locally. This will also ensure that we have standard uniforms used everywhere and suitable for every environment and conditions in the country.

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HON DR KAMWI**

Therefore, I would like to state here that it was never the intention of the Ministry to import readymade uniforms from any part of the world. To the contrary, it is the intention of the Ministry, first and foremost, to provide suitable uniforms to ensure that there are curtains on the windows of our health facilities, bed linens, screens, all uniforms and related materials which are of the standards in line with the norms and standards set by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and that would equally create a corporate identity for the Ministry.

It is also the intention of the Ministry to ensure quality and standard through capacity building and skills transfer, not only to the staff of the Ministry but also to the successful tenderers who shall produce the uniforms locally.

The Ministry is not only intending to provide training and skills transfer alone, but to ensure guidelines in terms of the design through the provision of a catalogue and availing of the required fabrics because the production of the uniforms should be made according to health guidelines and standards in order to prevent the transmission of infections and contamination of diseases.

It is most unfortunate that this matter has been taken out of proportion and the public has been given a negative impression as if the Ministry is anti-job creation.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services is dealing with saving lives and when we speak of job creation, we should equally speak in its totality, because the solution is not only with the making of uniforms alone through a N\$5 million cost.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, both the exports of unprocessed minerals and construction of buildings with imported materials worth billions of dollars; awarding of tenders to foreign companies and flooding of the labour market with foreign labourers, amongst many others, deny the Namibia people of employment opportunities.

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS
TO MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON MAAMBERUA / HON TJIHUIKO**

Finally, having listened to the outcry of some Namibians through print and electronic media, we have consulted and we are going back to the drawing board, which will mean another delay of some several months before the uniforms can be realized at the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

Honourable Speaker, as a Ministry we remain committed to do our very best within the available means to provide the uniforms for all our health workers. Thank you for your kind attention.

HON SPEAKER: I thank the Honourable Minister for his information. Honourable Maamberua.

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

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Minister for the clarification. However, I have a small question. In terms of hygiene, for how many years can the bed linen be used in hospitals? I ask the question because I still see bed linen coming from the era of South West Africa being used in hospitals.

HON SPEAKER: Any other questions? Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I have a small question to the Honourable Minister. Honourable Minister, I would like to know whether the Ministry has been given exemption by the

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**QUESTIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS/COMMENTS
TO MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS
HON NEHOVA**

Tender Board to buy from China or was it the decision of the Ministry itself? Does that require an exemption or is it just the decision of the Ministry?

Secondly, I was not clear on what the Honourable Minister was saying. At one moment the Honourable Minister was talking about importing uniforms because we do not have the in-house capacity in Namibia to do that while at the last point you mentioned that the Ministry will import material. If we import material, then we must have the in-house capacity to make the uniforms. Can the Honourable Minister clarify whether we will import ready-made uniforms because we do not have the capacity locally or will we import material so that people in Namibia can make the uniforms while creating jobs in the process? Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Nehova.

HON NEHOVA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I have a very short question to the Honourable Minister. Honourable Speaker, last time during the Debate of the Vote for the Ministry of Defence, we were delighted to see that the Ministry is in fact producing some of the material that the other Minister is talking about here. I have seen some of the material outside here during the display. My question now is; has the Honourable Minister of Health consulted the Ministry of Defence that we believe is producing a lot of good stuff that can serve in our hospitals? Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Any other questions? None. Honourable Minister?

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON DR KAMWI**

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Thank you very much indeed, for the relevant questions put across.

Honourable Maamberua, it simply depends on whether they are kept under safe custody. If that is the case then they can stay there for as many years as possible. The question on the administration is simply irrelevant. The question is; is it still useful? If the lifespan permits the usage of it, we can go ahead and use them.

Honourable Tjihuiko, on the exemption, if you listened carefully, the Permanent Secretary would still go to the Tender Board to ask for exemption, if ever. There is no way we would go to Beijing and purchase uniforms using State resources without going through the normal channels. Absolutely not!

In relation to capacity, I related that the company so identified, was prepared to come and train local people. Therefore, that was equally addressed in my Statement that I have just made.

Honourable Nehova, Sir, if you listened carefully on that day, I had put a question to the Honourable Minister of Defence for August 26 to consider the possibility of making uniforms for the Health Sector. We consulted and we will still consult. Thank you very much indeed.

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

**RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE STAGE:
APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]**

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: APPROPRIATION BILL
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Committee Stage - *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister of Finance Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee?

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any objection? Who seconds? Agreed to. I now call the Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee to take the Chair.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Members, the Whole House Committee is called to Order. The Committee has to consider the *Appropriation Bill* [B.3 – 2014].

When progress was reported on Tuesday, the 01st of April 2014, Votes 01 to 20, 23 to 30 had been agreed to and Votes 21, 22 and 31 have been introduced.

Vote 21 – “**CORRECTIONAL SERVICES,**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? This Vote was introduced yesterday, we are now at the point where we have to *d'accord*.

Any further discussions? Any objection? Agreed to.

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COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 22
HON LIMBO

Vote 22 – “**FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES,**” put for Discussion. Any discussions? Honourable Limbo, you have the Floor, please.

HON LIMBO: Thank you very much. Fish is life! Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, Honourable Members, first of all, I want to declare my interest as a person coming from the Zambezi Region. I was touched yesterday, when the Honourable Minister was trying to explain to us that an amount of almost N\$15,000,000.00 was made. That is partly the fish sold in the Region itself. We do not know how much fish *left* the Region unnoticed. I was in the Region two weeks ago and I found that the majority of the people fishing there were Namibians while some of them were not. I did not mention Kaoko yet (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Are you speaking on a Point of Order? I thought she was still introducing the point she was going to make. Can you just hold so she can do that? Thank you very much.

HON LIMBO: Thank you very much. What I was saying is that what I saw is that some of the people who were fishing there were not Namibians and when I asked them why that was the case, some local fishermen told me that the majority of them are doing that by bringing in illegal fishermen from Zambia because children in Namibia do not know how to fish. (Intervention)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Honourable Limbo, when you travelled to the Region about

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COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 22
HON LIMBO

two weeks ago, did you go there with the intention to go and fish or did you go there for something else? That is my question. Thank you.

HON LIMBO: That is my birth home so there is nothing much I can say. I can go there anytime I feel like.

That is what the local fishermen told me; the majority of our children nowadays cannot fish and one cannot really blame them because there was a time when the Zambezi and the lake were dry for almost twenty years, so those people who were born after that do not know how to fish. I think it was in the year 1978 when it dried up. It is, therefore, a worrying factor because the country is losing a lot of money. I would like to propose the following to the Honourable Minister:

1. Help these people organise themselves by forming cooperatives in such a way that instead of having people from the DRC and from our neighbouring country, Zambia fishing here, our people must take the fish to the DRC and Zambia and generate money for themselves.
2. Assist the local fishermen to acquire temporary work permit so that the Police is in a better position to control whoever is coming into the country. For example, if Agnes has fishing nets and is known to have two fishermen, she will be able to identify her workers with some form of identification. Otherwise, if we leave it open like that without controlling it, I believe, we will all wake up to the realisation that there is no more fish in the Zambezi River.

The Senior Indunas, the Headmen, must know how many fishermen are brought into their areas so that they will be able to work hand in hand with the Police. I rest my case and I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I think those two specific points

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HON JANKOWSKI / HON NEHOVA

are noted. Can I call upon the Honourable Jankowski, please?

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to congratulate the Minister of Fisheries. I have two questions: Firstly, I would like to know how many fishing rights one person can have.

Secondly, are the fishing rights holders really being monitored to see whether they are donating money to the trusts they establish for beneficiaries like the Old Homes and Children Home? I thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Nehova, please.

HON NEHOVA: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House.

I have very small questions to the Honourable Minister. Before I do that, I would like to mention that the Fishing Sector is one of the key Economic Sectors in the country and the Honourable Minister also said here that the revenue from the Fishing Sector is second to the Mining Sector. That is very good! Page 18 here states that the Fishing Sector is contributing something like N\$5,000,000,000.00 to our economy every year. That is quite a lot of money, however, I think it can be improved. I was trying to find out from the Honourable Minister's Speech whether the Ministry, the Government or the State is anywhere directly or indirectly involved in this Sector by way of establishing companies like the Ministry of Defence or does this N\$5,000,000,000.00 come from the collection of taxes only? I think it would be a good thing if more Ministries can go further to establish companies and participate directly in the economy of the country

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COMMITTEE STAGE: DISCUSSION VOTE 22
HON SHIXWAMENI

and in so doing adding to the revenue stream. That will be a good thing.

What is really happening in this important Industry? I would like to hear from the Honourable Minister how the promotion of fish consumption is done? Who are the targets when you promote the consumption of fish? Do you target every Namibian? I am also a Namibian but I have never seen this in my village. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Shixwameni, please.

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Honourable Professor. Let me start with the Namibia Fish Consumption Promotion Trust. I would still like to go back to the point that I mentioned yesterday - food production in this country remains an expensive exercise. We catch the fish in Walvis Bay and Lüderitz and when it is sold here in Namibia, it is still expensive. I appreciate the efforts of the Namibia Food Consumption Promotion Trust, but I still think that the price of fish, both inland fisheries and the fish that we catch from the sea, is still expensive. I have had the privilege of going to Spain several times. The Spanish will catch fish from here and sell it in Spain but it is still cheaper in Spain than it is sold here in Namibia. We need a plausible explanation as to how these prices basically vary from the Namibian consumer to the international consumer?

The other thing that I want to talk about is that, we export a lot of fish to Spain. I appreciate the efforts of the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Spain but I think we really need to still put pressure on them because I still believe that the Spanish process our fish locally here because it only benefits the Spaniards in terms of job creation instead of us benefitting in terms of job creation. Our friends, whether they be the Chinese, whether they be the Spaniards or whether they be the Americans, I think need to be

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made aware that we also need to create jobs locally and they must do that. I know that there are probably two/three town in Spain that basically have its sustenance from our fish.

The second last thing that I want to talk about is this phosphate mining, I know there what is being called an illegal moratorium that is put on, I welcome it because I have been part of the people that have been pushing for this moratorium on phosphate (interjection) no, because there are lawyers and other people that are disputing it.

All I am saying is, have you weighed the cost-benefit effects of phosphate mining as opposed to fishing our marine resources? If we have looked at it, what is the study telling us? Phosphate mining cannot be sustained over a certain period of time because all mining have a limited period compared to fish that reproduces itself? Have we weighed the cost-benefits of the two and if so, what are we saying to our Nation? Can the two co-exist or is it true that Tuna and other fish species would be eradicated from our water because of the phosphate mining activities?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order.

HON SHIXWAMENI: Seniors do not interrupt juniors.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: On a Point of Information rather, because the Honourable Member referred to the moratorium, so-called illegal and he cited lawyers that are apparently saying so. Companies that are formed under the *Companies Act* (intervention).

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HON SHIXWAMENI: I do not know those companies.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Please wait. The natural mineral resources belong to the State.

HON SHIXWAMENI: I know that.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Whatever your lawyers are saying is totally rubbish. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Member, please continue and take note that our time is running out.

HON SHIXWAMENI: I wish the very Senior Minister will say that outside this Chamber (*Laughter*). All that I am saying is that, I am quoting from sources that are out there.

My last comment is on the price of inland fish. I am talking about fish coming from the dams. Kamuchonga, no, Kamuchonga does not produce fish, they produce fingerlings and other things that they sell, talk about Karovo, Mpungu and others. When it comes to the price of fish in the Kavango Region, I would like to appreciate the efforts of Chief Faustinus Shiyambi, in the Geiriku area the fish price is controlled, in the west of the Kavango Region that I know of and Caprivi the fish (intervention).

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: No, Zambezi.

HON SHIXWAMENI: The prices are not controlled. You will find that the price of the same fish you buy in the Gciriku area are also sold in the Mbunza, the Uukwangali and Mupini areas at astronomical prices. I hope when people are bringing brand licences, we should also talk to them about the affordability of prices for fish in the area.

My last point is on Welwitchia and Fishing Rights. The Head of State has been complaining about people selling their fishing rights and quotas. I want to know what the Ministry is specifically doing about this. It is criminal and it should not be allowed. Let us control these things properly and make sure that our natural resources are used for the benefit of the Namibian people. With that I rest my case. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I suspect that the equipment was off and I would like to inform the Honourable Members that they are now on so we are sticking to the time limit that we have agreed to. Honourable Nambahu, please.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I also want to support the Vote of Fisheries and I have two or three points to make.

My first point is on Page 23 of the Minister's Speech where he talks about South-south cooperation in support of Aquaculture Development. I think it is a good initiative and it should be kept like that. I watched a certain documentary on fishing and I realised that people in some countries did not want the fish ponds to be inspected because what they feed the fish

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leaves a lot to be desired. I hope there is something somewhere in place that the several kinds of fish entering our markets through various chain supermarkets that we have around here. (*interjections*) Yes, there are others that give pesticides to the fish, so do not provoke me to say things, just leave it there. This information is available all over the internet. This is, especially more common in the first-world countries than in the third world countries. I do not want to mention the names of the countries here. The quality control of our food is very important and when it enters the value chain through these many shops that we have around, we have a reason to be concerned. (*interjections*) Yes, the Kangaroo meat is one of them.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I must be given injury time (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order?

HON SHIXWAMENI: Comrade, I want to ask a small question. *Compañero*, I am not allowed to speak a foreign language, but let me ask a question. Our supermarkets, whether you go to Pick'n'Pay, Checkers or Woermann Brock, are flooded with fishing products that are non-Namibians (*interjections*). They are all flooded with products which come from other countries. I bought some of them which are not qualitative. Can you do this country a favour to name and shame those products that are of poor quality and are brought here and what the fish is fed in those particular countries? Are you able to help us *Compañero por favor*?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Please continue and remember that the time is limited and if you want to make your last point, please do so.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I hope you have a stop watch there. The issue here is that, as long as we are in the third world and we do not put mechanisms in place to protect the health of our people, the fish and all these kinds of foodstuffs that are prohibited in other areas will come to us. These people do not invent the problems but make use of the vacuum and loopholes that we have in our systems. I can tell you that there are countries where they feed their fish with pesticides and I can assure you of that. We should really go out and look at these things to protect the health of our people and to stop these things from entering the chain market. I will not continue because I know that my injury time is over. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE-HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. You are very kind. Honourable Mwaningange, please.

HON MWANINGANGE: Thank you very much, Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I would like to wholeheartedly support Vote 22. I would like to address my contribution to Programme 6 - **Policy and Advice**, which is on Pages 25 and 26.

It is mentioned on Page 26 that - *the Ministry continues to support the consumption of fish, locally, through the Namibia Fish Consumption Promotion Trust. It has been an ongoing Programme.* Comrade Minister, this is very appreciable because the consumption of fish is adding to the improvement of nutrition and health in general for the Namibian people. It is, therefore, a welcome development. This policy should continue. Fortunately, we have enough fish, if there are no other unnatural occurrences in our water including the rivers but I am talking about the ocean.

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There are several trusts which were established in different Regions of the country. I know that the work of the trust is to oversee administration, distribution and so on, but we can always look at ways of guiding them. I observed some shortcomings; first of all, when these fish is bought by local people they can be tempted to misuse it in such a way that the targeted objectives may not be achieved because it sometimes come in large quantities at a particular shop or place where it is designated to be sold to local people. Since it is in demand, you will find a queue of people stretching almost half a kilometre and people coming out with big boxes and within a couple of minutes, you just hear that; “*the fish is finished!*” There may be loopholes that triggers the misuse of this golden opportunity by some members of the community. It must, therefore, be monitored so that it is used properly and accordingly.

Secondly, there is a policy that says that the senior citizens, people living with disabilities, expecting and lactating mothers must be given priority to have their separate queues where they can conveniently obtain their fish. However, this is currently not the case and you will find them queuing in the sun and rain amongst young people pushing and pulling one another. This is not at Ministry level but the administration can be advised.

Lastly, there is a need to decentralise the distribution at these points so that it reaches the rural areas because of the travelling distances. These lactating mothers and people with disabilities are found in remote rural areas and are unable to reach the centres in the Regions. For example, in a Region with five Constituencies they only have one distribution and receiving centre. These are some of the observations I made. I wholeheartedly support the Vote. Thank you for a job well done by the Ministry.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I know that, as a courtesy to the Honourable Members I should consult you whether you want to have a tea break or whether we should continue. Should we continue? However,

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Members who wish to access tea or coffee can do so individually and come back. Thank you. May I call upon Honourable Mushelenga, please.

HON T MUSHELENGA: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I also rise in support of Vote 22.

Most of my points have been taken and that is an indication that the problem that we are discussing is a national problem. My first point is on the long queues at the Fish for Consumption Promotion Programme. There is a need for the decentralisation of this Programme so that it benefits the people because what is currently happening is that those who have money come with ten or twenty other people who buy for one individual while most of the people from the rural areas who really need the fish, go back home without buying anything after standing in long queues.

Comrade Minister, if possible, there should at least be a Fish Consumption Programme in each Constituency so that people would be able to be reached. I know it is not possible, today, but we should at least think along those lines so that the people do not stand in long queues and then go back home with nothing. Some people stand in the queues from morning and leave at night with nothing. Please, Honourable Minister, something must be done to address this problem.

The other thing that I think of is the number of people who are selling fish. Most of the people who sell *kapanas* are *memes* (mothers). I just want to know from the Honourable Minister how many women are owners of fishing rights because we cannot just continue being sellers of fish and not have rights to own these products and this is a Namibian product. We, therefore, need to be informed, and we want to own these products.

The other point is that of the fish from the rivers. Most of us here have the benefit of knowing that we have bream in this country but other people from the other rural areas, for example, Omaheke, //Karas Region, Kunene and other Regions that are not close to the rivers do not know that we have

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bream in this country. There is, therefore, all other types of fish that we have in this country, including bream to be part of our fish consumption so that we all benefit from our natural resources. Honourable Minister, with that I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kazenambo...

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee for giving me the opportunity.

I want to address the Honourable Minister's Speech on Page 25, Programme 6 - **Policy and Economic Advice**. Comrade Minister, this Programme needs to look into the issue of the fishing rights and the fairness of how the so-called, and I am underlining the word *so-called beneficiaries*. I know Comrade Katali is looking with keen interest. The so-called beneficiaries and you want to say - *Kazenambo let me declare my interests as one of the so-called beneficiaries*. How do we really benefit from this resource?

Comrade Minister, Honourable Members of this august House, to be honest, our society is being consumed by greed! Honourable Mushelenga was talking about people sending more than ten or twenty people to buy fish on their behalf and that is greed! This society is being consumed by greed and it is almost everywhere.

Comrade Minister, the Government of the Republic of Namibia, the SWAPO Party Government is empowering Namibians. It has got good intentions to empower Namibians but there are those who are disempowering other Namibians and it is notorious, especially in the Fishing Industry. In other Industries like Mining and (*interjection*) You and I have been fired from the Think Tank. (*Laughter*)

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, because I think we stopped thinking a long time ago (*laughter*). Comrade, let me ask you this question; do you really think that in a system where empowerment is left to the conscience, if there is any, of a capitalist, somebody who is only looking at himself and where the vision is profit, that empowerment would ever be a vehicle for spreading wealth without any central control?

HON KAZENAMBO: It looks like you and I think alike and no wonder we have been demoted from that Think Tank. This is exactly the point I am driving at. Comrade Minister, any system, even for you to drive on the road, you need to be licensed and be subjected to certain Rules and Regulations. This thing of empowerment by allocating fishing quotas and that is the end of the story, does not work. It is not working! I am not specifically targeting any company but your Ministry can do it (*interjections*) No, I am not using my immunity to abuse other people. I will not do that, that is not Kazenambo. I am a principled person.

Currently, this system is not empowering people because when the fishing rights are advertised, people go as far as to the disabled Namibians, the old-age people and the vulnerable people in the rural areas at night to make them sign Trusts. *Ahawe m'kwetu! Okutja weza koiri yandje.* I will come again (Intervention)

HON SHIXWAMENI: Can I ask the Honourable Brother a small question?

HON KAZENAMBO: Go ahead, Comrade.

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HON SHIXWAMENI: I am just asking this for interest sake. Is it because of the ideas that you, Honourable Nambahu and some other advocate that is why you were fired from the ‘Think Tank’ or what?

HON KAZENAMBO: I withdraw that we have been fired, I was just joking so that APP can take interest. This is an in-house issue, it has got nothing to do with APP.

To continue, I was saying that immediately after these poor old ladies and people with disabilities are allocated these Trust Memberships, two worrisome issues happen: these so-called fishing companies, do not convene Annual General Meetings (AGMs) where all shareholders come and discuss about everything.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. May I call upon Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila? You have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I just wanted to make a few remarks in support of the Vote concerning the issue of value addition to our natural resources, specifically the fish resources.

In complementing the efforts of the Ministry in this regard, I have already informed this House that we have finalised the Bill that would be coming to this House some time during the course of the year to introduce export levies on the export of our raw materials of which fisheries products would be one of them, in order to encourage those that are issued with rights to exploit these resources to process them here.

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There was an outcry out there when we first indicated that we were going to introduce these taxes because it was felt that they will undermine the profitability and sustainability of the Industry. There were also complaints that Namibia may not have the necessary capacities to man the Industries that that would be required in order to add value to this product. However, we have remained firm in this regard and after some extensive consultations we have come up with proposals of rates for fisheries products, forestry products, mineral resources and other products. I, therefore, wish to call on the House and the public at large to support this initiative. Most importantly, I want to encourage those that are given the opportunity to exploit these resources to really add value to our products.

Obviously, this effort would be further supported by the introduction of the training levy. I saw in today's newspaper that one of the pioneering business entities that made steps to give practical effect to this idea, come from the Financial Sector in the form of a financial institution. This is another noble idea that I think is necessary for us to embrace to make sure that we make appropriate investment in the development of capacities, capacities which, although are currently for the main part being invested in by the Public Sector, are also beneficial for private entities. They should, therefore, be prepared to invest in them and we are hoping that with the combination of the high allocation to education and training through the Budget, the training levy and the levies on the export of raw materials we would be encouraged to do everything possible to optimise value addition at home and support sustainable growth and job creation. With these few remarks, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. That is a very important point that would take care of some of the comments made earlier. May I call upon the Honourable Dr Kawana, please?

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HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 22 and to commend My Good Friend and Comrade, Honourable Bernard Esau and his team for a job well done, especially when it comes to the empowerment of our people. He went out of his way, I know quite a number of Namibian citizens, regardless of political affiliation benefited. I really salute him for that because, rightly so, in terms of the Constitution the natural resources of Namibia belong to the people of Namibia and they must, therefore, benefit regardless of political affiliations.

Comrade Minister, one aspect regarding illegal fishing by foreign nationals, especially in Lake Liambezi and Zambezi, I think maybe we should engage our neighbours particularly in the North to come up with a formula whereby we can control that aspect. In fact, I can also recommend that we need to open up a market so that the Namibian citizens are the ones to catch the fish and sell them by way of export. Therefore, there must be a coordination between the Ministry of Fisheries, the Ministry of Finance, Customs and My Senior Brother here from Ministry of Safety and Security so that that can at least be a very viable export commodity which will economically empower our people. Otherwise, I support Vote 22.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you. Comrade, I beg that the people allow me to say what I want say, please . Honestly, I am building on the issue of companies in the Fishing Industry. Many of these companies are operating in total violation of the *Companies Act*. They are operating in

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total violation of the *Companies Act* of the Namibian Laws because they do not hold Annual General Meetings. They do not present audited reports and again some of them embezzle funds. I am saying this without any prejudice, like the lawyers would say. They are liable for embezzlement because these companies whose core functions are not to operate hotels, mining or farming, take other shareholders' money without their consent at an Annual General Meeting. They will invest in farms, they will invest in mining activities and they will invest in other activities. It is criminal, it is a total violation and it is not good governance from a business point of view. I am not singling out any company. The Ministry needs to put mechanisms in place to monitor, evaluate and curb this total violation and total rape of the Namibian Laws. It is rape, rampant rape of Namibian Laws.

Furthermore, this violation and cheating continues. Some companies build factories and in the management of those factories, we the Kazenambos, a returnee from Botswana and a former child of refugees (interjections) I am not from //Gam, I am from Botswana, from Tsau, from Lubango as well as from here. These poor peasants who do not know anything about the management of the Fishing Industry are only given cheques. The money is controlled at the management level with - *Arikana Mukuru uandje, tate ko Tjawana* (intervention)

HON SHIXWAMENI: The Honourable Member is doing very well. I just want to ask on the point of being given cheques. When people are given cheques, you do not ask these people that give you the cheques as to how much they retain in the kit and how much they use to pay others kick backs. That is one.

The second one is; Honourable Kazenambo, taking the fact that this is criminal company conduct, what are you suggesting there on the Think Tank? What is that that you are suggesting that must happen in order for the SWAPO Party Government to rein in these crooks and criminals who are plundering our resources at the disadvantage of our people? Thank you.

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HON KAZENAMBO: I am not at the Think Tank, at the moment we are still busy thinking. Anyway, as we are busy thinking, I am addressing the reality and it is serious problem. It is not only a question of the Ministry of Fisheries, it is a question of this Parliament – the Committee on Economics because it is disempowerment of poor women and the poor people. I was building a point on the issue of management before I sit down. We, the poor people who do not know anything about management – the big fishing companies from Brazil and from other countries around the world come here and put up small plants (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. There is still time for Debates on issues of this kind but I think that we are also govern by time. I call upon the Honourable Minister to respond to some of the specific issues. Honourable Minister, you have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: First of all, I would like to thank all the Honourable Members who have taken the Floor as well as those who did not take the Floor but support Vote 22. I will try my best to address the issues that were raised by the Honourable Members.

Honourable Limbo was talking about challenges faced in the Zambezi Region - foreigners fishing and the children of the inhabitants of the Region who do not know how to fish. Yes, we are concerned about foreigners coming to fish in our waters without appropriate permission. They should at least be given permission if they want to fish in our water. Preferably, we want our own people to fish, we do not want foreigners to fish in our waters. We will look into this matter and we will try to jack up our monitoring, controls and surveillances. We will also impose punitive action where there is need – when a foreigner is caught without the necessary permission. Even if a local person employs a foreigner, the

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foreigner must have a work permit issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Therefore, foreigners working without work permits stand to be disciplined. I also like the suggestion that we should engage our *Indunas* in the exercise of controlling the people allowed to fish.

Honourable Jankowski, on the question of how many rights one person can have; you have natural and juristic persons. Sometimes we give rights to juristic persons and we also give rights to natural persons. It is sometimes a very difficult exercise to determine whether a natural person has a right through a juristic person. They are in trusts; they hide behind trusts and you do not know who are the beneficiaries of the trust. However, one day it will come out and when we know that one person owns a fishing right in Hake and another one in Horse Mackerel, we will come up with policies to curb such situations.

On the issue of implementing promises; yes, companies are making promises in terms of their Corporate Social Responsibility Programmes, saying that they will assist this school, they will help this community and things like that. We do have a tracking system in place. After a certain period of time, let us say two or three years we, embark on the evaluation of these specific rights to see whether those specific right holders are really honouring their promises and if they do not honour their promises, normally, we will tell them that we are going to reduce their allocation of the quota or we are going to terminate their rights but it depends on the recommendations of the In-house Committee in the Ministry.

Comrade Nehova, thank you very much for acknowledging the fact that fishing is also one of the big contributors towards our GDP. On our involvement as Government in the Fishing Sector; yes we are involved. We have ownership through FishCor. FishCor is a holding company in Sea Flower White Fish, in Sea Flower Lobster as well as Sea Flower Monk, but we are in partnership with other shareholders. For argument sake, if you look at the Sea Flower White Fish Company, we are there with the Regional Governors' Trust, all fourteen Regions, in fact, are having 22% shareholding in that specific company.

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In terms of revenue we are also not only sharing in the dividends of this vehicle, FishCor, through the subsidiary companies, we are also sharing income through levies that we are getting from the fishing company.

Fish consumption; how do we define our target markets? I know that a number of Members of Parliament have raised this issue of fish consumption. Whenever you define your target market we are saying it is the low income people of our country. The people who cannot afford to pay N\$20,00 but the people who can afford paying N\$1,00 for the fish. That is our target market.

On the issue of how we define our target markets; yes our target markets are defined in terms of income, our target markets are defined in terms of accessibility towards fish as well as affordability. Still on fish consumption - prices of fish too high, I have said that we are at least trying to reduce the prices of fish for our people. That is our aim.

Honourable Shixwameni, on the question of fish being cheaper in Spain than Namibia; we must understand one thing and I want to show you something here. I have a slide here on world white fish production. I was attending a Conference and I was also the guest speaker in Vigo, Spain last year. This slide is telling us that Namibia only supplies 2% of the world fish into the EU Market – *only 2%*. The rest comes from countries like Norway, the USA and Vietnam, especially pangasius. I am talking about white fish.

In terms of supply and demand, if there is excess supply and there is less demand then automatically the prices will go down because a surplus is available. The prices will surely be very low because they have a basket of fish, not only from Namibia, but also from Vietnam or China like pangasius, tilapia, cot and haddock which also goes into the EU market. Therefore, the prices will surely be low. We only have hake and horse mackerel so our prices, in comparison, will be very high but those are the economics and we can talk about it later.

The question about whether we have done the cost-benefit analysis for phosphate mining; when it comes to phosphate mining, we really need to

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adopt a precautionary approach towards this specific activity. We are not saying we do not want phosphate mining, and we do not say that we have conducted a cost-benefit analysis. It will come but what we are saying is that we are taking a precautionary approach towards this. We first need to determine what the effects would be in terms of jobs as well as in terms of income.

We know that the Fishing Industry employs more than 13,000 workers, directly, but we do not know how many workers would be employed directly, in phosphate mining. They say 500 but we do not know. If they can employ 13,000 people then there would be no problem. We do not know what the contribution of phosphate mining will be to the GDP of our country. We are still investigating this matter and there is a meeting of our subcommittee on this phosphate mining tomorrow. I was in Lüderitz on Monday and they showed me what they want to do but I told them that we must first test (intervention)

HON SHIXWAMENI: They must tell you what we want.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:

Yes. Fresh water fish, control prices in the Regions and affordability is another issue. We are in a free market economy and it is very difficult to introduce price controls in such an economy. It is demand and supply. The sale of rights should not be allowed - I will never allow somebody to sell his right to a foreigner, but I will allow it if Honourable Shixwameni wants to buy a right from Comrade Kazenambo Kazenambo or from somebody else and *vice versa* because we want to Namibianise this. Therefore, it will be against our Namibianisation policies to sell rights to foreigners.

Comrade Nambahu, South-south Cooperation and feeding of fish: We have controls because whenever we manufacture fish feed here at Onavivi, we make sure that the ingredients are from the locals. We buy

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Omahangu from our local farmers and we use it to produce fish feed. The other ingredients like beans is also added to that but otherwise, we really take control on this to make sure that our fish feed is at least superb.

Comrade Billy Mwaningange raised a very important point on senior people and people living with disabilities to be treated properly. These people need to have access and they should be given the priority to buy fish at our fish consumption shops. I am having a briefing with them on Friday afternoon as well as on Monday morning, I will, therefore, raise these points to them so that they can adopt a new approach when it comes to the sales of fish to our elders and to the people living with disabilities.

The distribution of fish is also very important. We are trying to cover all Constituencies in our country but we have limited means. Because you need to put up shops, you must buy containers, you must put up structures and you must put up cold storage facilities. However, we are trying our level best. Presently, we are almost in all the Regions. Only two Regions are not yet covered and as soon as we are through with the Regions, we will go to the districts and from districts we will go down to towns, etcetera.

Comrade Mushelenga, on the long queues; the demand for fish has really increased. People have discovered that fish is good, so all we need to do is to build more outlets. We are busy building one in Rundu, which I understand is at a very advanced stage now. It will be inaugurated during this Financial Year.

How many fishing rights holders: There is quite a number of fishing rights holders. We have a lot of people with fishing rights. They are over 300. There are also quite a number of women with fishing rights. There is one company called *Iyaloo*, which was formed by ordinary factory workers who applied for a right. We gave them the rights, as Government, because they are producers. They are processing the fish. It is only comprised of women. There are a lot of other companies in the south, the Hardap and //Karas Regions. We have people in Omaheke (interjections) do you want a list? There is a booklet, we will give it to you. I do not have it here but I will give you the booklet so that

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everybody will know that we have fish in all our Regions. When I was in Mariental, on Monday, I was told that people are aware of fresh water fish. They have been fishing in the Fish River Canyon as well. Fish is not only available at sea, but also inland. People in the Regions of //Karas and Hardap know and they are catching fish there.

Comrade Kazenambo, you have a strong point that there is no corporate governance in some fishing companies. Those companies which were given fishing rights do not account because they were given the mandate to go and apply. We need to fast track this specific process and check them out. We must track them down. They need to be looked at and when we do our evaluation, in fact this year, we are supposed to do the evaluation, it is the year that we have to conduct an evaluation of all companies and that will be done. If there is no capacity within the Ministry, we will have to get people from outside to do it, to have an independent view on this.

Quotas: When quotas are allocated and people are taking the income from those quotas to reinvest in other companies, I think that is immoral and it is unheard of. We need to check whether these companies or the Boards of Directors have the blessings of the company because they must have an AGM which states that - *we want to diversify our investments and move into logistics* or *we want to diversify our investments and move into hotels* and things like that, but it must carry the blessings of the shareholders. The shareholding of those specific new investments must reflect the shareholding structure of the companies. That must be very clear. Audited reports must be provided, they must hold Annual General Meetings and there must be mechanisms in place, within the company, to control itself, if they know that they must come and report to us.

I also want to thank **Honourable Kuugongelwa-Amadhila** and **Comrade Kawana** for the support to this very important Vote, Vote 22 and I want to thank everybody, even those whom I have not mentioned here. Thank you very much for your support and God bless you.

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HON JANKOWSKI / HON MOONGO**

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you for that full explanation. Any objection? Agreed to.

Vote 31 “**VETERANS AFFAIRS,**” put for Discussion. Any discussion? I call upon Honourable Jankowski, please. I am going by the lights; that is what is guiding me. Honourable Member, you have the Floor.

HON JANKOWSKI: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 31, from Page 1 up to Page 6. I would like to congratulate the Honourable Minister, Dr Nickey Iyambo, for the excellent Programmes for the veterans. The veterans now have detailed activities in which to take part and reap the fruits of their hard work.

Honourable Minister, thank you for giving back the dignity to the veterans who can now live a life after many years of suffering. Honourable Iyambo, in years to come I would suggest an old age village, where those without families can come together, share with their friends and fellow veterans and where they can be taken care of. I support the Vote and I thank the Honourable Minister.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Moongo.

HON MOONGO: Thank you very much. I do not want you to drag me away from my point. I was happy to read about the improvement of welfare for the ex PLAN Combatants on Page 4. There is mention made about the improvement of the lives of those who were in PLAN and are

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unemployed, retired or disabled as well as former the Robben Island political prisoners. I would like to know, why we omitted the SWAPO Detainees and those who were in the dungeons from the political prisoners, who are also victims of prison? Two weeks ago, I met more than hundred of these people who are unemployed, suffer from ill health and economically poor.

I am also part of them and I know. I would like to ask whether the Minister can also include this amount of N\$50,000,000.00 (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. On a Point of Information, is it allowed for somebody who left the Party while in a foreign country to come back home and to talk about the Party?

HON MOONGO: That is why I left SWAPO in order to have a voice. I do not want to be controlled by anybody that is why I left SWAPO. This is just interference.

I was trying to say that this N\$50,000,000.00 is not enough and wish that it be increased to N\$100,000,000.00 because many ex-Detainees are left out. Some of those who were in Lubango are suffering from ill health, some are experiencing very poor conditions while others are unemployed - especially the SWAPO Detainees who were in Tanzania, Zambia and Angola. There are a lot of them if you do not know.

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HON MEMBER: How many, did you count them?

HON MOONGO: They are not twenty but more than two hundred.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Only?

HON MOONGO: Are you even saying - *only*? I, therefore, appeal to the Honourable Minister to look into this. (*Interjections*)

HON MEMBER: Why wait until now?

HON MOONGO: Maybe you were not in this House, I have been complaining about this for the past five years, that is why I was saying that everybody who was in detention or in prison must be included and benefit from this. . We are all Namibians and we have to live like Namibians. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Nehova, please.

HON NEHOVA: Once again, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the

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Committee of the Whole House, I want to naturally support this Vote because this is a Vote for veterans and I also consider myself a veteran. I want to go to Page 5, Programme 4- **Liberation Struggle Heritage**: Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, this is an initiative that is coming rather late. When we were abroad and were fighting for the liberation of the country, in SWAPO, we always said that we want the history of Namibia to be written one day.

This initiative was meant to collect recent information on the liberation struggle; the struggle that many of us who are here had waged to liberate this country. Honourable Deputy Chairperson, there is one thing that is missing here and I want that to be included. The history when it is written, must have its background. Before we write our history of the liberation struggle, we must also take the history of the anti-colonial resistance into account. The history that was bravely fought by our fore fathers, the Mahareros, the Murengas, the Mandumes, etcetera. We must start from there because the present generation and the generations to come will need to know how it all started. The coming of imperialists or colonialists into our country, the encroachment and the struggle that was waged at that time, must also be researched and preserved for these generations (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON FOR THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order, Honourable Member.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE: On a Point of Information. Honourable Nehova started lecturing us here that when we are going to *shet up* [sic] this structure, we must not forget the (intervention).

HON MEMBER: To do what, *Shet up*?

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE: *Shet up*, yes, we must not forget the resistance.

Does the Honourable Member not know the history when we were singing. You are fortunate to be recognised as a veteran, otherwise you would just be like Honourable Moongo, unfortunately you are lucky. *(Laugther)*

Do you know that when we were singing the SWAPO Party Anthem with you, we said - "*Whose blood sustains us until victory.*" How can you think we are going to leave them out? The people you are preaching about here are at the Heroes Acre, they are the ones who are representing the heroism of this country. On the Independence Memorial Museum, their Party is there, how can you expect that they are left behind? Just encourage us but do not lecture us and say we must not forget so that you go and claim that it was you who made sure that that history is there. It is already there.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Member, please continue.

HON NEHOVA: I will continue but I have to respond to him because he is actually insulting. Honourable Peter Ilonga, the fact that you are that side does not make you more heroic than I am. We know your history and you were also supposed to know my history. You do not know my history. I am responding to the initiative here.

HON MEMBER: Tell him, he does not know!

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HON NEHOVA: The initiative is talking about the history of the National Liberation, it is not talking about the history of the anti-colonial resistance and there is money budgeted for this. If we are going to do research on this and leave the other one, we will not get the job done. I am seeing that N\$11,000,000.00 was budgeted here to do this part of the history but we need another N\$11,000,000.00 more to do research on the other part of history. You should understand this. Please, Honourable Ilonga, you need to understand how to behave. You are misbehaving. Be careful!

Honourable Minister, I appreciate the fact that you came up with this one. It is overdue but I would also ask you to include the research part of the history. I am a writer and I know what I am talking about. I am a writer, I a historian and please if you want to use my services, I am available to do the work for you (*laughter*). Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. I am sure your offer will be taken up at the right time. Honourable Shixwameni, please.

HON SHIXWAMENI: Thank you, Honourable Professor. I would just like to congratulate the Minister of Veterans Affairs for two things: The Ministry's execution rate is almost 100% and I think we need to give them credit that they have been able to carry out 99.8% execution rate. I hope the rest of the Ministries, all those that got "*Ps*," "*Es*" and "*Fs*" will be able to (*laughter*)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. I thought you are done. Yes, on a Point of Order.

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HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: If you look at the execution rate of paid salaries, it will be 100% in every Ministry. I got a *D* from the lunatic fringe of the Press (*laughter*). I do not mind that but just know that to pay is easy.

HON SHIXWAMENI: I understand you and I think that it is correct to also to give congratulations where it is due and that they are doing their best. The veterans in fact, like the old age pensioners, are the people that made our country what it is. I include myself in that, though I am young but we contributed to make sure that this country obtains its Independence.

Let us make sure that our veterans receive, not only dignified send-offs, but that they are well-off whilst they are still alive. That is one point that we need to be sure of. There is one point that the Minister must clarify and that is, the registration in the Mukwe Constituency, in particular. The Chief is a veteran and I respect him and he has my full support but there are people that go around in the Mukwe Constituency, in particular. Honourable Minister, I said I want to see you, I would bring this information to your attention. There is a lie that is going around that if you were in NANSO before Independence, if you were in SWAPO or in the SWAPO Youth League before Independence, you must register only by bringing your SWAPO membership card (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Mushelenga.

HON T MUSHELENGA: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I rise to support Vote 31 and congratulate

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the Honourable Minister for the effort that is being made in this Ministry to make sure that all Namibian veterans are living a dignified life, more specifically that they are housed and they are also given projects to run. I want to encourage those who have successfully started their projects under this Ministry, to make sure that their projects flourish so as not to give any of those who do not want us to succeed an opportunity to discredit us because once our projects are not successful, they will come up with all sorts of things. Comrade Veterans, work hard!

Honourable Minister, I wanted to be a bit naughty, I was looking at the cover of the Vote and I know it is not the Honourable Minister who did this but the officials, however, I do not know what message is carried by this. I can see there are some projects but I am a bit sensitive to the lower part because the pictures are open to interpretations and it gives the impression of sick veterans. I do not know whoever put these pictures here, there could be one but not necessarily many of them displaying sick veterans because anybody can interpret this in his/her own way. The Veterans are living a healthy life in Namibia and, therefore, there should not be too many pictures of them looking for doctors. On top of that there is nothing that shows the picture of the Deputy Minister of this Veteran Ministry who happens to be a woman. I think the officials should be sensitive when they are doing things. We must be sensitive, otherwise you may give an impression that you may not intend to give but people can make their own interpretations and that is what the media captures. With that I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

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Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, before I address the Programme, I want to register a serious objection to the corruption that is going on. We have been talking about other Houses or other institutions. I want to mention the unacceptable behaviour of whoever is controlling these things. We have observed it. We found out that when some people are talking, the E-Control is not applicable. I was the first person here and it was bleeping, it is corruption and it is unacceptable, we are not here to warm these chairs. Some of us can stay outside. If they approve some people to come here and warm their sits, it is unacceptable. I am raising a serious objection if you are looking (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: No, Honourable Kazenambo, can I ask you to sit down?

HON KAZENAMBO: Yes, please.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Let me make it absolutely clear. When we started the Session, since yesterday we were allowing people to speak for five minutes. This afternoon when we commenced the Session, the system was not connected, so people were able to intervene and went a little bit longer than five minutes. Then we decided that we should institute that, to make sure that we keep up with the decision we have agreed to. There is no interference, there is no corruption I can assure you and there is absolutely no need for us to express ourselves in that manner.

It is our collective decision and if we choose to allow each and everybody to speak longer, it is up to us but we have decided to manage our time accordingly, so please Honourable Kazenambo, you take the Floor and

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I can assure you there is no need for concern.

A minute ago, Honourable Shixwameni was making an important intervention, I felt like asking him to continue but I felt let us cut-off his intervention and then he can always come back as you have done. So, please Members, be assured that we are doing these things objectively with no fear or favour. You have the Floor.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you. As a disciplined cadre, I will not continue with the dialogue but I stick to my guns, I will continue.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I want to talk to the Honourable Minister's Speech on the issue of the **Liberation Struggle Heritage**. Before I carry on, I want to wholeheartedly support and align my sentiments with what Honourable Comrade Kandi Nehova has said regarding the anti-colonial resistance struggle 100%, word by word, comma by comma and point by point. I do support that Namibia has emerged from somewhere and that history linked to this struggle must be reflected. I know that their names are at the Heroes Acre, and I also know that some of the living veterans are going to be buried at the Heroes Acre but we still repeat this. Therefore, that anti-colonial struggle needs to be repeated. In the same spirit, I have been wondering all these years about those in exile and here, if we are recording the history of this country, let it be the history of Namibia, not our own stories. If we write our stories, let it be our stories. I have been wondering, in the Zambezi Region and the Kavango Region, are we implying that there were no Kings like Samuel Maherero? Are we implying that there were no Queens? Why do we omit this, even here in Central Namibia? I will come again.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order.

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HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT: Comrade, it is just on a point that I am always at pains to come to terms with. Maybe I need to take my Floor. Yes, I will take my Floor.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Can I just help you there? Everything comes with time. What we have here, is part of the process of revisiting our past. If you say there were no Chiefs referred to in some parts of our country, we accept that, but this is definitely why the Ministry is proposing to do what they are trying to do. It is an omission that is perhaps not currently reflected upon but this is what we want to investigate and make the necessary corrections. We should not be accusing each other, it is a question of our collective responsibility and I think there is nothing wrong in that. Could you please continue?

HON KAZENAMBO: Let me then put it on record again. I am not accusing anybody. I am not accusing anyone here or outside. I am saying that if we are writing history, and I appreciate his point, this research and documentation must also reflect other heroes. If we are building this Nation, sometimes I feel ashamed when I am addressing people and communities in Khorixas, and referring to Chief Maherero, Chief Mandume, etcetera. When I go to the Kavango Region, I mention the same people again; Chief Maherero, Chief Mandume and so on while these people have got their own Chiefs and Kings.

The Germans went up to Caprivi and called it Von Caprivi, they went to Kavango and gave it a name. I know Kings and Queens in the Kavango Region. If there was an omission, then we must correct the history of this country. This is all I am saying, I am not accusing anybody. Let the history of this country reflect the demographic formation of this Nation.

In the same spirit on documentation, I was very pained and offended. I

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understand and appreciate the role of the media but the way Comrade Ya Toivo was portrayed in the article I read pained me. When we are recognising all our leaders who have played various roles at various formations (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Honourable Member please, we appreciate your observations there but for now let us concentrate on the Budget. We have (*interjections*), because these are rather general remarks that you are making, that is why I am calling you to order. Please continue to wind up but I thought that was rather general.

HON MEMBER: Tell him.

HON KAZENAMBO: the documentation and research on the contribution of the liberation struggle are here, and all I am saying is that, there is no criminality and there is nothing wrong if Comrade Ya Toivo is saying that - *I am not selling my experience in Robben Island*. The late Comrade Mandela's experience was documented and it has a copyright. Therefore, there is nothing wrong with Comrade Ya Toivo saying that his role should be copyrighted but for it to be portrayed as if some want to sell and some do not want to sell, is not right. That is my feeling.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Limbo.

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HON LIMBO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Before I come to the Speech of the Honourable Minister, I would like to support My Brother there.

There are times when the young ones from our Region ask you questions which you are not able to answer. In our history books there is nothing much about our Region. They ask about the first PLAN Commander who was killed in the Zambezi Region and why there is no monument for him? They ask us these questions and we do not know what to answer. You would say, yes he was killed here and they respond by saying that there is nothing much in our books. We are not trying to accuse each other but maybe we are both to blame because we did not want to come out and write about the things we know.

There are people who are trying to portray that if Honourable Limbo is no longer on this side then she is not part of what she did anymore. That will remain, unless you pay all the people who died for that cause, including my suffering, then you might convince me, otherwise it is not going to be possible.

Coming to Page 3, Honourable Minister I really want to congratulate you and say that despite that, I know this Ministry is very hard at work because we complain a lot and you are trying your best to satisfy all of us. However, when it comes to Activity Number 6 on ***Individual Veteran Projects***, every time you call the Ministry the colleagues would tell you - *"Yes, that project is approved"* but when you say - *okay, it is approved what is next?* They will tell you - *we do not know, we are waiting for funds*. People have been waiting for these funds for almost eighteen months. What do you want again, sit down (intervention)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order.

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HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: You have provoked me by saying that we are confusing the children. The children do not know now who Agnes is. I know you are a freedom fighter, you are a veteran but as a veteran, today you are saying you were fighting against the colonial forces, against Koevoet, and tomorrow you are talking to Koevoet. That is the contradiction. That is the confusion. You people do not realise this confusion – you and your Leaders there. They are talking to Koevoet.

HON LIMBO: Thank you very much. Unfortunately, I said it earlier on the other day that if you go back to your database, you will find them there, not even the ordinary Koevoet, the real ones who were killing us. They are there on your database. We are talking about Namibia now. We have passed that stage, that is why we are saying that we are all Namibians. Otherwise, a lot of things will come out if we start scratching, so let us come back to the basics, move forward as Namibians and forget about what happened yesterday.

Coming back to the projects, Honourable Minister, I was saying that some people applied some time back, about eighteen months ago and they are told that their projects were approved, but unfortunately there is no money. However, when you look at the group you applied with, if you were maybe ten when you submitted your projects, you will find that out of these ten, about six received their money while you are still in the queue. One wonders whether we are following the queue or there are people within the Ministry who are just picking their friends and push their applications forward. It is just a question. Having said that, I support your Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Shixwameni.

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HON SHIXWAMENI: I was on the point of talking about the SWAPO Youth League. I do not need to have a card because I was there. I do not need to be recognised by some person that might even not have fought the struggle.

I was talking on the point of NANSO or SWAPO Youth League. I know that I raised it with the Minister last year already that these young people are struggling because there is a cut-off date in the Act. They have been coming to us and to me particularly, saying - *what do we do about this*. Last year, when we debated the Amendment, I know Honourable *Ekanda* there said - *we know these children*. Comrade Kaiyamo there also said the same thing, but the issue is that the people that are supposed to be registering these people at regional level, some of them even do not know them because it is at the point of Koevoet. You have people that were in Koevoet, people who were fighting against Independence are actually registering our people in the Regions and you expect them to recognise the people who fought.

Go to Zambezi, you will find that most of the people that are leading the Zambezi Region were in the DTA. What do you want to tell us? Most of them (*interjections*) No, I am just mentioning a point, how do you think that they would recognise these people that they were fighting against, to be registered? I know about five cases of people that are receiving Veterans Affairs money now, who were in the DTA up to 1999 and that I will bring to the Minister.

I would like to plead with you, Honourable Minister, to look at these youngsters, they might have fought whilst they were young, not by default, but that was the age at that time, that they be registered and be recognised in one way or the other.

My last point is on the dependants of veterans. You know so many people have passed on before the *Veterans Act* came into effect. I do not know what efforts they made because some people do not know that they can still register and say - *our father, our grandfather, fought the struggle and he died before 21 March 1990 or immediately thereafter*. There should be

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some promotional materials that should be distributed to the communities so that people are aware of the fact that they can still benefit from what is being provided by the Ministry of Veterans Affairs. With that I rest my case. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Amathila.

HON AMATHILA: Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I am rising to support this Vote of Veterans.

I think I am going to be a beneficiary very soon. However, Honourable Minister, the reason why I am rising is that three years ago I raised two issues that were more on the administrative side of things. People continue to complain that when they come to the Ministry to put their case in order to benefit from this projects, sometimes people are very insensitive. Sometimes they belittle, the little things that these people are convinced make a difference and two years ago, I made a suggestion to you Comrade Minister that maybe we have to get people who are all round to the composition of our Board to look into this matter, people who would be able to balance the issue between those who were outside and those who were inside the country in order to satisfy each and every one's case, rather than having people to feel that - *well keep your money, I will not need it, let me go and die in peace* and things of the sort. That is the kind of attitude one actually come across among those who visited the Ministry to make their case for recognition as Veterans.

About the composition of our Board, I think I mentioned that to you Comrade Minister. It did not happen to me, I was fortunate because people know me and they are possibly more respectful but one gets a different picture from other people who do not have the kind of a standing that some of us have.

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Comrade Minister, the other thing that I would like to appeal to you personally is on Page 3 of your Statement, where you were talking about the benefits to the Veterans. I am appealing to you to perhaps look into this matter and see whether you cannot move Cabinet to give special attention to those Veterans who have reached the age of 75 or even beyond. These people can possibly not wait too long to benefit from what they are entitled to. They live on the grace of those years where anything can happen any time. We have to find another formula to see to it that at least they reap the benefit of what they are entitled to and not to be subjected to the projects that may take ten to fifteen years to mature and then they have to leave everything behind. It is just an appeal to you to seriously look into this matter and address the plight of those Members who are at an advanced age and will thus not be able to wait any longer because any year that passes is a year closer to the death.

Comrade Minister, on that note, I support the Vote and I hope you will be able to give this matter your utmost consideration.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable Peya Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I stand here to speak on two issues on the Speech of Honourable Minister:

One is on Page 5, the **Liberation Struggle Heritage** and the other one on Page 2, **Registration of Veterans and Dependants of Deceased Veterans**.

Let me start with the issue of the Liberation Struggle Heritage. Honourable Kazenambo Kazenambo almost took words out of my mouth.

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I was equally disappointed when I read the story, the way people like Toivo ya Toivo, Helao Shituwete are portrayed. If anything, perhaps we as a Nation are supposed to ask ourselves what went wrong? When people go to the extent of creating these trusts, there is something that we as a Nation are not doing. Firstly, these trusts are not for personal benefits, we all know what trusts are there for. We are now portraying these people as if they are after money.

Firstly, we must also respect the feelings of the people. Some of us who just talk are not even prepared to be 10% of Ya Toivos' life because we know 10% means 10% of sixteen years in prison. Therefore, we are not even prepared to be 10% of his life so we must learn to respect people's feelings not to dramatise issues where they do not need to be dramatised. I must say it here without any fear, favour or whatever that no one will be able to take away from Toivo ya Toivo what he is, no one will be able to take away from Helao Shituwete what he is and no one will be able to take away from Robben Islanders what they are. We must learn to live with this.

Coming to the registration of Veterans; there is an issue of age, granted we have eighteen years, I do not want to contest that as some of you would think it is a topic of interest, however, we have people that were indeed eighteen but because My Senior Leader there, when he was the Secretary for Education, wanted to send them to school, changed their age so that they can be admitted. Now they are sitting with this age on their documents (*laughter*). They benefited from education, indeed while they were over eighteen at Independence, their documents indicate otherwise. Can the Minister look at this so that these people are not unfairly advantaged because they were indeed over eighteen although their documents show otherwise? Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you. Honourable !Naruseb.

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HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT: Thank you Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I am also rising to register my unconditional support to Vote 31. I would naturally, not have wanted to say anything but instead of asking questions to Honourable Kazenambo, I decided to take the Floor because I saw some merit in some of his remarks, particularly the way we have taken the history on board as we have found it. The history that was written to the perceptions and opinions of those who were able to put pen to paper. Those who were able to deliberately ignore the existence of certain communities that they found in Namibia.

However, as someone coming from one such community through relations by word of mouth on incidences in the past, the way how the colonisers came to our shore, the way they were treating our people, the way how you can practically see in people older between 75 or 80 years in your own family, depicts signs that the Germans might have made a turn in this area as well but the history as recorded ignores the existence of certain people.

What is happening today in Namibia is that we are so comfortable as Namibians to just continue with that kind of history. Honourable Minister, I think I have some difficulty to find a some space in your Statement and Motivation for this subject matter to be slotted in but now that it was mentioned, I thought it is about time that we are bold enough to start looking at the history of our country and put it in the right perspective. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kazenambo a second bite?

HON KAZENAMBO: Yes, a second bite. Thank you, Comrade Professor. The second last, and a painful second last, maybe we need

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Motions on these issues. As I said, I have given my take on the Comrades, their trust and so on and I support your Ministry 100%, which is also my Ministry. However, on documentation, specifically on heritage, I think the Ministry of Veterans Affairs needs to link up with the Heritage Department of the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture, because we are talking of Heroes Acre and I respect that.

Comrade Nambahu and I, there he is, and again, this has got nothing to do with the Think Tank. I was once in Onayena on official duty and we visited the grave of our hero, where our forebear, King Nehale Iya Mpingana is physically buried. When I was in Onayena, I made it a point that I wanted to visit the remains of the Great Hero. What I am pointing here, when we are documenting this, we are talking about the Heroes Acre, his name is there. Are we happy as a Nation about where he is physically buried and his grave, are we happy? I visited there and I am not happy. At one point I was contemplating that I will approach the Ondonga King because my own father's brother was named after King Nehale, just like Ruben Tjamuaha was named after King Mandume.

Let us go to the areas of these Kings, our forebears and attend to their graves. Again as we are busy building Statues, I would suggest, and I know that the question will be, where will that money come from? There is no harm in my own opinion and it is not tribalism, to build a Statue of King Nehale either in Ondangwa or Onayena or to build a statue of Mandume somewhere, people would talk of Iihole, why not? Even King Ipumbu ya Tshilongo in Oshakati where he fits of governance. Samuel Maherero Kahimemua, Hendrik Witbooi, Jacob Murenga, King Morris and the list goes on should be linked because this society did not emerge from 1966. Even King Simataa. (Laughter)

Let us link our Kings, let us revive our history and revive the role of these people and link them to our history by erecting Statues, Kingdoms and attending to their graves where they are. With this, I support the Vote.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Kawana.

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HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support our Vote, Vote 31 and commend My Uncle and Senior Minister for efficiently running that Ministry. Indeed, I know quite a number of Veterans are very happy with what our Government is doing to address the welfare of our people, particularly those who struggled and suffered during the Liberation Struggle.

They are indeed, one of those who frequent the Ministry for consultation purposes and I see a lot of wheelchairs there, Comrades without limbs because of the Liberation Struggle so those are our heroes. Whatever people think, we will go out of our way to make sure that their welfare is attended to. I also want to register my disappointment with some of the newspapers regarding our living Heroes. I was really moved when I read the story of our living Hero Dr Toivo ya Toivo. If he is really a person who wanted money, why was he prepared yesterday to die for this country without asking for a cent? That is really scandalous as far as I am concerned and I think those people need to be told that they must respect our Heroes.

These are our National Heroes who were prepared to die for the liberation of this country and some of us will not tolerate that kind of behaviour which is really shameful, regardless of political affiliation because *Tate Toivo* is a Hero of the Namibian people and we are saying *hands-off* because his history speaks volumes as a person who suffered, who said - *no matter what the consequences will be, I am ready to join my fellow Comrades who have decided to take up arms to liberate this country* and people write nonsense. I am sorry to say that, but I am very emotional about that.

Honourable Deputy Chairperson, just a special request to My Uncle here and this has been said already by my other Uncle, Honourable Amathila, particularly with regard to the welfare of the senior Veterans in terms of age and more so in terms of building their houses. Uncle, I think that

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should be accelerated because some of them are really becoming very old. Every time you go to the Regions you see them becoming very old. I think they need to get the first priority together with those who were injured. I think that must be a special category. Otherwise, I support Vote 31.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Sioka.

HON MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE: Thank you very much, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. Mine will be very brief for the sake of time because I am no more seeing any lights.

My first point is on Page 2 on the **Registration of Dependants of Deceased Veterans**. Comrade Minister, I really support you on this issue because some of us are faced with questioned from our Regions, questions about when they are going to see the families of these people being registered. It is good that you have shown interest to have these people registered. continue with the good work.

Point 2, Payments of one Gratuity Lump Sum: Comrade Minister, to tell you the truth, people have seen life immediately they receive this amount, including the projects money. I have seen a lot of people nowadays, especially in my Region have got buses, they have got tractors, they have got cars which they never thought of owning one day in their lives. Due to the interest that you have shown, our people are really happy and there is life, especially for those people who have started with their projects.

The only complaint I put forward to you Comrade Minister, I will talk like Honourable Limbo there. Some of us became Secretaries of our Regions, people are complaining to us. You will hear some of them saying - *I am*

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an approved Veteran, I have got a Veteran number and when you inquire at the office, they say my project is approved but since last year up to this time, the project is nowhere to be found. I do not know how your structure works but from the people who are working, each person could maybe be given a specific Region to work with. Let me say, you have got fourteen tractors, then there should be a person for each Region who ensures that that tractor reaches its destination.

The other one is a request which I received from other Comrades who were in exile and who were called FF (Freedom Fighters). They are requesting that at least the Government, the Ministry of Veterans Affairs or the Committee which deals with medals should give everybody a medal to show that they also participated in the Liberation Struggle, especially those people who are in the Namibian Defence Force (NDF). I know some of them, since they went into exile, they lived with the gun throughout until they came back. Therefore, general medals should be made for everybody and there should be special ones for the more senior ex-Combatants. However, they should all receive these general medals to show that they participated in the Liberation Struggle. I remember one time, Honourable Dr Kawana was talking about his father, that he left two Germany medal, he was a soldier. Why can we not do it for our ex-Fighters and even those who suffered inside the country here to show that they participated in the Liberation Struggle of our country?

With these few remarks, Comrade Minister, I rest my case and I support your Vote seriously.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Muharukua.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF GENDER AND CHILD WELFARE:
Thank you, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House

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Committee. I rise to support Vote 31. I do not know what I am going to say now, *Meme Sioka* you took my words. It is true that a lot has already been said by our Colleagues.

Today we are all independent but when you talk about Veterans in Namibia, you must be a real Veteran. You find that the real Veterans are hiding behind doors and the Veterans of today are the ones beating us here? Comrade Minister, I am talking about this because we generally used know each other here in Namibia but today we do not know each other. I am saying this because I come from the Region that is at the border of the country, a Region surrounded by mountains and the Region of the meek. However, nobody mentions Kunene today. Even when you are sitting with them, many people say – *it is better to be a puppet because when you obtain Independence your Government is going to recognise us.*

When we talk about Kunene we must conduct proper investigations because there were real people who were providing our fighters with food and accommodation during the years of the struggle, who are not even recognised, they are forgotten and that is not a good thing. We must recognise the real people. People like the Muharukuas were running away from Opuwo and today those people who were beating us are recognised as the real Veterans, it does not work like that. It is not good. On that note, I support the Vote. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 31, the last Vote and our Vote. Programme 3 is very important because we benefit there. Page 3 deals with the *Individual*

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Veterans Projects. I am support this and I just want to make some points that will put it in the right perspective, whether people want to understand it or not.

The issue of respect for the Veterans is not something which will wither away. On the Liberation Struggle Heritage, I do not think that these people are going to do research on contemporary history. I do not think like that as an individual.

Then comes the issue of Comrade ya Toivo because it is under the Heroes; Comrades, let us not be emotional and start attacking, while it was in the newspapers yesterday and you did not even ask us. The question is only that nobody will prevent any individual who was on Robben Island to sell his story if *he* wants to, there was no *she* mentioned there. They should not generalise it because no one was consulted and said that if I am to be interviewed, I will charge N\$20,000.00.

Yesterday, we were even labelled, it is only that we are not sensitive like others. We were labelled to be the ones who want to sell our own stories and it is not fair. If you hate somebody, just simply say that it is hatred, the question was only for the former Robben Island Prisoners to come together and we all agreed instead of only learning from the newspapers something that we were not even aware of. For your information, I only came to know that Comrade Ya Toivo had his own individual Trust yesterday from the newspapers. I did not know anything about that and we have no problem for him to have his own things. (*Interjection*) I do not want a dialogue. I rest my case and support Vote 31.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. I am sure the two of you will have tea together and perhaps reflect on that issue. Can I call upon Honourable Nambahu, please?

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I really want to wholeheartedly support this Vote and I want to confine myself to Programme 2 - **Liberation Struggle Heritage**. I really think and agree that the issue of outside museums should receive great attention.

I do not want to repeat what Comrade Kazenambo there has said. On the issue of writing history, history is written with a certain interest and perspective and I know that some issues do play a role in that. You will hear that somebody is trying to research the history of someone and you will hear another person asking - *was he baptised?* Where does the church come in? Where this person has done what he has done, he should be treated as such.

Religion also played a certain role in the history of colonialism if you do not know that and when people participated that time, they participated as such. Documents are there, those people do not like it to be said. The Founding President once said it - the collaboration between the Missionaries and the Colonialists and it was to the dismay of some people but history is there, it cannot be sweetened now that it has happened. Therefore, the sensitivity should be there that when we do research, we do it objectively.

When you talk about Nehale, for example, he has also had his Lieutenants, where are they respected? What research have we done? Sometimes you keep quiet because you think that somebody is doing a job objectively without fear or favour but you will find a person who is really trying to be one sided in terms of writing the Namibian history. I think that should not be allowed. We have gone to some funerals of some former collaborators and when a person tries to say - *you know his house was surrounded by bags and what*, then another person will start singing *Tunatu*, trying to erase that part because they do not want it to be heard. (*intervention*).

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HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: On a Point of Order?

HON KAZENAMBO: On a Point of Information, have you noticed that, exactly the way you have said it, even now we are hearing *Tunatu* on Ya Toivo here? Nobody spoke about being emotional, some of us have not even spoken about that. We have not pointed to anybody or former prisoners of Robben Island Prisoners, for those who want to sing *Tunatu* on Ya Toivo, Ya Toivo will not receive punches, he is a Leader just like all other Leaders. Let them sing *Tunatu*.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Please take the Floor and try and conclude please. Otherwise we are going to drift away from the Budget.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Therefore, I only request that the history should be written balanced headed. When you read - **To Be Born a Nation**, you will see a balanced history there, so these issues (intervention).

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Are you speaking on a Point of Order?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Point of Information and Comrade Chairperson, I beg you because I am speaking on a very important matter and what I am saying, I am saying it from the

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bottom of my heart. I do not want anyone to tell me it is not an issue under discussion because we are discussing this Budget. I am the one who raised this issue of Robben Island (intervention).

HON KAZENAMBO: What is wrong with you, Honourable Ilonga?

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Let us please have order please. Let us have order. No, please, let us have order!

HON MEMBER: Send them outside.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: I am the one who raised this issue. I must say over the past years, I have watched the humiliation of Ya Toivo. I have been watching the humiliation of this man that is why I said, as a country we must ask ourselves a question, South Africans will be thinking what is wrong with us, the way they honoured him and even the way they talk about him when you go to Robben Island and what we as a country are doing - I must say, I am disappointed and it is some Comrades who have been behind this humiliation. I do not want to mention names and as I said, I am talking from the bottom of my heart, I said, let us respect people's feelings, people do get hurt when we make comments.

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. That is a very important comment you made and we can revisit the issue at an appropriate time. For now, can I

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ask Honourable Nambahu to please conclude?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes. All that I am saying is the balanced headedness, even-handedness and respect when writing this history because these kinds of things also breed resentment and if we are not careful in handling them, we know human beings have flaws and if we start talking about flaws of our history as human beings or heroes, we will not finish, the list will be endless. Therefore, let us not capitalise on the flaws of one person as if others do not have them (intervention).

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you. Can I call upon Honourable Namoloh please? That is the last speaker on my list.

HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you very much, Comrade Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

I rise to support Vote 31, that is our Vote and I want to commend the Minister. He said that they are going to do research and write a proper history and to put our history into proper perspective.

There are a lot of distortions going around in this country about our history, be it the pre-colonial or the history of the Liberation Struggle. It has emerged that there has been a history of exclusion - that of *I would want this to be part of this and not that*. Whether you were in the middle or you were on the sidelines it has been going on for a long time now and I think, Comrade Minister it is about time that this history is recorded properly. I have witnessed a lot of distortions, many people are writing about the history of PLAN and I think it is written for the purpose of making money and not only to inform the people as to what has happened,

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this also entails the history of exclusions as I said.

Some of our people, be it in the print media or audiovisual media, do also not want to talk to the people who know what has happened or who were there. They avoid them and rather go to those who distort information.

We have read a lot about how the South Africans were writing their history during the struggle and the many lies that were told. If you look at the history being rewritten by the South Africans themselves now, it is written by those who were there about what actually happened.

We are now replacing the lies that were written so that the history reflect what has happened and not what people wished has happen. We cannot rewrite history, we must write what has happened and not what we should exclude from it.

Honourable Minister, please mind that we are all witnesses of this history and that we cannot allow lies to be spread around. With these few words, I thank you.

**HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
COMMITTEE:** Thank you. Thank you very much, Honourable Members of this House. This has been a very interesting journey. The last Vote attracted so many people, Colleagues and Honourable Members of this House. It has the highest number of those that have taken the Floor to speak.

I know this is a very important subject, the question of regaining our dignity is linked to regaining our past and I am sure the Minister will respond to some of the specific questions. However, it is not the end of the story, the Ministry and its team will require all of us collectively, to be engaged in assisting them to take this important process forward.

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Writing history is not a once off event but it requires all of us to be engaged. Honourable Minister, could you respond? Thank you.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Yes. Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

Honourable Members, I recorded that a total number of 21 Honourable Members have taken the Floor to posed questions and made comments. I will try my level best to respond to those and I am sure, as I am thanking you, I am not only thanking those who have spoken but also those who supported the Vote in silence.

Honourable Jankowski is not here, but she supported the Vote and among other things, she wanted to know if it was possible for an Old Age Village to be established, I believe where Veterans would meet, discuss and share their experiences. She also thanked the Ministry for establishing the Projects from which Veterans are today reaping their fruits.

Honourable Moongo supports the Ministry and he particularly wants to applaud the activity for the improvement of the welfare of the Veterans on Page 4 but he went on to say that it should not only end with those, it should include some others as well that he has mentioned.

However, as I said in my Statement, we are talking about the welfare of the ex-PLAN Combatants who were in combat formation at the time of signing the seize fire in 1989. Those ex-Combatants who were fighting *for* the Independence of Namibia and that is the cut-off point. For those who were fighting *for* the Independence of Namibia, not for anybody else. If you have in mind some other people, bring them to me I will tell them in your presence where they belong and not to this one.

You said that the money is not enough and I want to agree with you but then of course, we are having many national competing needs, therefore, we have to live with what we have and we will try as we go, to see

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whether that cannot be improved.

Honourable Nehova thank you very much for supporting this Vote and you particularly referred to the Liberation Heritage when the history of the struggle will be written and I want to respond to this question in consideration of all others that took the Floor and made reference to this particular subject. Right now, as I stand on the Floor of this Honourable House, there is already a Programme being worked on to write the history of Namibia, including the history of the resistance.

It is going to be divided in three parts, from 1884 or even before up to 1915, that will be Volume I. Volume II, will be from 1916 up to 1958 and Volume III will be 1959 up to 1989 and that is what is going to happen. If you follow very well, the history of resistance is also included. It is going to be conducted by historians, including the University of Namibia. It is not going to be written by politicians but by historians, people who are going to make a research as you know the history of resistance, much of it probably will depend now on the research of people that will go to Germany, London, New York and other places and because we do not have the people of that period alive any longer but nothing is going to be left to chance, it will be the history of Namibia, not the history of individuals.

Honourable Nehova, you will definitely be consulted by all means. Everybody who can make a contribution will be consulted.

Honourable Shixwameni, thank you very much for congratulating the Ministry for what we have achieved in executing our Budget. We have in fact all along been hovering around that area and I hope we will continue to do so maybe even improve on that. I also appreciate the fact that you alluded to, that the Veterans of the National Liberation Struggle must be given what is due to them while they are alive as opposed to honouring them, remembering them and saying pompous things long after they have departed but again I must say, in tandem with the resources that has to be made available.

On the most important comment you made what is going on in the the

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Mukwe Constituency, I honestly have to say that I have never heard that if you bring SWAPO cards then you will be registered, however, I will be more than happy if you have some information to come to me but the people that are registered and having Veterans status cut across SWAPO as well as Non-SWAPO members, literary everybody who contributed to the Independence struggle, irrespective of political affiliation. You can be a Church Leader, a SWANU member and name it. However, whoever was on the other side, of course you know that coming to ask for Veterans status will be a futile exercise.

About the Act, it is true that we are curtailed by the Act. The Act says - *people who are to be given Veterans status are only those who are born in 1972 and above*. Those will be given Veterans status. Those who were born 1972 downwards will not be legible for Veteran Status and what has been taken into consideration was that these people must have been people who were actually legible to go to the front. Now those of us and everybody else who knows, it was that when young people crossed into exile, yes, they were sent to Tobias Hainyeko, they received military training but they were never sent to the front but rather to school until when they are above that age, only then were sent to front.

Everybody who was young then, those who, when we became independent were not yet 18, must be assisted with scholarships and be taken up in business management, if they so want and they must in fact have their own Ministry, that is why the Ministry of Youth, National Services, Sport and Culture was created. It was created for them. There is that dilemma there, unfortunately.

Honourable T Mushelenga thank you very much for congratulating the Ministry for building houses and projects. However, you are not happy about pictures on the cover of the Speech, well it is a reality, what we have here are Veterans in wheelchairs, Veterans getting medical attention and we are thinking of people who were at war, many of whom are walking today but when we are referring to them, we do not need to hide, these are our people. Perhaps the three pictures are too much but that is the reality.

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Comrade Kazenambo I agree with you that the anti-colonial history must be taken care of and I have already explained, that is definitely going to be done. It is true we got into the habit of reading what was made available, that we went on singing about Hendrik Witbooi, Maherero, Mandume and others forgetting that there were indeed also Chiefs and Community Leaders in Kavango, Zambezi and other Regions who are definitely not mentioned and I want to link you up with what ***Honourable !Naruseb*** has said. Let me be frank, even today we speak of Herero/Nama Genocide full stop and we all become comfortable about it, is it not? Because that is what we found written and we start singing about it. It is only now that we are discovering that there were apparently also other people of other communities, that is the unfortunate thing. I only want to say that history is not static, as we go on, we must improve on it. We cannot deny those facts.

I must admit, I honestly did not know what has been written about Honourable Ya Toivo, I thought it is April Fools' Day. I did not pay attention to it but if what other Colleagues are alluding to here is true, yes, indeed trusts are created and obviously the trust must have some means through which it can survive. I have literally no quarrel about it and I will not condemn anybody who says, if I give this specific piece of information, resources must be made available to trust. It is done, there is nothing wrong about it.

Honourable Agnes Limbo I have already said, what is going on in other Regions is true, we become accustomed to what we found written and we just started reading about it and start pronouncing ourselves about it without perhaps taking care. About the projects; let me explain the problem that we have: The procedure in the Ministry is that projects are approved by the Board and they are paid out as per the funds available. Currently, as I speak we have 7,000 projects that have been approved by the Board but we got N\$20,000,000.00 from this House. Make your own calculation, for a project of N\$200,000.00 how many people will we cover with that amount of money? Because of that reality, you will find people telling you, your project is approved but there is no money, it is the truth, they are not lying.

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In fact, last year I even told them that - *stop approving projects, it is of no use. Let us perhaps first finish those that have been approved and not funded yet, let them be funded first and then we can go on*, but I know it will be another problem again because people will say - *I have submitted my project two years ago and you are telling me nothing has been done so far*. This Financial Year that has just ended, I took an extraordinary approach to the Honourable Minister of Finance, she has been kind enough and she allowed us to use more than N\$467,000,000.00 which was not originally meant for the projects but only to try and do something about the backlog. That is the problem that we have, unfortunately.

Of course, this is the reality that we live with; when the Veterans come to the Ministry and hear about this, and understandably so, they are upset, they are angry, left and right but what else can we do? We all know about the resources, we approve them here. What else can we do? That is the problem that we have. As you also know, the projects are not entitlements but it is very difficult to tell a Veteran that, I cannot even tell a Veteran that. However, a project is for somebody who got so lucky to get it and that is why it was planned to go chronologically as per the submission and approval but in accordance with the available financial resources.

Comrade Shixwameni I think when you came back, you were emphasising on the point of Mukwe, I indeed agree that you told me, we also agreed that maybe after recess you will come to me with sufficient information so that I can follow up this matter because you are saying that there are people that you now know who were actually ardent supporters and Activists of DTA, people who were fighting against the Independence and that those people are today recognised as Veterans. I would want to get the names of those people because once we get that, we will definitely deal with them.

What happens is this, when the teams for registering people goes to the Region, when they go to Mukwe Constituency the requirement is normally that all Political Parties must provide, so to speak, a Party Agent who will be together with the team but that person must be somebody who knows their Activists so that as people are registering them, they will say - *no that one I do not know and one I know*, but of course I will not deny

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that sometimes people maybe tend to go to a place and yet there is nobody who can say – *we know that one, he/she was working on the other side*, as a result the sweet story that the person is telling may be taken from its face value and the person receives the Veteran status. However, once we get the information, they will be checked out. Currently, I know that we have two that have been checked out and the third one we are busy dealing with, based on the information that we get.

Then ***Honourable Ben Amathila***, thank you very much. Indeed it was, I think about last week or more than a week ago that I got a letter from the Elders Council asking me whether it is not possible for us to take out people that are 70 and above to be treated slightly differently from the rest on the basis of what you said that these people's, nature being what it is, they may depart earlier before they are even recognised. Now because these people are approved by the Board, unfortunately. I have no mandate to decide but to appeal to the Board because the Board is a juristic person, for them to see whether it is not possible to look at them differently. However, the one of obtaining the money of the projects in cash because of their old age is very difficult. That one I must say, it may not go through because of the Law but I can always take it to the Board and we see what they say.

Honourable Members, do you want me to be fast, do you want to go home? You asked me so many questions, what do you want me to do?

Honourable P Mushelenga, I think I have said something about Honourable Ya Toivo. And about the history, I said we want the history to be written for what it is and not to suit the egos of some people. You also spoke about the age of registration, I responded the same as I responded to Honourable Shixwameni.

Honourable !Naruseb, I think I have briefly answered you, more or less. I said it is true we have to write a proper history and that we are caught up with what we found written by other people and we are just reading it and not thinking of other things that could have taken place.

I cannot remember who is this Comrade, I think it must have been

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Comrade Kazenambo who said that when we are writing the heritage we must link up with the Ministry of Youth. In fact, the group of people that I am talking about that are going to be involved in the writing of the history is the University of Namibia, Ministry of Youth, the Heritage Council and then there will be historians who will be identified to be the ones to actually do research and write, so that will be covered there.

You also wanted to know if it will not be possible to build Statues for our forefathers, heroes - the Nehales, Mandumes, Mahareros and so on in the Regions; yes, when the Bill that was passed by this House was here, the reasoning was that the Statues can indeed be built in the Regions. There is nothing wrong about that. Honourable Members, they are all Comrades and friends it all depends on the availability of resources. That is the only hindrance that I have.

Honourable Kawana thank you very much for the support, you urged the Ministry to do something about the housing because our elders are passing on and I agree with you. You condemned the newspapers about what they wrote about Ya Toivo and I also agree with you.

Honourable Sioka, you thanked us, however, you also asked when the dependants of the deceased Veterans are going to be recognised. I want to give you some facts that I have here. As if I knew that you were going to ask these questions, we have indeed started registering some of the dependants of the deceased Veterans. The only problem that is there is about the dependants of the Veterans who died before the Act was passed by Parliament. That one is difficult because those ones are not yet recognised as Veterans themselves because the Veterans we are talking about are those that were registered when they alive, however, the ones that I am talking about are those that passed on after they were registered and when people look at their applications they can say - *if they were alive today, this will pass*. Those are the ones that are being recognised.

About the lump sum that people are getting and the projects, you are saying that the people are happy in the Region. The difficulties and other things about the projects, I have already touched on. On the medals, yes

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Indeed, very soon there is going to be a National Committee that will be selecting people who are going to receive medals of national honours but this is not only going to be for those who participated in the war, it is national. It will be whoever has contributed, economists, teachers, priests, agriculturists, this will spread over various disciplines. There will be people who will be doing that and of course those who participated in the Liberation Struggle will definitely not be forgotten.

Honourable Muharukua thank you very much for supporting the Vote. You actually ask this question every year but I honestly do not know how to answer you.

HON SHIXWAMENI: It is a broken record.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: No it is not a broken record, I think she has a point. Just listen here, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, all six years this whole country has been covered by the staff registering people and they go Constituency by Constituency, all these six years and yet if there are still people who were left out and not registered, I have a problem. I do not know, where do they stay? And these Programmes are announced on television, in the newspapers, on the radios, the Constituency Councillors broadcast this Programme informing them where they should go. All I can say is that the registration has not ended, it will still continue but for now, as I said, this year 2014, there will be no registration because we must first clear out the backlog that we have in the house before we can continue going out.

However, if we hear about an old person who is sickly and has problems, we can always make an exception but with the general registration that goes Constituency by Constituency, we have a problem. Honourable Members, if there are people that you know of, who are benefiting from this Veterans welfare, please give us names. I cannot deny that mistakes

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may have been made in the process where people may have been accorded Veteran status that they do not deserve but give us names so that we can deal with them.

Honourable Mbushe, thank you very much for all the support. I think I have generally answered you in one way or the other, that there is nothing wrong with people who want their stories to be told and require some proceeds or whatever to go to their trust, particularly if money that is going to the trust will help to further their work. Let me be very fast. I cannot remember who talked about outdoor museums. Yes, anyway the history of the country will be written as a whole.

Honourable Namoloh I think (intervention).

**HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Namoloh.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Yes, Namoloh, is that not your name?

**HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Have you forgotten my name?

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: No, not at all.
(*Laughter*)

**HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Do not lose me, I am a Veteran.

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HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: No you are my son, how can I forget you? I agree with you that we must write the history as it is, not the history of individuals, for people to choose and select what they want to be written and others' experiences, therefore, been covered. Those were the answers but if I have left out any one, please let me know.
(*Applause*)

HON DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Thank you very much. With the explanations now, can I ask if there are any objections? Agreed to. Thank you.

Honourable Members the Committee has to further consider the Bill.

Clause 1 and 2 put. Agreed to.

Schedule put. Agreed to.

Title put. Agreed to.

I shall report the Bill without Amendments. (*Applause*)

Mr Speaker, the Committee has gone through the Bill, [B.3 – 2014] as set forth in the accompanying copy and agreed to it without Amendments.

ASSEMBLY RESUMES

I shall report the Bill without Amendments.

HON SPEAKER: Does the Minister of Finance Move that the Bill be

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now read a Third Time?

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any objections? Who seconds? Any further discussions?

For the second time, any further discussions? Does the Honourable Minister wish to reply?

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Yes, Honourable Speaker, thank you very much, I would like to say a few words.

Firstly, I want to express my most sincere appreciation to all the Honourable Members of the House, and through them to the members of the public for the valuable comments that were made and that were both informative and useful for further improving our budgeting process moving forward.

I also want to thank the Members of this House, especially for the expediency with which the Debate was undertaken so that we can conclude it this early. I think this is the earliest that we have concluded our Budget Approval Process in this Chambers. I hope that this would be the case in the other House of Parliament so that we can finalise the approval of the Budget and have it get into force, latest maybe by the 1st of May 2014. That way we leave more time for implementation of the Budget and hopefully with that, we could achieve improve utilisation of the resources that we have made available under the Budget.

I also hope that the engagement that we have had in this House on the

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Budget and the Medium Term Expenditure Framework especially, does not end with the conclusion of the Budget Debate in this House and this is very important. I want to encourage all the Members of the House to make further follow ups with the Line Ministries on the interventions that are proposed under the EMTEF for the two years after this Financial Year. We have established appropriate platforms where Ministries can be engaged. This is a more effective way to ensure that your inputs are considered and accommodated under next year's Budget because a Budget Bill is a special kind of Bill, it is difficult to amend impromptu but if you really take a systematic approach, you could be more effective in getting your input accommodated.

I know that the resources that we have availed under the Budget are not sufficient to address all the needs of our country but we are committed to continue to improve the revenue collection as the National Treasury in order to strengthen the ability of our Government to respond much more effectively to the needs that face our people and our country. I want to call on all of you for your support to the efforts that we are embarking on as the Ministry of Finance to optimise revenue collection and also to support the Government efforts to implement the Budget.

I also want to specifically say something on the fiscal position of Government because I can see that the concerns are persisting that we are stretching our luck too much and we may be compromising the sustainability of the fiscal position of Government. I want to emphasise that at a debt level of only 27% of GDP, we are fiscally highly sustainable, there are very few countries even within our region that are in our kind of position. With that situation we have enough room to use Fiscal Policy to support the national efforts to address the problems that are indeed significant in order to improve the welfare of our people.

I want to emphasise that you do not sustain your fiscal situation by just controlling expenditure, especially in a country like ours that is underdeveloped and facing many challenges, otherwise you will find yourself in a situation where the level of expenditure in absolute terms remains fixed, because you have controlled it but as a ratio of GDP, and

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when it comes to your ability to honour your commitments, you are actually rendered less able to do that because the situation is deteriorating, the economy has stagnated and poverty and unemployment is getting out of control. I think the most effective way to achieve fiscal sustainability is by actually growing the economy and strengthening its capacity to afford sustaining the expenditure that we need to incur in order to provide services that are required by our people.

Finally, I, therefore, want to call upon the public, you know some members of the public do not really feel unnecessarily frustrated and be negative but to adopt a more positive attitude and rather look at the opportunities that are presented through this expansionary Fiscal Policy that we are proposing to Parliament in order to improve their own welfare and contribute to the improvement of the situation, generally in our country.

Now the final, finally, there is this question that is always asked in a manner that I think kind of really attempt to ridicule the Budget, people ask - is the budget procyclical or is it countercyclical? I maintain that the Budget is countercyclical, it is attempting to prop up the economy to consolidate the recovery that we have achieved because there are so many risks out there and we can slip back into a problem situation that we experienced a few years ago.

However, besides that, we also have other objectives and these objectives are to restructure the economy to lay the foundation for long term, higher and sustainable growth, to make sure that we address inequities, unemployment and achieve industrialisation and with those challenges staring in our faces, we cannot just say - *because the GDP growth is now 5%, we must cut the Budget, we should do nothing about unemployment or about the fact that we are not industrialised.* There are other things that we must continue to do and we needed to regrade our Civil Servants so that we can attract skills and motivate them in order to render a service that our people deserve. These are things that our Fiscal Policy needs to support and let us support those efforts.

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We collect this money with the aim of allocating it to improve the welfare of our people and not to fatten the account of the Government so that we now look like we are working hard. As a Minister of Finance what makes me proud is when I go around the world and say - Namibia has achieved this for its people:-

1. 100% of our people have access to education;
2. Everybody has access to Health Care Services;
3. The infrastructures are good and are attracting investors to the country;
and
4. Unemployment has been reduced to the minimum.

That is what makes me proud. I do not want to hear – *we have a balanced Budget and unemployment of 40%*, it does not achieve any objective. Let us, therefore, please work together on that. Thank you very much.
(Applause)

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister and much congratulations from this end.

I now put the questions that the Bill be now read a Third Time.

Any objections? Agreed to.

The Secretary will read the Bill a Third Time.

APPROPRIATION BILL [B.3 – 2014]

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

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

HON SPEAKER: We have a couple of things that we must attend to as the Assembly, if we are here on time and have our shoes on, then we can dispose of them readily but not until tomorrow. Shall we come back tomorrow, 14:30? Can I see any demonstration, protest or something like that? I am reading out to you your programme and there are matters to be disposed of. If on the other hand there are some bright ideas, I am all ears.

HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER: It seems as if the Honourable Members would like to adjourn to Tuesday.

HON SPEAKER: Is that the pleasure of the entire House? Is that the sense of the House that we stand adjourned until next week, Tuesday? With my mighty gabble, so decided.

In terms of Rule 90(a) of the Standing Rules and Orders, the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 19:07 until Tuesday, 08 April 2014.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 19:07 UNTIL 2014.04.08 AT 14:30

ANNEXURE I

TECHNICAL PAPER IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTIVATION OF MAWF BUDGET 2013/2014

The purpose of the Technical Paper is to provide detailed information in addition to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry's Budget Motivation Speech.

The MAVVF's (Vote 20) Total Budget is N\$2,618,452,000.00 of which N\$1,486,800,000.00 is earmarked for the Development Budget and N\$1,131,652,000.00 represents the Operational Budget.

1. MAIN DIVISION 01: OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$6,167,000.00

A total of N\$6,167,000.00 is required for the Main Division 01, the Office of the Minister, for running Activities of the office.

2. MAIN DIVISION 02: ADMINISTRATION

RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$226,895,000.00

CAPITAL/DEVELOPMENT BUDGET: N\$78,176,000.00

2.1. OBJECTIVE

The main objective of the Directorate of General Services is to provide corporate support services to the other directorates of the Ministry.

The Specific Objectives Are To:

- Ensure effective Ministerial financial management;
- Ensure efficient internal audit services;
- Ensure efficient provision of Auxiliary services;
- Administer Human Resources efficiently and effectively;
- Ensure efficient Ministerial Information Communication Technology Services;
- Efficiently mainstream Employee Wellness, HIV & AIDS.

2.2. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

2.2.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

2.2.1.1. FINANCE

- EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) of Daily Subsistence and Travelling allowance (DSA), Accounts Payable and Payroll payments facilitated.
- External virements of NS23,000,000.00 to facilitate salary regarding and Salary increases.
- The overall preliminary budget expenditure rate is 93.93% for the Operational Budget and 90.74% for the Capital Budget for the 2013/2014 Financial Year.

2.2.1.2. INTERNAL AUDIT

- Financial and Administration audits conducted at all MAWF outlets in all Regions, 95% completion of the Audit Programme.
- Livestock counts conducted at all 12 Research Stations that keep livestock.
- Compliance with policies within MAWF, 75%.
- All claims against the State resulting from vehicle accidents paid out,
- Advisory Committee for Lost Control finalized 58 accidents reported.

2.2.1.3. HUMAN RESOURCE (HR)

- Continue to administrate the conditions of services by:
 - Upgrading of staff remunerations on the system for 3,700 staff members in line with Government Job Evaluation and Grading system;
 - Upgrading approved incoming leaves;
 - Facilitating approval study leave for staff members;
 - Facilitating retirement of 31 staff members administered, of which three (3) were medically discharged and nine (9) early retirement,

leave gratuity payments for all 31 were finalized and Submitting nine (9) death claims to GIPF for deceased staff members.

- Filled 160 budget vacant posts
- Finalized eleven (11) reported misconduct cases.
- Facilitated the Ministerial restructuring process.
- Facilitated Public Service Reforms through the implementation of the Electronic Resource Management System and the Staff Performance Agreement.
- Facilitated the implementation of the 3 year Ministerial Affirmative Action plan in compliance with the *Affirmative Action Act* and submitted the ACC Report.

2.2.1.4. AUXILIARY SERVICES

- Utility services rendered to 55 Ministerial outlets in all 13 Regions.
- Security services provided at 55MAWF outlets country wide.
- Tenders were advertised, evaluated and submitted to the Tender Board for approval. 23 tender;
- 84 New vehicles acquired.
- Printed Quarterly Ministerial News Letters. Annual Reports.
- Response to Media on veterinarian issues. infrastructure and projects.
- Stock taking conducted at 169 MAWF outlets in all 13 Regions.

2.2.1.5. INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

- Continues update and maintenance of the ministerial internet and intranet system.
- New computer soft ware licenses acquired
- Internet and Intranet services expanded to 4 new Ministerial sites.
- Ministerial ICT capacity increased to 26 MB mpls.

2.2.1.6. EMPLOYEE WELLNESS & HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

- Fresh N Fit employee wellness programme rolled out to additional 5 Regions (Kunene, Otjozondjupa, Erongo, Karas, Hardap and Omaheke) Oshikoto and Zambezi regions will be covered in the Financial Year.
- IEC materials and condoms distributed to regional offices quarterly.

- Conduct quarterly awareness creation sessions on HIV/ AIDS and wellness issues.
- Facilitate the development of Strategic plan for the Agriculture, Water and Forestry Sector response to HIV/AIDS

2.2.2. CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED IN 2013/2014

2.2.2.1. FINANCE

- EFT payments of DSA rejected by the staff member's bank accounts are not linked to the IFMS System.

2.2.2.2. INTERNAL AUDIT

- MOF delay in completion of the MAWF asset register template.

2.2.2.3. HUMAN RESOURCE (HR)

- Difficulty to recruit staff members/persons to fill posts in the scarce job categories and OPM delays,
- Prescribe time lines composition in disciplinary hearings in misconduct cases.
- Scarce posts and pending restructuring.

2.2.2.4. AUXILIARY SERVICES

- The tariff adjustment of the Local authorities does not coincide with the budget period and the increases are higher than the budgeted increase.
- Unexpected statutory tariff adjustment of the security services
- Acquire programmer developer to update, outdated computerized Fleet Management System.
- Delayed in new vehicle delivery time, that results in price increases.
- Unable to recruit Engineering Technicians on the current salary structures.

2.2.2.5. INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

- OPM delays in IT personnel recruitment.

2.2.2.6. EMPLOYEE WELLNESS & HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

- Staff component too small to cater for Employee Wellness and HIV/AIDS in all 13 Regions.

2.2.3 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

2.2.3.1. FINANCE

- Maintain Ministerial Financial Administration.
- Regular consultation with MOF on all modules for smoother operations.
- Training of staff members on finance issues.

2.2.3.2. INTERNAL AUDIT

- Review audit standards and procedure
- Upgrade knowledge through training with Polytechnic of Namibia
- Improve follow-up on audit recommendation
- Implementation of Risk Based Internal Audit Program.
- Implementation of Investigation Program.
- Create database for investigations
- Provide coordinated sub receiver training

2.2.3.3. HUMAN RESOURCE (HR)

- Train supervisors in MAWF on HR matters;
- Facilitate implement Public Reforms through the Electronic Record Management System (EDRMS), Performance Management System and Business re-engineering.
- Fill 90% of the vacant budgeted posts in the Ministry;

- Continue to administrate staff conditions of service, disciplinary and grievances.

2.2.3.4. AUXILIARY SERVICES

- Continues provision of office support services;
- Implement a stock taking program;
- Maintain Ministerial Asset Management;
- Maintain administration of ministerial procurement
- Implement new Comprehensive Fleet Management System.
- Train staff on new system to improve service to clients (MAWF).
- Renew Ministerial vehicle fleet to 60% younger than 4 years.
- Conduct auctions for redundant and obsolete assets.
- Update the ministerial asset registers.
- Reviewing the MAWF corporate relations strategy
- Developing a corporate logo and brand for the Ministry
- Finalize the production of the MAWF investment promotional video
- Publication of promotional materials

2.2.3.5. INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

- 10 additional Offices to be connected to Intranet and Internet
- Maintain and update the Ministerial ICT systems.
- Provide support services on ICT to staff members.
- Capacity building for AMIS.

2.2.3.6. EMPLOYEE WELLNESS & HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME

- Co-ordinate Employee Wellness and HIV/AIDS Mainstreaming and prevention activities.
- Provide care/support for affected/infected staff members.
- Distribute condoms, Information and education material to staff members.

- Roll-out Fresh N Fit programme to remaining two (2) with Regions (Oshikoto and Zambezi)
- Co-ordinate Sector response on HIV/AIDS for the Agriculture, Water and Forestry Sector.

2.3. CAPITAL/DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

2.3.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

2.3.1.1. Renovation of MAWF Buildings

- Official buildings (2 Offices - Khomas Region; 3 Offices - Kunene Region; 2 Offices Hardardap Region; 1 Security Guardroom - Otjozondjupa Region; and **staff houses** (4 Houses – Khomas Region; 1 House Kunene Region; 2 Houses - Omaheke Region; 1 House Kavango East Region; 7 -Houses - Hardap Region; 3 Houses - Oshana Region) were renovated.

2.3.1.2. Construction of Regional Head Quarters -

- Phase 2 at Outapi has commenced and has been completed 90%. The project will be completed in May 2014. This phase entails office accommodation for the various Heads of Regional Divisions.
- Tendering for the construction of Regional Head Quarters at Rundu (Kavango Region), Katima Mulilo (Zambezi Region) and Eenhana (Ohangwena Region).

2.3.2. CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED IN 2013/2014

- The completion of construction of the regional head quarters Phase 1 at Outapi (Omusati Region) as well at Eenhana (Ohangwena Region) was frequently delayed due to a management problem experienced by the appointed contractor in that Project Managers were resigning from services of the said contractor.

2.3.3. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Construction of phase 2 for Eenhana and Outapi.
- Tendering for the construction of regional head quarters at Rundu (Kavango Region) and Katima Mulilo (Zambezi Region).
- Expansion of the office block at Head office
- Construction of an additional office complex at MAWF Head Office. Government Office Park.
- Construction of warehouses and offices for the Plant and Fleet Management as well as Procurement
- Replacement of existing lifts at Head Office.
- Renovate and upgrade Ministerial properties.

3. MAIN DIVISION 03: VETERINARY SERVICES
RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$192,996,000.00
CAPITAL BUDGET: N\$189,217,000.00

3.1. OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) is to maintain and promote optimal animal health, production and reproduction and assure the safe and orderly marketing of animal and animal products through animal disease control, epidemiology and extension, diagnostic services and veterinary public health services.

3.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS:

- Implement both development and regulatory activities in accordance with legislation and directives related to the animal industry;
- Develop structures and physical infrastructures necessary to bring veterinary services to all parts of the country, maintain integrity that the Namibian Veterinary Services enjoys, ensuring continued exports

of animals and animal products, as well a regional and international cooperation;

- Ensure that good cooperation with the farming community is maintained so as to benefit the health of the nation's livestock;
- Maintain and improve the diagnostic and supportive role of the Central Veterinary Laboratory.

3.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

3.3.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013/2014

3.3.1.1. Disease Surveillance and Control

Disease surveillance is one of the major activities of DVS. This is done in order to provide evidence of the country's animal health status which is constantly under threat by animal diseases that have the potential to disrupt Namibia's access to local, regional and international markets. Animal disease surveillance program ensures that diseases or conditions that may precipitate disease outbreaks are mitigated and that systems are in place for early detection and early effective response.

Animals Slaughtered Under Veterinary Supervision:

- One hundred and thirty-one thousand, two hundred and ninety-two (131,292) cattle
- Eight hundred and five thousand six hundred and eighty six (805,686) sheep
- Six thousand one hundred and seventy-seven (6 177) springboks

Number of Farms and Animals Inspected:

- Livestock at one thousand one hundred and seventy four (1,774) communities were inspected in communal areas.
- Five thousand one hundred and fifty eight (5 198) farms

- Six hundred and thirty seven thousand four hundred and ninety eight (637,498) cattle
- One million and ninety four thousand and eighty seven (1 094 087) sheep
- Two hundred and eighty thousand six hundred and ninety nine (280 699) goats

Ongoing Programmes Include:

- Mass and strategic vaccinations of animals against diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease, Lung Sickness and Rabies were carried out. In 2013, in Zambezi and Kavango East Regions three hundred and thirty one thousand nine hundred and sixty five (331,965) vaccinations against foot and mouth disease were carried out. This was targeted at one hundred and twenty three thousand (123,000) cattle in Zambezi region and thirty thousand (30,000) cattle in Mukwe and Ndiyona constituencies of Kavango East region. Cattle in the eastern parts of Zambezi Region are vaccinated three times a year, whereas those in western parts of Zambezi and in Mukwe and Ndiyona constituencies of East Kavango Region are vaccinated twice per year. One million one hundred and fifty four thousand two hundred and eight two cattle (1,154,282) were vaccinated against Lung Sickness in the northern communal areas. A population of 1,446,712 was targeted for vaccination against lungsickness. Twenty-five thousand and seventy six (25,076) cattle were vaccinated against Anthrax in the Zambezi Region and Tsumkwe area of Otjozondjupa Region.
- The Livestock identification and traceability system (NamLITS), which is the backbone of an disease surveillance has now been extended to cover the whole country. The NamLITS system was unified for the whole country on the 4th of October 2013, in order to have one system for the north and south of the Vet Cordon Fence. This system enables Government to keep accurate records of animal disease surveillance, animal movements and vaccinations. It also allows for monitoring of breeding programmes as well as population dynamics and future projections. In the last three years the NamLITS system was extended to cover the Northern Communal Areas where over 1.6 million cattle were ear-tagged and registered in a

computerized database. In the current Financial Year 205,123 cattle tagged.

- Livestock identification and traceability, import/export control, extension and regulatory inspection at community level, farms, livestock auctions and abattoirs were carried out.
- Maintenance of veterinary infrastructures such as veterinary clinics, crush pens, quarantine farms and Veterinary Cordon Fences some of which required extensive repair due to old age. Electrification of parts of the border and Veterinary Cordon Fence improved the zoo-sanitary controls of the country.
- The Directorate of Veterinary Services has developed a draft strategy and implementation plan for the implementation of the Cabinet approved policy on the eradication of transboundary animal diseases in the Northern Communal Areas. This work was done with the assistance of Millennium Challenge Account Namibia to the tune of NS9.8 million.

3.3.1.2. Export markets

Namibia's animal and animal products continued to have access to local, regional and international markets. Regionally Namibia exported to South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Angola, DRC and Zimbabwe. Our overseas markets include the European Union, Norway, Switzerland and Russia. MAWF is currently negotiating sanitary conditions for meat exports to China, United States of America and Hong Kong.

3.3.1.2. Animal Disease Health Situation

Major disease outbreaks recorded in 2013 include Foot and Mouth Disease, African Swine Fever, Anthrax, Lungsickness and Rabies. Foot and Mouth Disease, which occurred in August 2013, in the eastern parts of the Zambezi Region, were successfully contained and livestock movement and marketing restrictions were lifted on 17 February 2014. Sporadic outbreaks of Anthrax, a soil borne disease, which can also affect people, were reported in Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena and Zambezi Regions, respectively. The occurrence of Rabies, which is a fatal disease of humans and animals continues to be a cause of concern in human, domestic

and wild animal populations. In 2013, Rabies outbreaks involving 397 animal deaths were reported affecting the northern two-thirds of the country. Confirmed cases of Lungsickness were reported in Kavango at six foci where 21 cattle died of the disease.

3.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR (2014/2015)

3.3.2.1. Improvement of Animal Health Status and Marketing in the Northern Communal Areas

- The Directorate of Veterinary Services is implementing the policy aimed at creating conditions which will allow farmers in the Northern Communal Area (NCA) to access local, regional and international markets for their animals and animal products. The Ministry with the financial assistance of the Millennium Challenge Account Namibia has formulated the strategy and implementation plan for achieving Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lungsickness freedom in the NCA.
- The MAWF plans to implement the strategy for achieving international recognition for FMD and Lungsickness in the Northern Communal Areas beginning of the new Financial Year.
- Increase the number of veterinary offices in the northern communal areas to reduce the distance that farmers have to travel to seek veterinary services:
- Develop and implement protocols to facilitate the local marketing of meat by small abattoirs in the northern communal areas;
- Hold border harmonization meetings with neighbouring countries particularly Angola.

3.3.2.2. Construction of New Veterinary Infrastructure

- Construction of new veterinary offices and crush pens;
- Construction of plant and animal health inspection facilities at border posts;

- Recruit additional staff on its establishment (veterinarians, technicians and other support staff) to fulfil the above mentioned programmes. Additional materials and equipment such as vehicles, offices, furniture and diagnostic kits will also be required;
- Rehabilitate five Government owned abattoirs in the NCA to enhance surveillance and food safety standards in the area.
- Construction of the new research laboratory at Eenhana which will focus on the major transboundary diseases;
- Submit more laboratory tests of the Central Veterinary Laboratory to the accreditation body this year;

3.4. CAPITAL PROJECTS

3.4.1. DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH BORDER INSPECTION SYSTEM

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$5,644,000.00)

- The infrastructure development for sanitary and phyto-sanitary import/export control to prevent the introduction of exotic plant and animal diseases in Namibia is underway.
- Construction of sanitary and phyto-sanitary import/export control points at Buitepos, Noordoewer, Ariamsvlei and Oshikango completed.

3.4.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- It is envisaged that construction of offices, animal handling facilities and staff accommodation at Oronditi, Swartbooisdrift, Venela, Kasamane, Mahenene, Dobe and Katwitwi as well as the construction of a Traceability Office in Windhoek will start during this Financial Year.

3.4.2. CONSTRUCTION OF VETERINARY CLINICS, OFFICES AND ACCOMMODATION

3.4.2.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$42,515,000.00)

- Office and staff accommodation at Nama-Pan and Palmfontein veterinary control gates were completed.
- State Veterinary offices at Outapi, Epukiro, Okakarara, Omuthiya and Eenhana were also completed.

3.4.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- In order to improve access to our services the Ministry is in the process of constructing offices, accommodation facilities and other infrastructure in various part of the country including Ndiyona, Ncaute, Omundaungilo, Epembe, Oshifo, Okalongo as well as Windhoek at a total cost is about NS80 million. These capital projects are at various stages of implementation which will continue during the 2014/2015 Financial Year.

3.4.3. RENOVATIONS OF THE OLD WING AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POST-MORTEM FACILITY AT THE CENTRAL VETERINARY LABORATORY

3.4.3.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2013/2014 (N\$11,288,000.00)

- Renovations of the old wing and construction of the new post mortem facility at the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) were underway and due for completion in April 2014.
- The construction of the Bio-Security Level-3 Laboratory (BSL-3L) and the new post mortem facility nearly completed expected to be operational in April 2014
- Provisional plans were prepared for the construction of the Eenhana Research Laboratory. The site for its construction has been identified and fenced off

- The site for the construction of the Ondangwa regional veterinary laboratory has been identified. the architectural plans have been completed and the tender process is underway.
- The site of the planned Eenhana research laboratory has been identified and fenced. MAWF has advertised for an expression of interest for the development of a business plan for the development of the laboratory.

3.4.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- The construction of the Ondangwa regional veterinary laboratory is expected to start this year.
- Documentation for construction of the Eenhana Research Laboratory is underway and it's expected to be completed in 2014

3.4.4. CONSTRUCTION OF NEW VETERINARY SERVICE CENTRES AND QUARANTINE FARMS AND LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY

This project is funded by the Millennium Challenge Account together with the Government through MAWF.

3.4.4.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$68,843,000.00)

- The Construction of the new State Veterinary Service Centers at Eenhana. Outapi, Omuthiya, Okakarara and Epukiro were all completed.
- The upgrading of Katima and Kopano quarantine farms were completed and the facilities were officially handed over on 30th May 2013. The project was funded by the Millennium Challenge Account-Namibia to the tune of N\$7.3 million. The upgrading works included the following: renovation of ten staff houses, upgrading of infrastructure at entry/exit sections and water points and connection of electricity to Kopano quarantine farm. The connection of Kopano quarantine farm to the national grid has solved the perennial problems

of breakdowns in generators previously used to supply power to the borehole and staff houses.

- This upgrading has gone a long way to promote marketing of cattle in the Zambezi Region since quarantine of cattle for 21 days is necessary before cattle are loaded to Meatco Katima Mulilo export abattoir. The farmers in the region, who are the ultimate beneficiaries of the project, have expressed their appreciation.

3.4.4.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- In order to improve access to our services the Ministry is in the process of constructing offices, accommodation facilities and other infrastructure in various part of the country including Ndiyona, Ncaute, Omundaungilo. Epembe. Oshifo, Okalongo as well as in Windhoek at a total cost of NS79 million.
- Livestock Identification and Traceability will continue in the NCA and the entire populations of cattle are expected to be ear-tagged during this Financial Year.
- In subsequent years, DVS will concentrate on tagging and recording of new-born animals as well as recording of animal movement events.

3.4.5. IMPROVEMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND MARKETING SERVICES IN NORTHERN COMMUNAL AREAS

3.4.5.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS 2013/2014 (N\$ 9,395, 000)

- A memorandum of understanding between Namibia and Angola to collaborate on the eradication of Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia and Foot and Mouth Diseases was signed on the 23rd of May 2013, by the Ministers responsible for Agriculture.
- Bilateral meetings were held with Botswana and South Africa during the period under review.

- In August 2013 there was an outbreak of FMD in the Zambezi region which was controlled and normal livestock marketing has since resumed.

3.4.5.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/2015

- Intensification of clinical and serological surveillance will be effected for the Northern Communal Areas.
- The electrification of part of the high-risk area of the Veterinary Cordon Fence (VCF) and the Namibia-Botswana international border fence commenced in 2013 and is expected to be completed by the middle of this year. The project is expected to cost at least N\$12 million of which over N\$7 million has so far been spent.
- Prophylactic vaccinations against Foot and Mouth Disease and Lung sickness will continue in 2014/2015 Financial Year.
- Livestock identification and traceability activities will continue throughout the country in order to support animal disease surveillance and marketing of livestock and their products.
- The strategy for the eradication of transboundary animal diseases in the NCA was finalized but awaits cabinet approval for implementation. A detailed draft implementation plan to operationalise the strategy has been submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry for approval. This will be followed by the submission of the plan and its endorsement by the International Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The essential elements of the draft plan involve strengthening of veterinary services by bolstering staff capacity in terms of recruitment and skills development, development of surveillance and response guidelines, construction of veterinary infrastructure (offices, laboratories, accommodation), procurement of equipment and vehicles, community mobilization and participation in veterinary activities. International collaboration in the management of Transboundary animal diseases will also be strengthened. A major component of the plan entails erection of a border fence between Namibia and Angola and relocation of livestock relying on grazing in Angola to identified grazing areas within Namibia.

3.4.6. BEEF VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTHERN COMMUNAL AREAS

3.4.6.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS 2014/2015 (N\$10,334,000.00)

The objective of the project is to ensure improved marketing of livestock in the NCA and production of value added meat and meat products in order to compete at local, regional and international markets. Cattle and goats in the NCA have limited marketing channels and almost no access to lucrative markets. Appropriate well-situated slaughter facilities, in the form of abattoirs that conform to best practice standards are therefore needed. The achievements in 2014 involved:

- Upgrading the Eenhana and Outapi abattoirs which are in the final stages of completion. The proposed infrastructure will be managed through public-private partnerships. The Veterans Association of Namibia has been identified as the best candidate after the evaluations of the EOI. The training programs were developed based on increasing the value addition and manufacturing opportunities in the NCA.
- The tender for refurbishment and demolishing of Rundu abattoir was advertised.
- A request to the Zambezi Regional Council for serviced land near Bukalo to erect a meat processing/cooking facility in Zambezi Region has been submitted and awaits approval by the regional council.

3.4.6.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/2015

- In the Zambezi Region, a cooking facility will be set up to improve value addition as well as take advantage of 01E's FMD chapter on commodity-based trade to ensure continuous marketing of meat and meat products from an FMD high risk area.
- The construction of cold storage facility and meat processing at Ongwediva Fresh Produce Hub will start in the first quarter of 2014/2015.

- After the evaluation process, work on the Rundu Abattoir is expected start in the first quarter of 2014/2015. In the second quarter of 2014/2015, construction of the Rundu Cold Storage and Processing Plant will also start.
- During the third quarter of 2014/2015 the drawings on the upgrading of Opuwo Abattoir will be finalized.

4. MAIN DIVISION 04: AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$83,270,000.00
CAPITAL BUDGET: N\$47,303,000.00

4.1. OBJECTIVES

- To conduct agricultural research through need-driven, basic, adaptive and strategic research in the communal and commercial farming areas of Namibia.
- To develop and conserve plant and livestock genetic material for future use.

4.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Conduct crop and livestock research.
- Provide laboratory analytical services.
- Conserve and preserve plant and animal genetic material. Conduct rangeland and pasture research.
- Develop new products for the agricultural sector. Provide livestock performance support services.

4.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

4.3.1. Achievements for 2013/2014

4.3.1.1. Agronomy and Horticulture

- Produced 79 tons of foundation and certified seeds of improved varieties at Research Stations and Green Scheme Projects. However, low rainfall during the last cultivation season resulted in low quantity and quality of harvested seed.
- Conducted 28 research projects at five (5) Research Stations on crop improvement, soil fertility improvement, crop diversification and variety;
- De-bushed 15 hectares of land at Liselo in the Zambezi Region for research activities and seed production.
- Completed 6 hectares at Bagani Research Station in the Kavango East Region and the land is planned to be used for research activities and seed multiplication.
- The Ministry continued with the maintenance of released crop varieties of pearl millet, sorghum, cowpea and other crops.
- Conducted selection of crop varieties to select the varieties to ascertain their adaptability to the Namibian environment through conventional breeding and mutation breeding.
- The subdivision continues to undertake research in the areas of crop improvement; crop diversification and plant-soil nutrients management.
- The sub-division continues to provide technical back stopping to registered seed growers for foundation seed and certified seed. Only two seed growers have contributed to seed production with minimal amount. This is due to low rainfall received and resulted in zero harvest in their fields.

- The Ministry through the subdivision of Agronomy and Horticulture continued propagating citrus and mangoes in order to increase fruit production at research stations and to avail to communities.

4.3.1.2. Analytical Services

- Received 9386 soil samples for analysis out of which 5097 soil samples were analysed, results interpreted and recommendations for appropriate fertilizers and application rates were provided.
- Received 3479 requests for plant nutrition and feed-lick analyses out of which 2448 were analysed and results provided to clients.
- Analysed and prepared five (5) soil samples through the THISTLE QA which is the proficiency testing body in Johannesburg, as part of the laboratory accreditation process.
- Seven (7) laboratory staff were trained on Statistical Method Validation for Test Laboratories while another 12 were trained on the use of Nitrogen Analyser (CHN 628).
- The GMO laboratory testing facility was inaugurated by the Honourable John Mutorwa, Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry on the 28 May 2013, Since its inauguration. 16 samples were analysed for presence of GMO using the RTPCR out which ten (10) tested negative while six (6) samples were positive.

Preservation and Conservation of Plant Genetic Material

- Currently, the National Collection in the herbarium stands at 94,909 specimens of which 1,035 specimens were identified for use by scientists, students and the general public. A check list of Namibian indigenous and naturalised plants was published.
- A taxonomic study of the family Nyctaginaceae has been completed and submitted for publication in the peer reviewed journal “Bothalia.”
- Three (3) new species (Chiorophytum sp., Oxalis sp., Carissa sp., Salvia sp. & Pelargonium sp.) as well as two new records(Hermannia

sp. and *Commicarpus belenae* var *helenae*) were discovered in Namibia.

- Fifteen (15) formal requests for information from the herbarium database have been serviced during the past year. The NBRI website has been expanded to host the in-house publication of the Directorate Agriculture Research and Training (see <http://www.nbri.org.na/publications.html>) Agricola, as well as the Spotlight on Agriculture, conveniently available for downloading.
- Germinations tests of 100 seed accession were conducted while 150 seed accessions were processed. Thirty nine seed requests were received and distributed.
- Twenty two (22) new plant accessions were processed. 40 species were grown from seeds and cuttings whilst 2,012 seedlings were transplanted. The Ministry assisted Rossing Mine in the relocation of seven *Adenia pechuellii* plants, a rare and endangered species.

4.3.1.3. Rangeland Management and Pasture Research

- The MAWF expanded the weather station network to five (5) new weather stations of Sachinga LDC, Ngoma, Kalimbeza. Bagani and Hamoye.
- The Browse Estimate by Canopy Volume (BECVOL) model has been tested in Mopani Savanna of Oshana. This model found strong correlation between actual browse yield and predicted yield.
- Published results of the Fodder bank system as applied at Sandveld Research Station for the past nine (9) years. Results show an increase in Dry Matter production and by implication an increase in grazing capacity.
- Baseline vegetation surveys have been completed for Okapya, Sachinga, Alex Muranda, Sonop, John Alphons Pandeni and Omatjenne Research Stations. These surveys serve as baseline data which can be used to determine the effect of any cattle/sheep/goat/rangeland research projects undertaken at any GRN Livestock Development Centre or Research Station;

- Completed a map which indicates the extent of bush encroachment in South East Namibia.
- In order to implement National Rangeland Management Policy and Strategy, the Ministry established the Namibia Rangeland and Bush Encroachment Forum to facilitate improved communication and information sharing, and make recommendations to relevant organizations on matters of rangeland management and bush encroachment.

4.3.1.4. Large Stock Research

- Completed data collection and analysis of the project on using prickly pears (*Opuntia ficus indica*) as alternative feed on Damara sheep: and
- Completed data collection on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture in Windhoek in order to investigate its contribution to people's livelihood.

4.3.1.5. Small Stock Research

- Multiplication at Kalahari Research Station, using Pure-bred Damara and Dorper rams, has obtained the F1 generation, which will again be cross bred with the pure Gellapper.
- Successfully conducted training on Swakara Management course to Swakara sheep farmers at Gellap Ost Research Station.
- The Ministry auctioned six (6) Gellapper rams and eight (8) ewes to the farming community at the Windhoek Show.

4.3.1.6. Livestock Support Services

- As a service to the livestock farmers, the Ministry assisted and controlled the process of data collection for the Performance Testing classes (Phase A, B and ID).
- The Ministry assisted in the calculations of Phases A and B data from two herds and monitoring and capturing of body measures of 450 stud

bulls from different breeders. Calculations were made and results were sent back to participating farmers;

- Estimated breeding value data were sent to Namibia stud Breeders Association and the Stud book in South Africa.
- Further, the Ministry provided advice and assistance on performance testing to 20 farmers;
- The Ministry received four (4) article contributions from research staff that were prepared and published in the Spotlight.
- The Ministry received five (5) research article contributions from research staff that were prepared and published in the Agricola.
- In an effort to improve livestock north of the Cordon Fence, the Ministry through its Bull Scheme distributed 104 bulls of five (5) different breeds and 62 rams of five (5) different breeds to 166 beneficiaries in 12 Regions.

4.3.2. Planned activities for 2014/2015

- Continue with staff development and none-formal training;
- Produce and distribute foundation seed for pearl millet, maize and cowpea;
- Produce and distribute certified seed for pearl millet, maize and cowpea;
- Conduct seed quality control;
- Apply BECVOL model in savannah trees of Namibia with the aim to determine browsing capacity of tree/bush dominated veld;
- Determine grazing capacity in the southern regions of Namibia using the grazing index method;

- Conduct Phase 2 for the project The influence of fodder bank grazing system on the species, composition of the natural vegetation in the Camel thorn savannah of Namibia;
- Conduct Livestock Phase 2 for the project - The influence of fodder bank grazing system on the species, composition of the natural vegetation in the Camel thorn savannah of Namibia;
- Conduct Pasture Phase 2 for the project - The influence of fodder bank grazing system on the species, composition of the natural vegetation in the Camel thorn savannah of Namibia;
- Conduct baseline vegetation surveys;
- Develop a bush encroachment map for Namibia;
- Conduct a donkey research;
- Conduct research on milk production and improvement of indigenous Sanga cattle;
- Continue with the multiplication of the Gellapper sheep and evaluation thereof against Dorper and Damara sheep;
- Determine the reproduction potential of indigenous goat populations of Northern Namibia;
- Evaluate production systems currently used by Dorper farmers in Namibia;
- Investigate the lethal genes in the white Swakara sheep;
- Investigate the possibility of urban agriculture;
- Conduct artificial insemination in livestock;
- Investigate the possibility of cultivated pastures in the Northern communal areas;

- Collect data for publication of “Tree and shrubs of southern Namibia”;
- Conduct Opuntia feedlot for small stock Phase 3;
- Distribute improved breeding materials to farmers and monitor the impact of bulls distributed in the North Central regions;
- Conduct livestock breeding at LDCs in North Central Regions;
- Develop and evaluate different Sanga ecotypes;
- Conduct Performance Testing Phase C;
- Conduct impact assessment of on- farm performance testing of young bulls (Phase D);
- Carry out carcass evaluation through scanning;
- Commence with the Dairy Development research project;
- Develop R4 male seed parent;
- Conduct farmers participatory plant breeding for different varieties;
- Evaluate cowpea varieties;
- Conduct Namibia Bambara groundnut variety trial;
- Conduct Namibia National groundnut variety trial;
- Conduct Nitrogen use efficiency and its effect on early millet production;
- Evaluate rice cultivars;
- Establish sweet potato nursery;
- Determine an appropriate maturity date of the sweet potato varieties;
- Test pearl millet varieties for adaptability in northern Namibia;

- Assess farmers' perception of alternative crops;
- Promote mushroom farming;
- Conduct crop rotation as soil fertility improvement strategy in maize and pearly millet production systems;
- Undertake breeding and integrated soil plant management technique to develop sustainable high yielding and drought resistant crops;
- Propagate and evaluate Mango root stock;
- Carry out compost manure trials;
- Undertake crop rotation as soil fertility improvement strategies used in different legumes on pearl millet:
- Assess the status of selenium and zinc contents in soil and plant in Namibia and the impact on food consumption;
- Evaluate improved open pollinated maize varieties:
- Assess the response of Sorghum bicolor, variety Macia; seed to water priming at different temperatures;
- Multiply and characterise maize germplasm;
- Identify and develop appropriate integrated pest management strategies;
- Evaluate production system of vegetable varieties;
- Evaluate induced mutation breeding in cowpea, pearl millet and sorghum:
- Conduct long term monitoring of vegetation; and
- Maintain the National Botanic garden and live plant collection.

4.4. CAPITAL PROJECTS

4.4.1. Support to the Processing of Indigenous Plants and Mahangu

4.4.1.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- Training of two (2) laboratory staff were trained on the nutritional value analysis of local indigenous plant resources using the High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) system;

4.4.2. Development of Livestock Breeding and Marketing Infrastructure in the Communal Areas

4.4.2.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- One (1) auction kraal constructed at Lusese in the Zambezi Region.

Upgrading of Farm infrastructure and Improvement of irrigation Systems At training Institutions and research Stations

4.4.2.2.1. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$13,644,000)

- Completed the upgrading of seven (7) kilometres access road at Alex Muranda LDC which was officially inaugurated by Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry on 2013.
- Installed of a water reticulation system and renovated the house of Chief Agricultural Technician at Sachinga Livestock Development Centre.
- Renovated 4 x 2 - bedroom staff houses, 1 x3 - bedroom staff house and garage thereof, farm workshop and an assembly hall at the Kalahari Research Station and procured agricultural implements, namely: A John Deere 359 tractor, rectangular twine baler Kuhn GMD 44 cutter and TONUTTI hay rake.

- Conducted a feasibility study on the upgrading of abattoir/slaughter house at MADI.
- Completed the renovated the renovation, alterations and additions to the existing building to form a new grain store at MITC;
- Acquired BeefPro scales with stick readers for MADI. TAZAC and Okomumbonde Breeding Station.
- Constructed a seed store with working room for sorting out seeds. a shed with store rooms for storing seeds and grains repaired a septic tank and conducted a conducted feasibility study on the construction of a tissue culture laboratory at the Mannheim Research Station;
- Administered retention fees for services rendered for construction of 10 x2-bedroom houses during the 2012/2013 Financial Year at the Mannheim Research Station.
- Constructed 2 x 2 - bedroom houses for staff accommodation, a chicken house and renovated 4 x 3 - bedroom staff houses at TAZAC.
- Administered retention fees for services rendered for upgrading of the irrigation system and water facilities during the 2012/2013 Financial Year;
- Upgraded the Phase C facilities Omatjenne Research Station.
- Constructed parking facilities and undertook minor renovations at the SWAKARA Training Centre and conducted a feasibility study for construction of 2 x 2-bedroom houses for staff accommodation and ablution facilities at the Gellap-Ost Research Station.

4.4.3.2. Planned Activities for 2014/2015

- Construct a corridor fence from the loading ramp to farm stead at Sachinga Research Station.
- Construct a boundary road between quarantine and Sachinga Research Station.

- Construct 2x2 —bedroom houses for staff accommodation at Sachinga.
- Construct 2 x 2 - bedroom staff houses, shearing shed and a new ablution block at the hostel of the Geliap-Ost Training Centre;
- Construct three (3) offices at Kalahari.
- Renovate 4x3-bedroom staff houses and office block, construct a greenhouse and two (2) class room two offices; upgrade current slaughter house guest house and the 20-bedroom hostel into 20 self-containing single room at TAZAC.
- Upgrade the irrigation system at the Bagani Research Station;
- Upgrade the slaughter house /abattoir and the current guest house into flats at MADI.
- Construct 2x2-bedroom houses for staff accommodation and shed for implements at Bagani Research Station.
- Construct 2x2-bedroom houses for staff accommodation at Alex Muranda LDC.
- Upgrade farm workshops and animal handling facilities (piggery and dairy units) and upgrade the resource centre and install an E-record system at MADI.
- Demolish old accommodation buildings at the former leprosy hospital, filling and levelling field for crop production, revamp and rejuvenate orchard and install irrigation system at MITC.
- Maintain a 30km fence at Sandveld Research Station.
- Procure a tractor with its accessories, construct 2x2-bedroom houses for staff accommodation and shed for implements at Omahenene Research Station;

- Construct 2x2-bedroom houses for staff accommodation each at Okashana Research Station and Okapya LDC.
- Construct a tissue culture laboratory at Mannheim Research Station;
- Construct an assembly hall and installation of a water reticulation system at JAP Research Station.
- Construct 2x2-bedroom houses for staff accommodation at Sonop Research Station.
- Upgrade animal handling facilities at Omatjene Research Station.

**5. MAIN DIVISION 05: AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICES**

RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$158,594,000.00

CAPITAL BUDGET: N\$ 17,602,000.00

5.1. OBJECTIVES

- To contribute to increased food production and household food security.
- To provide extension services in the form of information, advice and training to farmers ,agro-based industries and other stakeholders.
- To promote technology development, adaptation and adoption.
- To formulate and implement regulations and policies for the Agriculture Sector.

5.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Provide Agricultural Extension Services in the form of advice and training to farmers and stakeholders.
- Promote technology development, adaptation, and adoption and information dissemination in the Agricultural Sector.

- Identify and implement technological needs and requirements in the areas of agronomy, mechanization, animal husbandry, soil conservation and agricultural structures.
- Ensure conformity to regulations and policies on plant health and agro-chemicals quality and safety for the Agriculture Sector.
- Register agro-chemicals and farm feeds.

5.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

5.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$131,011,000.00)

The Ministry provided extension services to the agricultural sector in the form of information dissemination, training, communications, and advice throughout the country using a participatory approach that places responsibilities of the development process in the hands of rural communities.

5.3.1.1. Rain Fed Crop Production Programme

The Rain-Fed Crop Production Programme was implemented in the following regions: Kavango East and West, Zambezi, Oshikoto, Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati, Kunene North and partly in Otjozondjupa and Omahake to increase food production in the above mentioned regions. Through this programme farmers were assisted with subsidized farm inputs (fertilizers and improved seeds) and agricultural services (ploughing and weeding services)

5.3.1.1.1. Fertilizers Distribution

- A total of five hundred and eighty (580) tones of different type of fertilizers [NPK 2:3:2 (37%), MAP (0.7% Zinc), Ammonium Sulphate (21%nitrogen), LAN (28%Nitrogen), UREA (46%). Superphosphate (18 - 21% Ca)] were acquired by MAWF and distributed in the crop growing regions as part of Government subsidy.

5.3.1.1.2. Seed Distribution

- During the cropping season 2013/2014 cropping season, Government availed a total of two hundred and ten (210) tons and one hundred and fifty (150) tons of free maize and pearl millet seeds for distribution to farmers in NCRs of the crop growing regions. In addition, sixty nine (69) tons of pearl millet seeds were also made available for distribution through Government subsidy.
- As a contribution to the Rain-Fed Crop Production Programme for the drought stricken communal areas, total of sixty six tons (66) of maize seeds and fifty three tons (53) of cowpeas seeds were procured by FAO to be distributed free to farmers.
- Agronomic Dry Land Commercial farmers, Affirmative Action Loan Scheme farmers, Resettlement farmers and other crop farmers benefited through Government Dry Land seed voucher scheme valued at total of two million Namibia Dollars (N\$2,000,000.00) being administered by Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB).

5.3.1.1.3. Ploughing Services

- The current total number of machineries and implements that were procured by Government and deployed in various crop growing regions so far are as follows: seventy five tractors (75), forty four walking tractors (44), seventy six planters (76), seventy one disc harrows (71), thirty three mould board ploughs (33), forty five rippers (45), thirty five trailers (35), and five threshers
- For the successful implementation of the programme seventy six (76) contractual tractor drivers thirty eight (38) DEES staff (operator drivers and extension field staff) were trained in basic tractor mechanics, tractor and implement repair and maintenance, field measurement, recording of data and filling of log books and the use of mobile workshops.
- The Ministry in collaboration with FAO has developed a document on comprehensive Conservation Agriculture as a component of DCP.

- The Ministry has also developed a document on Draft Animal Power as a component of DCP.

5.3.1.2. Horticulture Production

5.3.1.2.1. Support to Urban and Peri-urban Horticulture

- Fifty six (56) community and individual home gardens were established by DEES at Okamatapati, Okahandja resettlement farms (Nina and Slip) and Okakarara in Otjozondjupa region. Oshakati in Oshana, Windhoek and Groot-Aub in Khomas region. In addition, four school gardens were established at Otjinene in Omaheke region and Otjomuise area in Khomas region with the assistance of DEES. Seventy seven (77) learners, five (5) teachers and eight (8) laborers participated in the establishment of the school and two with the assistance of DEES. The ministry in collaboration with FAO has developed a document in support of small scale horticultural producers in the country. The document is focusing on the provision of subsidize agricultural inputs.

5.3.1.3. Migrant pest management

- An outbreak of armyworm in Oshana region on a twenty (20) ha of land was successfully controlled with pesticides.
- A horticulture pest and disease manual for farmers was developed and it is in its advance stages to be finalized.

5.3.1.4. Cereal Production

5.3.1.4.1. Mahangu Championship

- Two farmers (2) from the region participated in Mahangu Championship of 2013/2014 Financial Year. Mr. Festus Shigwedha Abiatar from Ompundja constituency was the best mahangu producer in Oshana region under category one of fields with 10 hectares and above while Mr. Lazarus Teodor from Uuvudhiya constituency won category two (2). Forty four (44) farmers from NCD attended the Mahangu Field day on the 25th of April 2013, at Mr and Mrs Hango 25ha field at Erago village in Kapako Constituency. Kavango region.

5.3.1.5. Livestock Production

5.3.1.5.1. MAWF Ram and Bull Support Scheme

- Eight livestock units were distributed to eight households in Omaheke Region to support the current revolving small stock project in SD.
- Six (6) bulls that were distributed in 2010 to farmers in Kavango East and West regions as improved breeding material, have collectively sired forty eight (48) calves. Another five (5) bulls as breeding material were allocated to the same regions.
- Nine (9) farmers in Zambezi region benefited each one bull from the bull scheme and one farmer was provided with a boar from the Livestock breeding Material in the same Region.

5.3.1.5.2. Swakara Scheme

- A total of one hundred and fifty one (151) small stock units were distributed to twelve households in the Hardap region and ten (10) households in the Karas Region.

5.3.1.5.3. Poultry Distribution and Development of Small Scale Farmers

- Ninety six (96) households in Omaheke region, one hundred and ten (110) households in Hardap Region and eighty nine (89) households in Karas Region procured four thousand four hundred chicks (4,400) for household food security. The transport cost was covered by Government and DEES did the collection of chicks and distribution thereof. A total of six hundred (600) chicks of two weeks to one month of age benefited seventy two (72) farmers in Kunene Region.

5.3.1.5.4. Livestock Production and Marketing

5.3.1.5.4.1. Auction Events

- Twenty six (26) auction events were held in the NCD where seven hundred and fifty one (751) cattle were sold.

5.3.1.5.4.2. Livestock marketing incentives scheme (Drought)

- The current total number of small stock unit off-take is at three hundred and sixty four thousand (364,000) and the amount spent so far for farmers' subsidy is twenty five million five hundred and twenty six thousand four hundred and eighty Namibia Dollars (N\$25,526,480.00). Meanwhile, for the large stock unit stands at one hundred and four thousand eight hundred and sixty five (104,865) and so far thirty million and eighty eight thousand six hundred and sixty Namibia Dollars (N\$30,088,660.00) was spent for that purpose.
- However, a total amount of eight hundred and ninety five thousand four hundred and seventy five (N\$895,475.00) was paid out to farmers for the leasing of grazing in commercial areas. In addition, three hundred and twenty eight thousand one hundred and forty Namibia Dollars (N\$ 328,140.00) was paid out to farmers to transport their livestock to areas where grazing was available.
- So far the total amount spent for Drought Livestock Marketing incentives for both large stock and small stock is fifty five million six hundred and fifteen thousand one hundred and forty Namibia Dollars (N\$55,615,140.00). The processing of farmers' claims for the subsidy is continuing.

5.3.1.6. Farmers Advice and Training

- A total of four thousand and sixty four (4064) farmers were provided with in-service training by DEES in collaboration with GOPA and other stakeholders in the regions. Training has been conducted on a wide range of topics with regards to best agricultural practice in crop and livestock production (financial management, gardening, livestock production, animal husbandry practices, project management, rangeland management, committee leadership and planning, horticulture production, pest management, DCP, gardening and crop production).

5.3.1.7. Training of DEES staff in technical and managerial fields

- In order to ensure that DEES staff are well trained and well equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge, one hundred and fifty four (154) field extension staff received training in GIS, training of trainers

in migrant pest management , gardening, breeding, adaptability and judging of Nguni/Sanga, swakara pelts production and horticulture production.

5.3.1.8. On-farm Trials and Demonstrations

- A total of seventy seven (77) demonstrations on livestock production were conducted with seven hundred and thirteen (713) farmers in attendance. The demonstrations concentrated mostly on medicine handling and storage. animal husbandry practices and karakul farming.
- A total of fifty four (54) crop demonstrations were held and one thousand four hundred and nineteen (1,419) farmers were capacitated. These demonstrations covered the following areas: how to prepare trenches and compost heap for gardening, drip irrigation, removal of dates offshoots, intercropping, pruning. seedbed preparation and planting methods.

5.3.1.9. Community Based Organizations

- Oshikoto. Ohangwena and Omusati Livestock Marketing Cooperatives were established during the period under review. The cooperatives are made up of fifty four (54) members, one hundred and seventeen (117) members and one hundred and twelve (112) members respectively. Furthermore, the Ohangwena cooperative has received support from GOPA-CBRLM program of the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) for operational capital. Ohangwena Meanwhile; Oshikoto Regional Farmers Union was formed by two hundred and fifty paid up members from five farmers associations from the region. In Ohangwena region. The Ohangwena Farmers Union was established with three hundred members.
- Eight grazing areas were established in Omusati Region in collaboration with CBRLM and DEES staff have been actively involved with community mobilization and facilitation together with CBRLM staff members.
- Two vegetable gardens in Zambezi region were supported with gardening tools valued at five thousand Namibia Dollars (N\$5,000.00) on the World Food Day.

5.3.1.10. Farm Visits

- A total of one thousand three hundred and nine (1,309) farms were visited reaching a total number of five hundred and eleven (511) farmers. In addition one thousand six hundred and fifty two (1,652) villages were also visited and two thousand and fourteen (2,014) farmers were reached during those visits. The aim of these visits were to disseminate information, familiarization and provide advice to farmers on project implementation among the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme farmers (AALS), rangeland management, livestock and crop production, drought mitigation, farm planning, pipeline surveying, conservation agriculture, livestock supplements, gardening, animal husbandry, DCPD and soil sampling and veld condition assessment. Those visits were also aimed at informing farmers on the Drought relief incentive scheme.
- Furthermore, San Development Farms and twenty seven (27) resettlement farms were visited for the same purpose.

5.3.1.11. Farmer visits to Agricultural Development Centers

- One thousand six hundred and eighty (1,680) farmers visited the Agricultural Development Centers (ADCs) seeking for information and services on drought mitigation strategies and the Government drought incentives scheme, Agribank loan scheme, livestock supplements, livestock marketing, disease treatment and prevention, breed selection brand mark application, DCPD, draft animal power, gardening amongst others. During those visits, nine hundred and twenty (920) farmers applied for the drought subsidy on marketing, transport and grazing.

5.3.1.12. Emerging Commercial Farmers

- Technical support and advice was provided to livestock owners who benefited from the bull scheme through the Mentorship Programme.

5.3.1.13. Exposure Trips

- A total of seventy six (76) farmers from NCD undertook exposure visits to Ogongo rice project, Otuwala rice project as well as to the

Mahangu Championship field day and Mahangu consultative forum meeting at in Kavango Region.

- One exposure trip was held for twelve (12) farmers accompanied by DEES staff in Omusati Region to familiarize themselves with different rangeland management practices implemented by farmers in Okamatapati area in Otjozondjupa Region.

5.3.1.14. Mass and Print Media

- The Regions disseminated information on the agricultural activities such as marketing; production; livestock management and supplementation; the effect of drought, rangeland management and record keeping through agricultural publications to farmers who visited ADCs and those who visited the ministry stand during the Ongwediva Annual Trade Fair 2013. Two thousand (2 000) copies of leaflets were made available to the farmers.
- Four radio programmes on crop and livestock production were conducted on NBC Silozi Service in Zambezi Region.
- Two (2) radio phone- in programs were aired on the impact of the drought and on the preparation for the cropping season in Oshana Region.
- A combined total of six hundred and fifty one (651) booklets and leaflets were disseminated to farmers in NCD. Topics included: gardening for health, keeping your animal healthy, livestock management and marketing. animal husbandry practices indigenous chicken production amongst others.

5.3.1.15. Farmer's Information Days

- Nine hundred and fifty four (954) information days were organized Thirteen thousand and seventy four (13,074) farmers attended these field days. Information shared among farmers has been on appropriate technologies being implemented by farmers and some of the focus areas were on licks supplementation, rangeland management, swakara sheep. wildlife management and drought relief measures. The purposes

of these field days were to sensitize farmers in the above mentioned areas.

5.3.1.16. Phytosanitary Services

- One thousand three hundred and fifty nine (1,359) phytosanitary certificates were issued for the exportation of plant and plant products. An amount of two hundred and three thousand nine hundred Namibia Dollars (N\$203,900.00) was generated from the issuance of phytosanitary certificates in line with the Plant Quarantine Act 8 of 2008.
- Eighty (80) applications for the Sub-division of Agricultural Land under Act 5 of 1981 were received and processed.
- Two hundred and twenty two (222) new registrations were done for fertilizers and farm feeds and one thousand and sixty nine (1,069) renewals were done. Three hundred and eighty seven thousand nine hundred and fifty Namibia Dollars (387,950) was generated from registration and renewals of fertilizers and farm feeds in line with the Act 36 of 1947.
- Twenty (20) inspections of retailers and manufacturers were conducted in all 13 regions in order to determine if the products on sale are registered with the Ministry.
- One hundred and twenty (120) fruit fly surveillance visits were conducted in Otjozondjupa, Omusati, Oshikoto, Oshana. Zambezi, Kavango East and West, Hardap and //Karas Regions.

5.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Continue with the implementation and monitoring of the Dry Land Crop Production Programme (including the new components “Conservation Agriculture” and “Draft Animal Power” that were added to the DCP in all crop growing Regions.
- Procure additional tractors and implements to ensure effective and efficient service provision to farmers in crop growing areas.

- The formation of Farmers Associations, Community Based Organizations and projects will be encouraged, supported and facilitated.
- Continue to build capacity in various areas relevant to Agricultural Sector.
- Continue to disseminate information and advice to emerging, resettlement, and Affirmative Action Loan Scheme farmers.
- As part of the Farming System Research and Extension approach, continue to implement the following activities: viable community action plans. income generating activities and agricultural technology development.
- Strengthen border control inspection capacity to ensure that all agricultural products entering and leaving the country are in conformity with the acceptable standards and are recorded.
- Continue to ensure that registers are kept at all points of entry to verify the origin and destination of registered products and genetic livestock material for traceability purpose.
- Continue to ensure that all farm feeds entering the country must be accompanied by veterinary import permit and official health certificate which can verify that feeds are free from all prohibited substances that in turn can harm our meat industry.
- Strengthen control measures to regulate agro-chemicals use as well as trading of pesticides and other remedies especially by street vendors, and concurrently informing the public on the danger that is associated with illegal unlabeled and unregistered pesticides.
- Facilitate the process of setting up trade protocols concerning export of livestock and genetic material.
- Continue to encourage the establishment of community gardens in order to improve household food security.

- Establish demonstration plots at the Agricultural Development Centers and other identified sites in order to carry out training.
- Implement fruit fly surveillance programme funded by FAO through its technical cooperation programme.
- Establishment of Plant Health and Biosecurity Lab in 2015/2016.
- Procurement of machinery and equipment for all Green Scheme Projects.

5.4. CAPITAL PROJECTS

5.4.1. CONSTRUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES (ADCs)

5.4.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/14 (N\$3,680,000.00)

- Completion of the Muparara ADC in Kavango Region.
- Completion of the Otavi ADC in Otjozondjupa Region.
- Completed construction of Aroab ADC with two (2) staff houses in Karas Region with electricity connection.
- Completion of the construction of the Hoachanas ADC.
- Completion of the Anker ADC and renovation of 1 staff house.

5.4.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$0)

- Finalize the construction of the Bukalo ADC in Zambezi Region
- Finalize the construction of the Lipanda ADC in Omusati Region

5.4.2. DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY CENTERS

5.4.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$2,145,000.00)

- Construction of Rundu Agricultural Technology Centre to be complete in February 2014.

5.4.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2015/2016 (N\$14,000,000.00)

- Construction of Ongwediva Technology Centre.

6. MAIN DIVISION 06:	AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
RECURRENT BUDGET:	N\$ 32,223,000.00
DEVELOPMENT BUDGET:	N\$245,826,000.00

6.1. OBJECTIVE

- To plan, design and develop agricultural, water and forestry infrastructure and equipment for the implementation of programmes and projects on irrigation, livestock, Agro Industry, dry-land crop production, horticulture, marketing, and storage of agricultural products.

6.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Plan, design and develop agricultural, water and forestry infrastructure and equipment for the implementation of the Green Scheme Programme.
- Supervise the construction of irrigation projects.
- Provide technical advice on planning of farm dams, pipe lines and soil and water conservation structures to farmers.

- Provide technical advice to line Ministries. NGO's and private organizations on agricultural mechanization, farm buildings. grain storage facilities and agro-industries.

6.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

6.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2012/2013 (N\$31,122,000.00)

- Assisted with the management and operation of the Green Scheme Irrigation Projects, namely; Sikondo, Shadikongoro, Uvungu-vungu, NdongaLinena, Musese, Mashare, Etunda, Hardap. Tandjieskopje, Kalimbeza, and Orange River Irrigation Project (ORIP).
- Supervision, of silos at Omuthiya (Oshikoto region) and the construction of the silo for rice at KatimaMulilo (Caprivi region) respectively.
- Supervised the construction at Etunda. Uhvangu Vhundu. Musese, Ndonga-Linena, Shadikongoro and Kalimbeza.
- Completed the construction of the Fresh Produce Marketing Hubs in Ongwediva and Rundu respectively.
- Supervised the construction of the Agricultural Technology Centres at Rundu.

6.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Facilitate the supervision of the earth works for the Fresh Produce Marketing Hub in Windhoek as well as facilitating the planning, designing and tendering of the infrastructure on the Hub.
- Continue to monitor and supervise the expansion of Silos at Omuthiya, and also Planning and design and tendering of the expansion of the Okongo silo.
- Monitor and supervise the construction of Uvungu-Vhundu Dairy Project, Shadikongoro, NdongaLinena Phase 2, Musese. Mashare, Etunda phases 7 and 8, Kalimbeza, and ORIP.

- Continue to identify suitable land for irrigation in the country for the development of the Green Scheme Programme.
- Facilitate feasibility studies for Liselo in the Caprivi Region and Zone Agricultural Project in the Kavango Region.
- Continue to upgrade irrigation infrastructures at the Green Scheme Projects.

6.4. CAPITAL PROJECTS

6.4.1. GREEN SCHEME

6.4.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$169,696,000.00)

- Construction of the logistic center, staff and medium scale farmer's accommodation as well as the pump station and an access road have commence. Silo facilities for an additional 2,000 tonnes of maize were completed and tenders for a milling shed and equipment were drawn-up, advertised and awarded.
- The fencing of the project was completed. Tenders for the earth works, steel works (Sheds), irrigation system and mass concrete works were awarded and construction is underway. The design of the milking parlour is completed and will be advertise shortly.
- Construction of the fencing. pump stations, electrical distribution, main supply line and Irrigation works were underway.
- Approximately 90 ha out 110 ha land which is earmarked for the small scale farmers has been de-bushed. Designs and tender documents for the construction of houses, pump station, main supply lines and irrigation systems were completed and advertised. Construction will start shortly.
- Designs, tender documents and advertising for the construction of pump station, main supply lines, irrigation systems, 2 000 tonnes silo's, logistic center, farmers houses and manager house were done.

Construction on this activity will start soon for completion in the new financial year.

- Construction of a new pump station at Shadikongoro Irrigation Project was completed during the Financial Year.
- Designs, tender documents and advertisement of the expansion of the irrigation area at the Orange Irrigation Project as well as for the designs for a potable water system and of accommodation of the permanent staff at the project were done and construction will start during April.

6.4.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$217,357,000.00)

- Continue with construction of various types of housing for permanent staff at ORIP, renovation of potable water system as well as the expansion of the land under irrigation.
- Construct a 2 000 ton silo's at Ndonga-Linena Irrigation Project.
- Completion of Phase 2 of the Ndonga-Linena Irrigation Project.
- Continue with the construction of the new dairy facility at Uvungu-vungu.
- Continue with the construction of two hundred and fourteen hectares (214ha) of additional irrigable land at Uvungu-Vhungu.
- Continue with the construction of the main supply line, pump station, irrigation system, silo and logistics center at Mashare.
- Continue with the Construction of the main supply line, pump station, irrigation system, farmer's house and green house at Musese.
- Continue with the feasibility studies for new irrigation projects at Zone Agricultural Project in West Kavango as well as Liselo in the Zambezi Regions.

6.4.2. INTEGRATED GRAIN STORAGE

6.4.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$11,289,000.00)

- Construction of the silo as well as housing and office facilities at Omuthiya has commenced.

6.4.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Complete the construction of the silo facilities at Omuthiya as well as the construction of the facilities at Okongo to commence.

6.4.3. NATIONAL HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

6.4.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2013/2014 (N\$52,221,000.00)

- The Fresh Produce Marketing Hubs at Ongwediva and Rundu were commissioned and are in operation. Designs and tender documents were prepared for their second phases. Tenders for the related earth works were advertised.
- The designs and drawings for the other infrastructure at the Hub were done and completed. The Environmental Impact Assessment and rezoning actions are underway and be completed shortly.

6.4.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2014/2015

- Earth works will also commence for phase 2 on both the Rundu and Ongwediva sites. Designs and tender documents for the infrastructure and the advertising thereof will be done.

6.4.4. KALIMBEZA RICE IRRIGATION PROJECT

6.4.4.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/14 (N\$2,822,000.00)

- The construction of houses, office block and processing facilities are under way or completed.

- New equipment for the production and processing of rice were purchase and delivered.

6.4.4.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Complete the construction of all outstanding facilities, rice processing and store room and the green house.

7. MAIN DIVISION 07: PLANNING RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$88,443,000.00

7.1. OBJECTIVES

- To provide strategic management support services to the Ministry.
-
- To promote effective marketing and trade of Namibia's agricultural and processed agricultural products.
- To promote and regulate the development of cooperatives in the country.

7.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Contribute to the creation of a conducive policy environment for the agriculture, water, forestry and co-operative sub-sectors through regular policy review and development.
- Create conducive domestic market conditions for an increased market share of Namibia agricultural and processed agricultural products.
- Secure new export markets and improve market access conditions for Namibia's agricultural and processed agricultural products by participating in bilateral, regional and multilateral trade negotiations.
- Create conducive conditions for value addition to Namibia's primary agricultural products.
- Conduct project appraisals, monitoring and evaluation of the Ministry's Programmes as well as impact assessments.

- Maintain a database of agricultural production, processing and market data, statistics and information for the agriculture industry and other stakeholders.
- Improve local communities' livelihoods by empowering them through the development of co-operatives and to facilitate rural development through introduction of income-generating activities, agro business development and value addition.

7.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

7.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS 2013/2014 (N\$88,443,000.00)

The Ministry continued to administer the Co-operatives Act, 1996 (Act 23 of 1996) and implement the National Co-operative Policy that creates the legal and enabling environment for co-operative development in Namibia.

- Provisionally registered 28 new co-operatives.
- The Ministry is currently considering the business plan of Mbangura Wood cavers Co-operative Ltd. for full registration.
- The division of Namibia Farmers Co-operative (NFC) Ltd. into two entities namely Puika Mo Farmers' Co-operative Ltd. and Waterberg Farmers' Co-operative Ltd was finalized.

Co-operative College Courses conducted

- Four (4) Foundation Bookkeeping courses for co-operative Bookkeepers and Treasurers.
- One (1) Extensionists Training for Agricultural Technicians.
- Five (5) Co-operative Member Education courses for co-operative members.
- One (1) Business plan training course for co-operative members.
- Completion of books and audit sessions conducted in the Khomas, Omaheke and North Central Regions.

- Celebrated International Co-operatives Day in Windhoek at the Zoo Park under the theme “*Co- operative enterprise remains strong in time of crisis.*”
- Conducted three agro-assessments in the six crop growing regions of the country to monitor the crop and food security situation as well as availability of agricultural inputs at household level.
- Improved the operation of the Agricultural Management Information System (AMIS) which come to an end of 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- Participated in the preparations and conduct of Agricultural census for the 2013/2014 agricultural season.
- Produced and disseminated the following publications;
- 2013/14 Crop and Household Food Security Assessment Reports (two reports, i.e. preliminary in March 2013 and post harvest in June 2014).
- 2013 Agricultural Input and Household Food Security Report (December 2013);
- AMIS five year Strategic & Implementation Plans.
- Compiled and submitted the Annual Capital Projects Progress Reports to the National Planning Commission Secretariat.
- Coordinated and compiled the Development Budget for the 2014/2015-2016/17 Medium Term and Expenditure Framework period.
- Assessed the implementation of Rain Fed Crop Production Programme in all the crop growing Regions.
- Launched the Namibian Agricultural Marketing and Trade and Policy and Strategy.
- Reviewed the *Meat Industry Act* and *Karakul pelts and Wool Act*.

- Continued the implementation of Southern African Customs Union rebate quota facility through issuance of rebate permits for the duty-free importation of wheat, cheese, butter, skimmed and whole milk powder.
- In November 2013, AMTA launched the trading operations at the Rundu as well as Ongwediva Fresh Produce Business Hubs. In addition, another Fresh Produce Business Hub is in the process of being developed in Windhoek.
- The Namibian Agriculture Marketing and Trade Policy and Strategy was launched during the operationalization of the hubs in November 2013;
- Developed a draft livestock and *Livestock Industries Bill*;
- Submitted the Draft Bill of the Meat Company of Namibia as well as Draft By-Laws of the sui generis Cooperative, the Livestock Producers' Co-operative to the Chairperson of Cabinet Committee on Legislation for information of and appropriate consideration.
- A first draft of the Karakul Board Amendment Bill is available. The Directorate of Planning in conjunction with Livestock Production Research Division is consulting the relevant stakeholders to solicit comments and inputs.
- Participated in various national and SACU consultation meetings in preparation for the Tripartite meetings and has also taken part in the substantive SADC-EAC-COMESA meetings with regard to drafting of the relevant articles and annexes (Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade. Rules of Origin. among others, to the main TFTA agreement).
- Memorandum of Understanding of Understanding between Namibia and Vietnam on cooperation in the field of agriculture.
- Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and China on Foot and Mouth Disease Control.

- Memorandum of Understanding on South-South Cooperation between Namibia and China ;
- Memorandum of Agreement between Namibia and Angola on the control, prevention and eradication of transboundary animal Diseases (CBPP) Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia
- Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and Argentina on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture.

7.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/2015

- Conduct three agro-production assessments to monitor the crop and food security situation at household level.
- Participate in the conduct and data analysis of the Agricultural Census 2013/2014 agricultural season.
- Expand the inter-ministerial operation of the Agricultural Management Information System (AMIS).
- Improve the National Early Warning System on Food Security.
- Formulation of the establishment of Food Security Monitoring System
- Finalize the review of the National Co-operative Policy;
- Finalize and implement the Integrated Co-operative Communications Strategy;
- Conduct monitoring and data collection visits to co-operatives;
- Finalize a bilateral cooperation in co-operative development by signing the Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and Kenya;
- Facilitate and assist selected co-operatives to participate at Co-operative Trade Expo to take place in South America. Brazil;

- Continue to promote and provide co-operative business development support to co-operatives;
- Continue to administer the *Co-operatives Act*, 1996 (Act 23 of 1996);
- Review four (4) co-operatives business plans;
- Finalize the review of National Agricultural Policy.
- Coordinate the implementation of the Ministry's Strategic Plan.
- Conduct Monitoring and evaluation of Ministerial Development Programmes.
- Compile the Ministry's Development Budget.
- Facilitate the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP).
- Sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperative Development with Kenya.
- Sign a Memorandum of Understanding on the management of wild fires along common borders with Botswana.
- In order to strengthen the domestic marketing, the Ministry will continue to align the relevant Acts to the current and future needs of the Agriculture Sector.
- The Ministry will continue to participate at multilateral, regional and bilateral trade negotiations in order to safeguard Namibia's trade interests in the international markets.

8. MAIN DIVISION 08: AGRICULTURAL TRAINING RECURRENT BUDGET N\$22,664,000.00

8.1. OBJECTIVE

To support the development of adequate, well-trained human resources required for the sustainable development of the Agricultural, Water and Forestry Sectors in Namibia.

8.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

Improve managerial, professional and technical skills and competence of staff in delivering the results in line with the strategic plan through in-service training.

- Provide training to the farming communities through short courses.
- Provide practical and skill oriented training in irrigation farming to potential small-scale irrigation farmers.
- Support qualifying training to Ministerial staff and general public in fields critical to Agricultural, Water and Forestry Sectors.
- Provide career guidance in agriculture, water and forestry to secondary school learners.

8.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

8.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- The Ministry continued to support and coordinate the sponsorship of Ministry's staff members and young Namibians from outside. A total of 91 were sponsored to further their studies in various critical areas of agriculture, water and forestry at cost of N\$4,000.000. Of these, three bursary holders successfully completed their studies.
- One (1) staff member attended and successfully completed a tailor made Senior Management Development Programme training course, a joint training programme between the University of Stellenbosch. School of Leadership and NIPAM, which was held at NIPAM from February- November, 2013.
- 15 staff members have commenced with a tailor made Management Development Programme training course with the University of Stellenbosch on the 21st of October, 2013.
- The Ministry signed an Memorandum of Understanding with the Namibia Training Authority (NTA) on the Development of Unit

Standards and Qualifications for Vocational Education and Training in agriculture and forestry;

- Subsequent to that MoU, seven (7) staff members of the Training Division have registered for National Certificate: Occupationally-Directed Education Training Development Practices- ID50334. This Training Programme commences in February, 2014.
- The Ministry in collaboration with NTA conducted three (3) workshops on job profiling for officers and technicians for the North Central and Southern Regions as well as for support staff for the southern regions in which 84 staff members participated. The aims of these workshops were to understand the Competency-Based education and training (CBET) approach in vocational education and training (VET); understand the process of job profiling; develop job profiles and training needs of the above categories as appropriate to the needs of providing VET to farmers.
- The Ministry participated in the validation of proposed unit standards for the VET;
- The Ministry was part of a four-man team that conducted Training Needs Assessment (TNA) for Government - wide TNA. The team covered Ministries of Justice; Labour and Social Welfare HQs and Agriculture, Water and Forestry; Offices of the Labour and the Employment and Equity Commissioners; Omusati, Kavango West and Kavango East Regional Councils.
- Data base for the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry popularised and report submitted to OPM for further processing. However, the response received was critically low, which translates into a scanty 30% return of the questionnaire.
- The Ministry through TAZAC and MADI conducted 13 training courses in agriculture and related fields which were attended by 182 participants. The courses conducted were in animal dehorning, castration and branding; Vegetable Production, Basic Arc Welding and Fabrication, and Intermediate Computer Training.

- The Ministry produced 2.0 tonne of Omahangu seed and 3.3 tonne of *omahangu* grains, 40 tonne of wheat grains and 60.5 tonne of maize. The maize grains were transported to Government silos while Treasury approval is being awaited for the sale of wheat grains to staff members and the surrounding community, because the wheat grains failed to meet the commercial wheat standards.
- Generated an income of over N\$133,665.25 through the sales of farm produce such as, 1321 x seven (7) week old chicks, vegetables and fruits that were produced through various activities at TAZAC and MADI.
- The Ministry assisted 155 students from various institutions from both local and outside Namibia to gain practical experience through field attachment at various institutions of the Ministry. Institutions included amongst others Moscow State University, Russia; International University of Management(IUM), Namibia College of Technology and Vocational Training (NCTV), Okakarara VTC, Valombola VTC, KAYEC, Rundu VTC, Khomasdal VTC, NamWater, Midlands State University, Zimbabwe; University of Namibia, and Polytechnic of Namibia, Lenyfas College of Andragogy and Universidad De Granma Bayamo, Cuba amongst others.

8.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Continue with staff development and non-formal training;
- Continue to implement programs for training of trainers;
- Continue to develop Training Materials ;
- Continue to coordinate In-Service Training;
- Continue to Facilitate, coordinate and conduct Farmer Training;
- Continue to Implement the Training Policy;
- Continue to Monitor and evaluate training programs;

- Continue to Coordinate and facilitate the improvement of qualification of MAWF staff and provision of bursaries to the public for studies in critical field in the agriculture, water and forestry sectors;
- Develop and implement the Training Database and website

9. MAIN DIVISION 09: EMERGENCY RELIEF
RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$1,093,000.00

9.1. Achievements for 2013/2014

- Procured pesticides in preparation for possible pest outbreaks
- Mitigated the drought situation through the drought subsidy on marketing, transport and grazing.

9.2 Planned Activities for 2014/2015

- Assist farmers in emergency situations that might arise due to floods or drought situations in 2014/2015

10.MAIN DIVISION 10: DIRECTORATE OF WATER
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$56,959,000.00
DEVELOPMENT BUDGET: N\$34,838,000.00

10.1. OBJECTIVES

To promote sustainable social and economic development through sustainable development of water resources and securing equitable access of water to all sectors of the Namibian population.

10.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Implement the national water policy and legislation for the management of the water resources.
- Co-ordinate, manage and monitor developments in the Water Sector.

- Develop regulations. procedures and practices to control the equitable allocation of water, the abstraction of water. water quality and other regulatory functions.
- Ensure equitable and reasonable access to the water from the shared perennial border rivers.

10.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

10.3.1.ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

10.3.1.1. CO-OPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL RIVERS

10.3.1.1.1. Orange Senqu River Basin Commission on Orange River

- Orange Senqu River Basin Commission (ORASECOM) that is comprised of Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and South Africa, was established on the 3rd of November 2000, to serve as technical advisor to the Governments on matters relating to the development, utilization and conservation of the water resources in the River System.
- ORASECOM Finance Task Team and Council meetings were attended in Windhoek, Namibia on 25 - 27 June 2013.
- Paid the annual membership contribution of N\$500,000.00.
- Basin Wide integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Plan taking into account climate change was carried out.
- UNDP-GEF - Orange / Senqu River transboundary diagnostic analysis and strategic action programme (TDA/SAP) Project will conclude in June 2014. The final TDA document is ready for distribution. The Strategic Action Program (SAP) and National Action Plan (NAP) are also ready. and endorsement process by member states is underway.
- GiZ/UKAID support Phase 3 on the development of IWRM Plan for Orange-Senqu Basin is on track.

- There has been good progress with regards to knowledge gap fillings as per different work packages.

The following reports whose information will be used to consolidate the plan are available:- Economic analysis of use of water based on water accounting; Water Demand projections and synthesis of planned infrastructure investments; Economic approaches to water management in the Orange-Senqu River Basin Member States; Water Resources Modeling; and Consolidation of Environmental flow requirements.

10.3.1.1.2. Permanent Water Commission on Orange River

The Permanent Water Commission (PWC) is a bilateral agreement between Namibia and South Africa on Orange River.

The development of Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and South Africa on Principles of Cooperation regarding Current and Future Water Resources Management of the Lower Orange River progressed well, although few issues still need to be agreed upon by the two countries.

Consensus was reached by the Heads of State at their meeting in Windhoek, that the two countries under the auspices of PWC, proceed with the feasibility study for the Noordoewer/Vioolsdrift Dam, in view of dam construction by 2016.

10.3.1.1.3. Zambezi Watercourse Commission on Zambezi River (ZAMCOM)

- Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) Technical Committee Meeting and an Extra Ordinary meeting were held and attended in Maputo, Mozambique and Lusaka, Zambia respectively during the 2013/2014 Financial Year.
- The formalization of the Zamcom Organs or structures which included the establishment of Council of Ministers. Zamtec and the Permanent Secretariat was done during the year under review. The formal establishment of ZAMCOM Council of Ministers was realized on 29 May 2013 in Luanda. Angola.

- ZAMCOM Water Ministers meeting was held and attended during the last week of May 2013 in Luanda, Angola.
- Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) Technical Committee which is an advisory body to the Zambezi Ministers was formalized in 2012 and the first meeting was held on 1st November 2012 in Gaborone, Botswana.
- In order to prepare comprehensive recommendations to ZAMTEC on the recruitment of the Executive Secretary's (ES) post for ZAMCOM, an Interview Evaluation Committee meeting was attended with panelist from each of the Riparian States that did not apply for the Zamcom ES post.
- A recommendation evaluation report was compiled where one suitable candidate was recommended by the panelist and the report is to be tabled at the next ZAMTEC meeting for consideration and approval.
- Paid the annual contribution of US\$25.000 as Namibia's contribution to the running of the ZAMCOM Secretariat.
- A stakeholder conference organized by Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC) regarding the Zambezi Environmental Outlook project (ZEOP) was held and attended in Windhoek, Namibia from 13-15 May 2013.

10.3.1.1.4. The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission on Okavango/Cubango River

- Attended the annual OKACOM week which took place in June 2013 in Maun, Botswana.
- Commissioners, Okavango Basin Steering Committee, Hydrology Task Force, Institutional Task Force and Biodiversity Task Force meetings were held and attended during the year under review.
- The back to back Okavango Basin Steering Committee (OBSC) and Institutional Task Force (ITF) meeting was attended in Gaborone, Botswana during the year under review.

- Finalized the formulation of the OKACOM Institutional Functional Analysis regarding the secondment and recruitment policy, job grading and OKASEC office location.
- Paid an amount of USS100,000 as Namibia's contribution to OKACOM Secretariat.
- The OKACOM 5 year plan that incorporates Phase 2 of Sida support was finalized.
- The OKACOM/ Sweden financing agreement was done and signed during the year under review.

10.3.1.1.5. Southern Africa Regional Environment Project (SAREP)

- Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings were attended.
- Progress reports were produced.

10.3.1.1.6. Water Audit Project

The water audit for the Okavango River Basin is a project under OKACOM, funded by the Italian Government programme called “Coping with Water Scarcity” and executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

- The Water Audit project was been completed.
- The Water Resources Assessment Report was compiled, in which trends in meteorological and hydrological time series were analyzed to assess patterns in water resources availability.
- The main findings have been that, the high natural variability both within and between hydrological seasons prevail and that no long-trends could be identified moreover, the gaps in the monitoring systems for hydro - meteorological parameters in the upper parts of the catchments and the monitoring systems for groundwater and water quality in Namibia are of a major concern.

- An advanced training course for the three riparian States of Angola, Botswana and Namibia on the WEAP modeling software and analysis for the Okavango/Cubango River Basin was initiated and attended.

10.3.1.1.7. The Okavango River Basin Management Committee (OkBMC)

- Formulated the TORs for the development of a waste management study to deliver a basin waste management plan as a measure to protect water resources.
- Created awareness at community level in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) e.g. on sanitation.
- Developed Participatory Land uses management plans at Mpungu, Kapako, Mashare and Ndiyona Constituencies in the Kavango Region.
- Completed the drafting of the constitutions for 2 emerging conservancies namely; Daniel Mipasi Sientu and Katinga Kamwalye.
- Supplied drinking water to the Karugki community.

10.3.1.1.8. SADC Water Ministers' Meeting & Water Resources Technical Committee (WRTC)

- The joint SADC WRTC, Regional Strategic Action Programme(RSAP) Focal Points and Water Strategy Reference Group (WRSG) or ICPs meeting to discuss the financing and Member States contributions for the RSAP 3 was attended on the 3rd and 4th of October 2013 in Lusaka, Zambia.
- The 6th SADC Water Multi-Stakeholder dialogue was held and attended in Lusaka, Zambia on 1st and 2nd of October 2013, and brought together high ranking delegates from all SADC Member States.
- SADC Water Ministers meeting was held and attended during the last week of May 2013 in Luanda, Angola.

10.3.1.1.9. African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)

- A Water and Sanitation Hygiene and Peer to Peer Experimental Learning Symposium was attended in April 2013 in Addis Ababa. Ethiopia.
- Contributed to the AMCOW report on the implementation of the Shama El Sheik commitments on M & E monitoring to track progress on water and sanitation goals.
- Paid an amount of about US\$10 000 as Namibia's contribution to AMCOW Secretariat.

10.3.1.1.10. Basin Management

- Eight (8) Basin Management Committees (BMCs) were established to manage water resources at basin level.
- The eight (8) Basin Committees established are: Kuiseb Basin Management Committee; Iishana Sub-basin Committee; Olushandja Sub-basin Management Committee; Omaruru River Basin Management Committee; Okavango River Basin Management Committee; The Orange-Fish Basin Management Committee; Niipele Sub-basin Management Committee and the Tsumeb Sub-basin Management Committee.
- Seven (7) basin support officers to render technical and administrative support to these committees were employed by the Ministry and BMCs.
- Efforts are underway to establish a BMC for the Upper Swakop Basin (February 2014).
- The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) - A Namibia Water Resource Management project that provided additional support to the operations of BMCs concluded by December 2013.

10.3.1.2. MONITORING, UTILIZATION AND CONTROL OF WATER RESOURCES

- Three (3) new hydrological monitoring stations (Lake Liambezi, Blouputs and Sendlingsdrift) were added to the existing hydrological network that continuously monitor water levels and flows in rivers, lakes and dams throughout and on the borders of Namibia.
- Ongoing operational activities such as hydrological station maintenance and upgrade continued.
- Hydrological data and advice to the public, activation and dissemination of the daily flood bulletin during the 2013/2014 rainy season continued.
- Remote sensing satellite technology was developed to monitor the weather and flooding conditions in neighbouring countries where monitoring and direct communication is not possible and as a result reliable and timely information on the development and movement of floods during the 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 rainy seasons was realised.
- Cooperation with international space agencies for acquiring images from satellites for flood mapping was intensified. in particular with the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA).
- The TIGERNET Water information Observation System (WIOS) for Flood forecasting was installed at the Division of Hydrology and staff received capacity building in the system operations. TIGER NET is an initiative by the European Space Agency to assist African countries with Earth Observation technology in the context of water resource management and Namibia was one of the five African countries selected to receive benefits from this programme.
- The Upgraded computerized surface water resources information system was maintained and back-log data recovery continued.

- The utilization of the country's water resources were controlled and managed in accordance with existing water legislation and policy.
- Applications for abstraction of water, excavation of sand and gravel from riverbeds, dams and other works in rivers were evaluated.

10.3.1.3 GROUNDWATER INFORMATION SYSTEM

- The GROWAS Groundwater Information System is in full operation. The intention is to add certain extra modules to it to extend the range of functions it is able to perform. This will make it more user-friendly and more accessible to concerned specialists. The training of staff in the use of the Groundwater Information System is on-going.

10.3.1.4. WATER ECOLOGY

The investigation, inventorying and monitoring of wetlands to support sustainable water resource management and utilization continued.

- Bio-monitoring of aquatic invertebrates was carried out along the Orange, Zambezi, and Kunene rivers for the purpose of assessing the water quality and to strengthen national water resource quality database. The state of water in most Rivers is good except for the seasonal fluctuations in the Orange and Zambezi Rivers.
- Site monitoring for the invasive aquatic weed *S. molesta* on Zambezi and Kwando Rivers and control agent growth continued from the Water Environment staff at Katima Mulilo office.
- Quarterly water quality and biodiversity monitoring at Swakoppoort Dam was undertaken during the year under review.

10.3.1.5.1 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

- Pollution control and compliance monitoring surveys were conducted and irregularities that were observed during the monitoring were raised. The programme of action to rectify was requested.

- Technical reports were finalized and wastewater and effluent disposal permits were recommended for issue to Law Administration.

10.3.1.6. DRINKING WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- Drinking water samples were collected for chemical analysis from different sites as part of a monitoring program by the Water Environment Division to ensure that the water supplied to consumers meet the minimum set standards and guidelines. and is safe for human consumption.
- Namibia Custom Smelter (NOS), now Dundee Precious Metal Smelter, Seasonal Water Quality Monitoring in Tsumeb drinking water reservoirs continued.
- The inter-ministerial technical committee met continuously to monitor the smelter's operations.

10.3.1.7. DEVELOPMENT OF WATER QUALITY DATABASE

- The uploading of data in the Water Quality Information System Database Started and a service level agreement is still needed for support.

10.3.1.8. WORKSHOP ON WATER RESOURCES ACCOUNTS

- A workshop on sharing implementation experience of water accounts and statistics for better policy making in Southern African countries was attended by three staff members from the division in Balaclava, Mauritius on the 8th - the 10th of May 2013.

10.3.1.9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS (EIA) FOR SIKONDO IRRIGATION PROJECT

- A field trip was undertaken from the 9th - 12th of April 2013, to visit Musese irrigation project and proposed Uvhungu-vhungu dairy farm.

- Soil and water samples for Musese irrigation project and the proposed Uvhungu-vhungu dairy farm were collected and submitted to the laboratories for analysis.
- Draft reports for proposed Tandjieskoppe, Katima farm/Liselo. and extension of Musese Irrigation projects and Uvhungu-vhungu dairy farm were finalised.

10.4. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

10.4.1. CO-OPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL RIVERS

10.4.1.1. Orange Senqu River Basin Commission

- Annual council, Finance, Legal, Communication and Technical Task Team meetings and financial contributions to the running of the Secretariat will continue.
- The management of the Irrigation Demonstration Project at Noordoewer/Vioolsdrift will be handed over to JIA for implementation and PWC for monitoring as the project comes to an end in June 2014.
- Knowledge gap filling reports for Phase 3 of Basin-Wide IWRM Plan to provide a framework for management, development and conservation of water resources in the Orange-Senqu basin, will be finalised. Stakeholder workshops and Technical Task meetings are planned to steer the plan an scenarios development process. The draft IWRM Plan is expected in August 2014.

10.4.1.2. The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission

- An annual OKACOM week will take place in May 2014 in Namibia.
- OBSC and Technical Task force Meetings will also take place

10.4.1.3. The Okavango River Basin Management Committee (OkBMC)

- Formulate the annual operational plan for 2014/2015.

- OkBMC meetings will continue.

10.4.1.4. Water Audit Project

- The project was completed and a report has been compiled.

10.4.1.5. Permanent Water Commission on Orange River

- The Vioolsdrift/Noordoewer dam feasibility study will commence. Advertisement for a joint consultancy services to develop the feasibility study will be placed both in Namibia and South Africa. GIZ has committed to contribute financially to the study.
- Negotiation for the Memorandum of Understanding between Namibia and South Africa on Principles of Cooperation regarding Current and Future Water Resources Management of the Lower Orange River will continue and MoU expected to be signed this Financial Year.

10.4.1.6. Zambezi Watercourse Commission on Zambezi River

- The Zambezi National Stakeholders' Committee and Zambezi Basin Management Committees will be established in Namibia and focus on transboundary related issues.
- There will be further endeavours to develop joint monitoring, communication and response system for floods in the upper parts of the Zambezi River Basin.
- ZAMCOM Technical Committee (ZAMTEC) and Zambezi Ministers meetings will take place.
- Make the annual contribution of US\$ 25 000 to the Commission.

10.4.1.7. SADC Water Ministers Meeting and Water Resources Technical Committee

- SADC Water Resources Technical Committee (WRTC) and SADC Water Ministers meeting will take place.

10.4.2. MONITORING, UTILIZATION AND CONTROL OF WATER RESOURCES

- Continue with the dissemination of flood and drought related information to the Nation.
- Community outreach and participation on flood and drought related information exchange.
- Implementation of Water Act (registration campaign for all dams and water abstractions from rivers will start in the Kuiseb and Omaruru catchments and along the perennial rivers, in particular the Kavango and Orange rivers).
- Draft regulations (dam & flood safety, surface water and sand abstraction).
- Participation in Trans-boundary water resource management.
- Routine maintenance and servicing of hydrological monitoring stations.
- Upgrade Hydstra database and staff skills training.
- Upgrade of Hydrology GIS, Remote Sensing, Modeling and staff skills training.

10.4.3.BASIN MANAGEMENT

- Prepare establishment of Upper Swakop and Zambezi-Kwando BMCs.
- Continue the implementation of their annual work plan.
- Continue technical and financial support to the implementation of BMCs' annual plans.

10.1.4.WATER ECOLOGY

- Wetlands and Water resource quality monitoring will be done at perennial and ephemeral wetlands in the country.
- Continue with surveys, aquatic weed monitoring and control in the, Zambezi, Kwando and Linyanti Rivers.

10.4.5.WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING

- Continue with pollution control and compliance monitoring surveys and investigations in the 14 Regions.

10.4.6.WATER QUALITY INVESTIGATIONS

The following investigations will continue to be carried out:-

- Assessment of Zambezi River water quality.
- Namibia Custom Smelter and Okorusu Mine Seasonal Water Quality Monitoring.
- Osire Refugee Camp Water Quality Monitoring.
- Cyanide Water Quality Monitoring at Kombat.
- Assess impact of large irrigation in Grootfontein - Tsumeb - Otavi area and Stampriet and prevention strategy.
- Assessment of Orange River water quality.

10.4.7.DRINKING WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- Drinking water quality control and compliance program in Hardap will be monitored in Omaheke, Oshana, Ohangwena, Karas and Oshikoto regions.

- Water Quality Laboratory will start operating after all equipment's are installed.

10.4.8.WATER QUALITY REGULATIONS

- Current Water Quality Regulations will be reviewed to fit in with the new Water Act 11 of 2013.
- Drafting of Operational Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality Treatment Plants will commence.

10.4.9.DEVELOPMENT OF WATER QUALITY DATABASE

- Data capturing with the assistance of students will continue.

10.4.10. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

- An updated Geo database, GROWAS II as well as a draft model for the Decision Support System was established.
- A total of 320 out of 477 boreholes were drilled for the Drought relief program. and 58 boreholes out of 84 were rehabilitated.

10.5. CAPITAL PROJECTS

10.5.1.RESEARCH AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES IN WATER

10.5.1.1. Review and Upgrading of the National Groundwater Monitoring System

10.5.1.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- Rehabilitation of six (6) monitoring boreholes was completed in Hardap, Kunene, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa Regions.
- Geophysical surveying work in the Otjimbinde Constituency (Omaheke Region) for the groundwater potential was completed.

- Replacement of analog loggers with digital loggers in monitoring boreholes

10.5.1.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/15 (N\$2000 000)

- Rehabilitation of monitoring boreholes
- Guidelines for delineation of water managed areas
- Guidelines for drilling and groundwater abstraction licensing
- Geophysical surveying work in the Epukiro Constituency (Omaheke Region) for the groundwater potential.
- Geophysical surveying work in the Tsumkwe Constituency (Otjozondjupa Region) for the groundwater potential

10.5.1.2. Construction of Low-Flow Gauging Weirs in Lower Orange River

10.5.1.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS 2013/2014 (N\$2,000,000.00)

- Gauging weirs construction completed at Sendling drift and Blouputs in the Lower Orange River.

10.5.1.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/2015 (N\$1,000,000.00)

- Installation of instruments at Blouputs and Sendlingdrift weirs.

10.5.1.3. Construction and Upgrading of Hydrological Gauging Stations

10.5.1.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS 2013/2014 (N\$2,000,000)

- Construction of HYCOS shelter for both Lake Liambezi and Omburo (Omaruru River).
- Successful Tendering for the Reconstruction work of Grass Sud Weir.

10.5.1.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/2015 (N\$2,600,000.00)

- Reconstruction of Grass Sud Weir in the Fish River

10.5.1.4 GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATIONS

10.5.1.4.1 Cuvelai-Etosa Groundwater Investigation

- The CEB project was extended for another 3 years with additional funds of € 2,000.000 (est. N\$20 M) from the German Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) during the governmental negotiations between Namibia and Germany towards the end of the year. Based on the mutually agreed upon results of an appraisal mission conducted in Quarter 1, BGR submitted an offer to BMZ and the new phase will commence in June 2014. The new phase aim is to finalize the study on the Ohangwena II aquifer.

10.5.1.4.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$1 000 000)

A core- and mud rotary drilling campaign was completed in the CEB and the interpretation of the results is in progress.

10.5.1.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/15

- Eight (8) new boreholes will be drilled, of which five (5) will be shallow boreholes. A drilling company is in the process of being awarded the drilling works, which are envisaged to start in February 2014.
- The completion of the interpretation of the results of the core drilling.

10.5.1.4.2 Quantification of Groundwater Resources in Namibia

The GRIM database was completed and implemented. This database consists of all known and previously investigated Groundwater Resources of Namibia. This database's aim is to deliver information on these resources in support of Integrated Water Resource Management for Development purposes.

10.5.1.4.2.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$1 200 000)

- Implementation of the GRIM database.

10.5.1.4.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$2,000,000.00)

- The assimilation of new information and investigation reports to be entered into database.

10.5.1.4.3. Recharge and Quantification of the Stampriet Artesian Aquifer

10.5.1.4.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$800,000.00)

- UNESCO-IHP held a Regional Inception Workshop for the Stampriet Kalahari/Karoo Case Study of the UNESCO “Groundwater Resources Governance in Transboundary Aquifers” project in October 2013 in Windhoek with member states, Botswana and South Africa also attending the workshop.
- The objective of the workshop was twofold: to familiarize all parties present with the objectives, activities, budget, deliverables and the approach for the implementation of the project, and secondly to focus on gathering the project national focal points and national experts to discuss details related to the assessment, such as the methodology and the indicators.
- Successful Regional Inception Workshop for the Stampriet Kalahari/Karoo Case Study of the UNESCO "Groundwater Resources Governance in Transboundary Aquifers" project was held.

10.5.1.4.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/15 (N\$1 769 000)

- Nomination of a national expert to help with the collection of data for the Trans Boundary Aquifers
- (TBAs) in respective countries.
- Sourcing of funding for the project

10.5.1.4.4 Artificial Recharge of the Windhoek Aquifer

10.5.1.4.4.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/14 (N\$7,500,000)

- For the City of Windhoek Artificial Recharge Project. no major achievements were recorded apart from the drilling component which was carried out.
- An amount of N\$7,500.000 has been made available to the City of Windhoek towards the project to assist with the upgrading of the pipeline that will handle the planned artificial recharge and borehole production volumes.

10.5.1.4.4.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$10,000,000.00)

- Upgrading of the pipeline that will handle the planned artificial recharge and borehole production volumes.
- Continued drilling of the deep boreholes will be drilled in the Windhoek Aquifer that will serve as injection points for the recharge.

10.5.1.4.5. NATIONAL INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

10.5.1.4.5.1. Development of National Integrated Water Resource Management Plan

10.5.1.4.5.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- The IWRM Plan was distributed out to the relevant stakeholders countrywide.
- A Framework for the implementation of the IWRM Plan was developed.
- A meeting on the consolidation of IWRM Plan implementation modalities was attended in the PS Boardroom on 20 June 2013.
- Presentations were made by Dorob Investment Consultants and Synergies for Africa Consultancy.

10.5.1.4.5.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Implementation of the IWRM Plan will follow.

10.5.1.4.6. WATER RESOURCES STUDIES AT BASIN LEVEL

10.5.1.4.6.1. Development of Water Resources Plans for Basins

10.5.1.4.6.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$2,000,000.00)

- A water resource management plan for the Cuvelai - Etosha was Basin developed.

10.5.1.4.6.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$1,000,000.00)

- Develop water resource management plans for the Orange-Fish and Omaruru basins.

10.5.1.4.6.2. Development of Flood Management Plans

10.5.1.4.6.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$2,000,000.00)

- A project team. made up of MAWF. NamWater, UNAM and PoN hydrologists, has been set up. The supporting experts made a mission to Namibia for a two-week training workshop on the CREST Hydrological flood model.
- Flood extents have been mapped, calculated and validated along the length of the Okavango/Cubango River.

10.5.1.4.6.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$10,069,000)

- A project team. incorporating professionals of Hydrology and UNAM will continue with flood risk hazard mapping and modelling of the flood prone areas.

- Flood mapping and modeling for Cuvelai, Okavango and Zambezi basins
- Tender for flood line survey for the Okavango basin to be prepared
Tender for lidar survey for the Cuvelai -Etosha basin to be prepared.
- Development of flood mitigation measures for the Fish River at Mariental by evaluating and hydraulic simulation of the 12 Km test section.
- Capacity Building in flood management and early warning systems for hydrology division staff

10.5.1.4.6.3. Development of Safety Systems for Dams in Ephemeral Rivers

10.5.1.4.6.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$931,000.00)

- Acquisition of satellite images and geo referencing and topological overlay with Tope-maps.
- Actual implementation of the project awaited promulgation of the Water Resources Management Act.

10.5.1.4.6.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES 2014/15 (N\$200,000.00)

- Verification and ground validation in both Omaruru and Kuiseb basins.
- Survey of selected dams in these basins.
- Developing Hydrological model and data entry in the catchment model.

10.5.4.7. WATER RESEARCH AND STUDIES

10.5.4.7.1. Natural Resource Accounts for Water

10.5.4.7.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/14

- The NamWater Erongo water account draft report was finalised after receiving information on water quality. sample cost and electricity cost for 2002-2010.
- More information on electricity and water sample tests costs for Erongo NamWater schemes were received and the water quality data is currently being analyzed.
- The Erongo Desalination Plant technical report was completed.
- Data analysis for local authorities or municipalities (Outjo. Outapi, Otavi and Opuwo) was done.

10.5.4.7.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Collection of Natural Resource Accounting information for water project will continue countrywide.
- Reports of NamWater and some Local Authorities will be compiled.

10.5.4.7.2 Feasibility Study of Dam on Lower Orange River

This relates to the construction of a re-regulating dam on the Lower Orange River for domestic and livestock, irrigation and the river mouth requirements consumption will is being negotiated at PWC and ORASECOM level.

10.5.4.7.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- Terms of Reference for the feasibility study was finalized and approved.

- Namibia Tender Board exemption and RSA Tender Board exemption was approved.

10.5.4.7.2.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/15

- Prepare of advertisement for consultancy services under auspices of Permanent Water Commission (PWC) to commence the full feasibility study. Award anticipated by March 2014.

10.5.4.7.3. Augmentation of Water Supply to Central Areas of Namibia and Cuvelai (CAN)

10.5.4.7.3.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- The feasibility study for augmenting water supply to the Central Areas of Namibia (CAN) and Cuvelai commenced. Media Release compiled, Website initiated, Data being collected and five to six PSC meetings were conducted.

10.5.4.7.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/15

- Continue with the feasibility study for augmenting water supply to the Central Areas of Namibia and the Cuvelai.

10.5.5. WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The exploitation and utilization of the country's water resources is currently managed and regulated under existing water legislation and approved government policy.

10.5.5.1. Amendment and Implementation of Water Resources Management Act and Regulations

10.5.5.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- The new Water Bill was tabled in Parliament during December 2013.
- 60 water abstraction permits were issued.

10.5.5.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Continue issuing permits for water abstraction, irrigation, the disposal of waste water and the drilling of boreholes in water control areas. compliance inspections and the construction of farm dams.

10.5.5.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AT BASIN LEVEL

10.5.5.2.1. Construction of Basin Support Offices

10.5.5.2.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- No renovations of Basin Management offices were done.

10.5.5.2.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$3,000,000.00)

- Undertake renovations of Basin Management Offices.

10.5.5.2.2. Establishment of Basin Management Committees

10.5.5.2.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$1,000,000.00)

- No new basin management committee was established during the year under review however stakeholder workshop towards the establishment of the Zambezi BMC was conducted.
- Existing BMCs continued with implementing their annual basin plans.
- A National Flood and drought risk management workshop was organized.

10.5.5.2.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$200,000.00)

- Follow-up workshop for the National Stakeholders Committee for the Zambezi which will be the natural starting point for the BMC in that areas being planned for April 2014.

10.5.5.3 MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF WATER SOURCES

10.5.5.3.1. Upgrading and Equipping of Water Quality Laboratory

10.5.5.3.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$2,000,000.00)

- All equipment are bought.

10.5.5.3.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$1,000,000.00)

- Install all equipment and prepare laboratory for operations.

11. MAIN DIVISION 11: WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION COORDINATION

RECURRENT BUDGET: N\$ 173 043 000

CAPITAL BUDGET: N\$ 799 597 000

11.1. OBJECTIVE

- To improve the quality of life of rural communities.

11.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Provide access to potable water supply.
- Improve rural sanitation services.
- Coordinate urban and rural sanitation services.

11.3. RECURRENT BUDGET

11.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$173,043,000.00)

- The maintenance and rehabilitation of the existing of more than 5,000 communal water points were carried out countrywide.

- One Hundred and Sixty Rural Water Extension Officers were trained on the implementation of Sanitation in rural areas.
- Organized four National Water Supply and Sanitation Forum (WATSAN) meetings and established three Regional WATSAN forums.
- Community awareness arising on sanitation health and hygiene education was conducted in 12 Regions.

11.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Finalization and implementation of the Water Supply Subsidy Policy.
- Implementation of the Sanitation Strategy.
- Training of 250 Water Point and Local Water Committees as well as Caretakers.
- Capacity building for the Management of the Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination.
- Maintaining existing water supply infrastructure countrywide.
- Coordinate and convene WATSAN meetings on a quarterly basis.

11.4. CAPITAL PROJECTS

11.4.1. RURAL WATER SUPPLY COVERAGE

The project aims at providing clean, piped water to rural communities living in areas where the groundwater quality is not suitable for human consumption. Pipe water schemes are playing a major role in contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the reduction of poverty.

11.4.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$66,874,000.00)

- Construction of the following projects completed:

- Rehabilitation of the Soutputs Water Supply Scheme.
- Construction of seven (7) water points for the displaced communities in Kavango Region.
- Feasibility Study for the litapa - Okeeholongo Water Supply Scheme commenced.
- Feasibility Study for the Oshivelo — Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme commenced.
- Feasibility Study for the King Kauluma - Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme.
- Feasibility Study for the Omuntele 40km pipeline South Water Supply Scheme.
- The feasibility Study for the Kavango water transfer to Grootfontein and Ogongo commence.

11.4.1.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$143,215,000.00)

- Continuation of construction of the Katima Mulilo — Ngoma Phase 2 Water Supply Scheme.
- Continuation of construction of the Katima Mulilo — Kongola Phase 2 Water Supply Scheme.
- Continuation of construction of the Onambutu Phase 6 Water Supply Scheme.
- Construction of the litapa - Okeeholongo Water Supply Scheme
- Construction of the Oshivelo — Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme.
- Construction of the Ruacana South Water Supply Scheme.
- Construction of the King Kauluma - Omutsegwonime Water Supply Scheme.

- Construction of the Ondangwa - Omuntele Water Supply Scheme.
- Construction of ten (10) water points and small pipeline for the displaced communities in Kavango Region.
- Construction of the Otjimbingwe Water Supply Scheme.
- Technical assessment of the rural pipeline schemes in Oshana, Ohangwena, Omusati and Oshikoto.
- The feasibility study of the Omukandu - Oshituntu Water Supply Scheme.
- The feasibility study of the Okankolo - Onkumbula - Onanyege Water Supply Scheme.
- The feasibility study of the Khorixas boreholes Water Supply Scheme.
- The feasibility study of the Eenhana - Oshikunde Water Supply Scheme.
- The feasibility study of the Otjombinde Water Supply Scheme.
- The feasibility study of the Daures Water Supply Scheme.
- The viability study of the Etaka canal.

11.4.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY BASED MANAGEMENT

The overall objective of the project is to strive for all water points in the country to be in a working condition. The project will ensure that water points are upgraded to acceptable working standard so that they could be handed over for management, operation and maintenance to communities. The project is implemented with the full involvement of the communities who are expected to manage, operate and carry out minor maintenance on their water point infrastructure. A number of water points have been rehabilitated and new ones drilled as had been identified by all regions.

11.4.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$33,580,000)

- 320 Water points were installed.
- 328 Water Points were rehabilitated.
- 5 Extension pipelines were constructed.
- 111 Boreholes were drilled

11.4.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$31,270,000.00)

- 345 Water points will be installed.
- 318 Water Points will be rehabilitated.
- 420 Boreholes will be drilled.
- 150 Water Points will be cleaned and pump tested.
- 180 Extension pipelines will be constructed.

11.4.3. IMPLEMENTATION OF DECENTRALISATION, CONSTITUENCY OFFICE CONSTRUCTION

This project enhances the process of decentralizing the rural water supply functions to constituency level and creates a framework for efficient service provision. Although the projects name covers decentralization, the focus is more on the construction of rural water supply and sanitation area/constituency offices and staff accommodation.

11.4.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$8,466,000.00)

- The construction of Mukwe Rural Water Extension Centre (RWEC) in the Kavango region was completed.
- Renovation of Omuthiya RWEC offices in the Oshikoto Region was done.

- Renovation of the Otjituo RWECC offices in the Otjozondjupa Region was done.

11.4.3.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$5,867,000.00)

- Construction of area offices in Omaheke, Erongo and Otjozondjupa regions.

11.4.3.3. CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS, TRADITIONAL WELLS AND PANS FOR LIVESTOCK DRINKING

This project aims at building traditional wells, pans and dams for livestock drinking. These new dams and pans infrastructures will ensure that water is impounded during rainy seasons for continuous use during both the rainy and dry seasons.

11.4.4.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$12,753,000.00)

- Twelve (12) earth dams were constructed.

11.4.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$ 13 052 000)

- Eighteen (18) earth dams will be constructed.

11.4.5. CONSTRUCTION OF LARGE DAMS, DESALINATION AND PROVISION OF WATER TO LARGE SETTLEMENTS

The project ensures that adequate surface water is captured to promote reliable water supply for human, industrial and agricultural use. Furthermore, the project aims to augment existing water resources with desalinated sea water or brackish ground water.

11.4.5.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$708,346,000.00)

- Construction of the Neckartal Dam Phase 1 commenced.

- Clearing of 1 km of the main channel of the Fish River, downstream of Hardap Dam was completed.

11.4.5.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$ 531 324 000)

- Continuation of the construction of Neckartal Dam Phase 1 in the Karas Region.
- Continuation of modifications of Hardap dam spillway to increase flow capacity.
- Construction of Sandberg River flood protection embankment at Mariental.
- Continuation of clearing of the main channel of the Fish River downstream of Hardap Dam.

11.4.6. RURAL AND URBAN SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The objective of this project is to develop sanitation infrastructure in rural areas and to coordinate the implementation of sanitation policy in rural and urban areas.

11.4.6.1 ACHIVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$10,000,000.00)

- A total of 400 sanitation facilities were constructed in 13 Regions.

11.4.6.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015 (N\$21,469,000.00)

- Implementation of National Sanitation Strategy.
- Construction of 6,000 units for dry sanitation facilities country wide
- Build capacity for development and planning of new sanitation infrastructure in rural areas.
- Conduct awareness rising on sanitation. health and hygiene education in 13 Regions.

- Provide technical support to other programmes, projects and Ministries on water supply and sanitation aspects to fulfil the advisory aspects of the national coordinating role of DWSSC as mandated by Cabinet.

11.4.7. DONOR FUNDED PROJECTS

11.4.7.1. NAMIBIA RED CROSS SOCIETY

- The Namibia Red Cross Society commenced with the implementation of a 3-year water supply and sanitation project for the rural communities in Kunene, Kavango and Ohangwena regions to the value of N\$19,590,450.00. The project draws 75% of its finances from the ACP-EU funding. The project is ongoing.

11.4.7.2. EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- The EU earmarked an amount of €30 million in their Budget support to the Water and Sanitation Sector. This funding is part of the EDF 10 agreement between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and the European Union.
- The share of €30 million for MAWF is not yet agreed upon.

11.4.7.3 SPANISH DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

- The Spanish Development Cooperation supported the Community Land Information Programme (CLIP) that maps informal settlement infrastructure (including water points and sanitation facilities) to provide urban communities with information to lobby local authorities to improve WATSAN services.
- The Spanish Development Cooperation supported improvements in water supplies and sanitation facilities for communities living at Skoonheid and Drimiopsis Resettlement Farms in Omaheke.
- DWSSC assisted both these Programmes with all aspects of technical and community advice on the provision of water supply and sanitation infrastructure.

11.4.7.4 USAID - SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT (SAREP)

- The SAREP project is a regional project covering Angola, Botswana,
- Namibia and Zambia. Some of the key interventions that have been completed in 2012/13 included:
 - The upgrading of the Denner Foundation water supply systems at Nyangana, Karakuta and Katere in Kavango region. Water Point Committees have been established with DWSSC - Kavango.
 - Collaboration with NamWater at Karutci, Masivi, Kayengona, Mayana and Uvungu Vunga, all communities in Kavango Region.
 - Support to the Okavango Basin Commission (OkaCom) to complete their strategic plan.
- DWSSC assisted the programme with all aspects of community and technical advice on the provision of water supply and sanitation infrastructure.

11.4.7.5. UNITED NATIONS

- Support has been given by the United Nations on various Programmes including flood relief in the North, pilot work in schools on health hygiene promotion and on the celebration of World Hand-washing Day.

11.4.7.6. GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND

- The Government of Finland supported the E-CAP project in Hardap and Karas Regions.
- The focus was on assessing viability and acceptance of different dry sanitation systems in rural areas. An updated monitoring and evaluation of the dry sanitation systems. was completed.

- E-CAP project was also aimed at strengthening the ability of local authorities, particularly Village Councils to provide required water supply and sanitation services to its inhabitants. This included assessing and improving the concepts of the PST approach and the Water Demand Management strategy (as outlined in the IWRM plan of Namibia). Sanitation services were also addressed.
- DWSSC assisted the programme with all aspects of technical and community advice on the provision of water supply and sanitation infrastructure.

11.4.7.7. GOVERNMENT OF GERMANY - CUVEWATERS PROJECT

- The project has tested small-scale desalination facilities in two villages in Omasati region and the provision of sanitation facilities in an informal settlement in Outapi.
- DWSSC assisted the programme with all aspects of technical and community advice on the provision of water supply and sanitation infrastructure.

11.4.8. ASSISTANCE TO OTHER INSTITUTIONS

11.4.8.1. ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT

- The maintenance of water supply infrastructure on resettlement farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Lands and Resettlement however the Division Rural Water Development and Planning is assisting Ministry of Lands and Resettlement with the contract administration of constructing and repairing their water supply infrastructure.

11.4.8.2. ASSISTANCE TO THE NAMIBIA/GERMAN INITIATIEF PROGRAMME

- The Governments of Namibia and Germany have agreed to implement a Special Initiative with a perspective of development and social

consolidation at local and community levels in areas and for communities that had "historic ties" with the German Colonial Government.

- The overall objective of the programme is to address the conditions of abject poverty in the communities of the programme areas. The programme areas include Erongo, Hardap, Karas, Khomas, Kunene, Omaheke and Otjozondjupa Regions in 24 Constituencies identified by the Government of the Republic of Namibia.
- DWSSC assisted the Programme with the contract administration of constructing and repairing existing water supply infrastructure.

11.4.8.3. ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- In partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) has provided dry sanitation facilities at 19 schools in Oshana, Omusati and Ohangweha under the 47 schools infrastructure Programme which covers a total of eight Regions.
- DWSSC assisted the Programme with the technical advice on all aspects of the provision of water supply and sanitation infrastructure.

11.4.8.4. ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

- DWSSC assisted the Ministry with their school health programme offering technical advice on all aspects of the provision of water supply and sanitation infrastructure and mobilization in schools.

12. MAIN DIVISION 12:	FORESTRY
RECURRENT BUDGET:	N\$85,558,000.00
CAPITAL BUDGET:	N\$74,241,000.00

12.1. OBJECTIVE

- To practice and promote the sustainable and participatory management of forest resources and other woody vegetation, and to enhance socio-economic development and environmental stability.

12.2. MAIN FUNCTIONS

- Develop, maintain and improve forest resources including their contribution to global carbon cycles.
- Maintain and enhance the productive functions of forest and other wooded lands.
- Manage and maintain the protective functions of forest and other wooded lands.
- Conserve and maintain the biological diversity of forests and other wooded lands.
- Maintain and enhance the socio-economic benefits of forests and other wooded lands.
- Strengthen the forestry sector management organizations.
- Utilize undesirable bushes for sustainable land-use management in order to restore the desirable rangeland and wildlife habitats.
- Improve and develop the Wood Industry.
- Develop and promote tree planting for a sustainable environment and economy.
- Conduct forest research and provide information to responsible decision-making in the forestry sector.

12.3. RECURRENT ACTIVITIES

12.3.1. FOREST POLICY, PLANNING, LEGISLATION AND INFORMATION

The intervention aims to develop or review the Forestry Policy and Legislation, communicate key issues to the public; and spearhead co-ordination in forestry development.

12.3.1.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$86,558,000)

- MAWF regulated forestry resources through issuing harvesting, transport, export and marketing permits throughout the 2013/2014 Financial Year, 12,842 Permits were issued.
- Law enforcement operations carried out included: 65 awareness campaigns, 232 road blocks, 351 patrols of designated forest areas, 312 resource inspections on farms, information dissemination and guidance to farmers and the public on sustainable use of forest resources. Eighty six (86) fines were given to those not adhering to the Law.
- The Forest Regulations have been submitted to legal drafters for scrutiny and was referred back to the Ministry for further clarifications.
- Strategic planning for organizational management and operations is being implemented at both headquarters and regional level, and guidelines and other technical support are given to the field-based officials.
- A field manual for the establishment of community forest was developed and is being used for implementation of community based forest management.
- Information on forestry related issues were disseminated to the public during the annual events such as Earth Day, Arbor Day, World Environment Day, World Food Day and World Water Day.
- Illegally harvested forest produce were confiscated and auctioned in Rundu, Divundu, Katima Mulilo, Grootfontein, Ongwediva, Gobabis, Onankali, Outapi, Ongwediva and Eenhana. The illegal activities especially charcoal production in commercial farms continues to be a problem for the ministry
- The Forestry Council had one meeting.

- The Fire symposium was held, 55 participants attended and the Stakeholders proposed new ideas to be included in the draft Forest/Veld Fire Policy.

12.3.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Gazette and popularize Forest Act regulations, including the list of protected tree species through on-going media campaigns in local languages.
- Implement and maintain the Forest Information Management Systems.
- Finalize the draft Forest and Veld Fire Management Policy.
- Seek approval of the tree planting strategy.
- Create awareness on Forestry through various national and local events.

12.3.2. COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT

This Programme aims to create an enabling environment for equitable, community-based forest management and utilization.

12.3.2.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- Thirty two (32) proclaimed Community forests were supported and their Management Plans were reviewed, adjusted and audited.
- The communities generated an income from the sale of forest products, issuing of permits (block permits), camping sites, processed honey, curios, poles and droppers sale from Okongo (Ohangwena Region); Uukolonkadhi Community Forest (Omusati Region) and from various communities in Kavango and Caprivi Regions.
- More than 250 community forest management committee members benefitted from training in bee keeping and fire management.
- Inventories were carried out in two state forests Hamoye and Kanovlei.

12.3.2.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Proclaim ten (10) community forests
- Conduct six (6) participatory community based inventories and develop management plans including Zambezi State forests.
- Initiate more community-based income-generating activities and support ongoing activities.
- Promote marketing of forest products.
- Train communities in various forestry technical matters to build capacity.

12.3.3. FOREST PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

The focus area aims to uphold and implement the principles of protection and conservation of forests and wooded lands for their environmental and socio-economic values.

12.3.3.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- The precision forestry techniques (GIS/Remote Sensing) have enabled the electronic dispatch of daily fire bulletins, a service that has been welcomed by our stakeholders. This tool further enables staff of the Directorate to detect and monitor the movement of fires and to act appropriately and effectively.
- Terms of Reference were developed to establish community based fire management units to participate in awareness creation on fire management, fire fighting and clearing of fire cut lines. Six units were established and functional in Ohangwena, Oshana, Omusati and Oshikoto Region.
- Staff members and community members participated in the suppression of wildfires with the support from Regional Councils and the Namibian Defence Force (NDF).

- The beekeeping beneficiaries from Oshana, Ohangwena, and Zambezi Regions received equipment, protective clothing and tools.
- A total of 450 litres of honey was produced and sold to the public at annual trade fairs, agricultural shows and to individuals.

12.3.3.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/15

- Create awareness on forest fire management activities.
- Declare fire management areas in the Government Gazette.
- Establish and equip community based fire management units.
- Train community based fire management units on fire management.
- Maintain Fire Early Warning Information Systems.
- Identify 2 500 km and maintenance 3 500 km of fire breaks/fire cut lines.
- Disseminate fire management information through billboards and pamphlets.
- Support beekeeping beneficiaries and create market for bee products

12.3.4. TREE PLANTING AND ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT

This Programme aims to promote and implement Afforestation and Reforestation Programmes.

12.3.4.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- MAWF provided technical support, 350 farmers were trained on how to plant and care for trees.
- One Hundred and Fifty (150) temporary workers were involved in preparation and clearing of 68.8ha for the establishment of orchards.

- The already existing orchards started bearing fruits and about 3,834 kg of Mangoes were harvested from those orchards. The fruits were sold to AMTA (Fresh Hub - Ongwediva) and to the public.
- Four hundred and twenty five hectares of orchards and woodlots were maintained.

12.3.4.2 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/15

- Training of Forestry technical staff on nursery management, grafting and budding of tree seedlings.
- Establish grafting and budding facilities.
- Provide technical assistance to the Green scheme on the establishment of orchards.
- Provide technical support to farmers for tree planting activities.
- Establish a link with fresh produce hub for the marketing of fruits harvested from the orchards.
- Prepare management plans for woodlots and orchards.
- Maintain and manage 150 ha and 90 ha of existing orchards and woodlots respectively (watering, pruning, and weeding, ploughing and insect control).
- Produce 200,000 seedlings in nurseries for production and research.
- Plant 20,000 seedlings for orchards and woodlots
- Establish 5 ha plantation of *Melia volkesii*, a drought resistant species for timber production.
- Expand tree planting and orchard development with 50ha.

12.3.5. WOOD INDUSTRY

The intervention aims at creating an enabling environment whereby wood based entrepreneurs can access wood resources for commercial purposes.

12.3.5.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

- Wood industry promotion is vital for job creation. Approval to lease five (5) wood marketing outlets at Keetmanshoop, Helao Nafidi. Ongwediva. Oshikuku and at Okahao were requested from Treasury to lease out the facilities to the public to sell wood related products.
- The Ministry facilitated the harvesting of wood for the production of charcoal, poles, droppers, timber, roots, arts and craft and firewood through the issuing of permits.

12.3.5.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Develop and promote projects for wood product development.
- Support the implementation of the strategic plan on bush utilization incentives and supply information and recommendations to the industry.
- Operationalise the wood marketing facilities/outlets.
- Support and encourage farmers to supply wood products to the marketing facilities/outlets.
- Operationalize wood marketing facilities.

12.3.6. DE-BUSHING

- MAWF continues with the implementation of de-bushing to reduce the extent of bush encroachment on State-owned land. increase the land's carrying capacity of the farming land and improve livestock production in the country. Preparations are underway to extend the de-bushing activities to privately owned lands on subsidized costs. The project has created jobs for Fifty seven (57) women and Seven Hundred and Forty-six (746) men.
- Grass harvested and baled from the Ministry's Quarantine camps and befitted farmers from Ohangwena, Oshana, Oshikoto, Kunene and Omusati Region.

12.3.7. FOREST RESEARCH

The intervention aims to develop and implement forest research programmes and provide technical/scientific services to the Forestry Sector.

12.3.7.1 ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

PROJECT	SHORT DESCRIPTION	CURRENT STATUS
Makambu and Kanovlei fire trials monitored	The main aim of these trials is to test the effect of different fire regimes (fire applied at different times if the year) on the tree and shrub as well as grass growth patterns.	Data is still to be collected for at least the next five years.
Terminalia coppicing trial monitored	The main aim of this trial is to test the coppicing ability of Terminalia sericea by applying different pruning methods.	This trial was rehabilitated in 2010 after it was neglected due to staff shortage. Data will be collected over the next 10 years before a final report can be compiled.
Project report on mopane trial published	The main aim of this project was to determine the effect of different pruning methods on the growth form of mopane shrubs.	This project is completed and awaiting the final report.
Ziziphus mauritiana species (Chinese apple / Indian plum) introduction trial maintained	The main aim was to test the ability of this species (original from Malawi) to grow under our climatic conditions. The trial was planted at Eunda in Omusati region. We are planning to expand this trial to Zambezi (Ngoma), Otjozondjupa (Kanovlei) and Kavango East (Siya).	The plants are doing well. We are still to collect data for at least five years before a final report can be compiled.
Marula germplasm multiplication trial assessed and maintained	The main aim of this trial was to determine the ability of marula to be propagated through grafting.	Marula has the ability to be propagated through grafting and the planted seedlings in the field are doing quite well. We have established trials at Tsandi, Oshiketenge (both Omusati Region and Oshana Region) and Onamega (Oshana Region).
Berchemia discolor, Ximenia caffra & X. americana, Schinziophyton rautanenii and Adansonia digitata provenance trials established	The main aim of this trial is to determine the ability of these species originating from different areas to grow in different areas in Namibia	This trial is very new with the first site established at Engombe in December 2013.

Baseline survey for <i>Strychnos coccinoides</i> (monkey orange) conducted	The aim of the baseline survey was to determine the best mother trees in consultation with the community members. These mother trees will then be used for future vegetation propagation	Baseline survey conducted
Phenological studies of <i>Annona senegalensis</i> (Africa custard apple) initiated	The main aim is to test the ability of this species to grow under our climatic conditions. This plant normally grows in tropical-subtropical areas.	This tree species was already planted at Kanovlei and Engombe (December 2013).
Marula resource assessment to determine fruit supply capacity in Namibia completed	The aim is to determine the total marula fruit supply in Namibia.	Two surveys were done the previous two years with the last survey to be done this year before the final report is compiled

The fire monitoring system at the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) has produced 100% of its daily and monthly burned area reports. NRSC produces maps based on requests from various stakeholders. They managed to produce 100% of the maps requested. The National Forest Inventory Section has completed inventories at both the Hamoye and Kanovlei state forests. The data is being entered on computer, but still needs to be analysed. A PhD-level research that is aiming at determining the main drivers of deforestation in the Zambezi Region commenced last year and continued during this year.

12.3.7.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Nursery management
- Raise Twenty thousand (20,000) seedlings from Government nurseries for sale and donations research trials.
- Seed collection and processing.
- Maintenance and management of 50 ha of on-station woodlots.
- Maintenance and management 10 ha of on-station orchards.
- Equip the Tissue culture laboratory at Okahandja and train its staff.

- Carry out six community forest inventories
- Continue to maintain existing research trials and introduce new ones especially drought and frost resistant species.
- Continue to produce daily and monthly fire maps. and other maps based on requests.
- Continue to produce daily and monthly fire maps, and other maps based on requests.

12.4. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

12.4.1 INTEGRATED FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

12.4.1.1. ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2013/2014 (N\$74,241,000.00)

- The Tree Planting Strategy was developed
- A total of 139,134 seedlings were produced in Government nurseries. of which 58,389 which were given to communities at subsidized prices in order to encourage tree planting. More orchards were established and 68.8 hectares have been planted with fruit trees.
- A total of 68.8 ha of new orchards were established and planted with various fruit trees in Karas, Omaheke. Hardap. Oshana. Omusati and Otjozondjupa Region.
- Grass harvesting tools and fire fighting equipment and tools such as high pressure pumps, drip torches purchased and N\$3,000,000 has been given to Plant & and Fleet for purchasing vehicles fitted with fire fighting equipment.
- Local communities were involved in clearing fire breaks in fire prone areas of Oshikoto, Omusati, Ohangwena, Oshana, Zambezi. Kavango East and West, Omaheke, Otjozondjupa and Kunene Regions, and Erongo. a total of 2,205.8 km of firebreaks were cleared, creating 1 097 temporary jobs to 171 female and 926 men.

- Through the de-bushing project a total of 2,268.4 hectares have been cleared in government owned farms as well as in National Youth Services farms. As a result, 803 jobs have been created; 746 men and 57 women.
- A total of 4 740 bales were harvested in three of the Ministry Quarantine camps, creating temporary jobs for 103 people. The project benefited 1,299 farmers who bought 5 bales each. The state received N\$237,000 revenue from the sale of bales.
- The construction of fire truck shelter at Kanovlei research station. Eenhana and Opuwo forestry Office.
- Onankali and Tsumkwe 100% completed
- Completion of staff accommodation including self contained flats and Offices at Walvisbay, Outjo, Otjinene ,Talismanus Kanovlei Research station, Onankali and Onayena.
- Community forest facilities at M’Kata are 75% completed.
- The construction of Gobabis Forestry office is 70% completed.
- Upgrading of the Otavi ADC to add two offices and conference construction is at 60% progress.
- Tissue culture laboratory at Okahandja is 95% completed.

12.4.1.2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2014/2015

- Nurseries management
- Raise 200,000 seedlings from government nursery for sale. donations for extension services, woodlots and orchard development Plant 50ha;
- Seed collection and processing;
- Maintain and management of 90 ha of woodlots; and

- Maintain and management 150 ha orchards;
- Carry out awareness campaigns on tree planting, fire management activities in various communities.
- Plant 20, 000 seedlings for orchard and woodlots country wide.
- Provide technical assistance to the Green scheme on the establishment of orchards
- Establish link with fresh hub for marketing of fruits from orchards
- Equip tissue culture laboratory and train staff
- Prepare management plans for woodlots and orchards.
- Clear 3,500 km of old and maintain 2,500 km new fire cut lines
- Declare fire management areas
- Construct staff accommodations: Siya, Karasburg. Bagani bachelor flats, Otavi house, staff accommodation at Ongha, upgrade and renovate Eenhana house, Hannoeye houses
- Construct Offices: Upgrade Omafo ADC, Bagani. Upgrade Otjiwarongo board room, Upgrade Otjinene ADC, upgrade Onesi ADC. Hamoye Office.
- Upgrade the current Eenhana Forestry office by adding a storeroom.
- Construct community facility at Oshiku-shiithilonde, Cuma community forests.
- Construct access road (3Km) to Kanovlei.
- Declare 10 community forests.
- Carry out six (6)community forests inventories.

- Construct an access road (3Km) to Kanovlei.

ANNEXURE II

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION POLICY

Foreword

The Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (WSASP) of 2008 came into existence after the review of the Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (WASP) which was adopted in 1993 and thus effectively replaced.

Under the WSASP of 2008, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF) remains responsible for the overall management and regulation of the water cycle and water resources in the country. In addition, it was decided by Cabinet in October 2008, that rural sanitation provision and the overall coordination be transferred from the Ministry of Health and Social Services to the MAWF. WSASP has been prepared based on decentralisation principles.

As Water Supply and Sanitation are so inter-connected in the sense that the lack of proper sanitation may affect the quality of water and vice versa, WSASP calls for the transformation of the Directorate of Rural Water Supply (DRWS) into the Directorate Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination (DWSSC). This Directorate will provide water supply and sanitation services for rural settlements in communal areas. Other Ministries, Regional Councils, Local Authorities and NamWater will continue to meet their responsibilities for water supply and sanitation services in areas under their jurisdiction.

It is therefore our genuine strong belief and desire that close coordination amongst all stakeholders will contribute to a smooth implementation of these challenges especially those in the sanitation sector.

Central government will allocate capital resources to relevant key stakeholders in the sanitation sector, so that decentralised sanitation services and infrastructure can be provided to communities, beneficiaries and end-users. Meanwhile, DWSSC will develop their sanitation coordination mandate to ensure that technical guidelines, standards and sanitation technology options are developed, assessed, disseminated, adapted and applied appropriately, given the diversity of our regions. Making the right choice of sanitation technology in both urban (formal and informal) and rural contexts is crucial when water resources scarcity, physical constraints, environmental impact and affordability are considered.

Our sincere appreciation goes to all stakeholders namely Ministries, private sector and non-governmental organisations, training institutions and donors who all made the policy review tangible.

It is our sincere hope that planners, designers and implementers will make good use of this policy document for the development of water supplies and sanitation facilities throughout our country in a sustainable manner.

Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry – Hon John Mutorwa

Abbreviations and Acronyms

CBM	Community Based Management
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
DRWS	Directorate of Rural Water Supply
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
DWSSC	Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination
GRN	Government of the Republic of Namibia
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LWA	Local Water Association
LWC	Local Water Committee
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
MoHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MRLGHRD	Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development
NamWater	Namibia Water Corporation Ltd
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
VIP	Ventilated Improved Pit
WASP	Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Policy (1993)
WSASP	Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (2008)
WDM	Water Demand Management
WHO	World Health Organisation
WPA	Water Point Association
WPC	Water Point Committee
WSS	Water Supply and Sanitation

In April 2010, the WSASP was reviewed, updated and amended by the Directorate Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination in anticipation of its formal launch by the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry.

1. INTRODUCTION

The first Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (WASP) was adopted in 1993. Since then, several developments necessitated a review. As recommended in the WASP, the Namibian Water Corporation Limited (NamWater) a State Owned Enterprise was established as the major bulk water supplier. Also, as recommended in the WASP, the Directorate of Rural Water Supply (DRWS) was established in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development to improve access to safe water for communities in rural, communal areas.

The establishment of DRWS laid the foundation for successful implementation of a dynamic strategy, known as Community Based Management (CBM). This strategy involved extensive user participation in water supply and management in the form of Water Point Associations (WPA), their representative Water Point Committees (WPC) and Local Water Associations (LWA) and their representative Local Water Committees (LWC). At the same time, sanitation has not improved and the magnitude of the sanitation backlog, particularly in communal rural areas and informal urban settlements, is increasing and deserves serious attention.

Overall water supply and sanitation (WSS) sector coordination, lack of an equitable tariff policy and a water regulator, limited human resource capacity and limited cost recovery for water supply, key components for the WSS sector, remain a challenge.

The new Water Supply and Sanitation Policy (WSASP) of 2008 replaces the policy of 1993. Its principles are in line with Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) including a strong focus on Water Demand Management (WDM). The scope of services expected to be rendered within the sector is defined and responsibilities are allocated to the various public, private and non-governmental organisations and beneficiaries involved.

WSASP has been prepared based on decentralisation principles and assumes that the process of regional and local devolvement of responsibilities will proceed in accordance with Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) plans.

Nevertheless, the acceptance of the WSASP by all stakeholders represents only a foundation from which to work. The productivity and growth of the WSS sector will, to a large extent, depend on political will at all levels, the provision of adequate funding, the continuous development of adequate human resources, community participation and the dedicated implementation of the identified strategies by all role players to achieve the objectives of this new policy.

2. THE WASSP PRINCIPLES

2.1 General

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (MAWF) will remain responsible for the overall management and regulation of the water cycle and water resources in the country with the prime objective of ensuring that they will be properly investigated and used on a sustainable basis to cater for the needs of people and to sustain their environment. It is recommended that the function of rural sanitation be transferred from the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry. An institution similar to the DRWS dedicated to sanitation within the WSS sector seems to be an appropriate solution to deal with the identified challenges in the Sector.

It is therefore proposed that the Directorate of Rural Water Supply be transformed into a Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation Coordination (DWSSC) in the MAWF and made responsible for the overall coordination of WSS services in the country. An additional prime objective of this institution would be to ensure that sanitation meets the requirements for health and hygiene for the whole population in an acceptable, affordable and sustainable manner. The proposed DWSSC will therefore coordinate both water supply and sanitation services throughout the country.

Once decentralisation is complete, the institution responsible for rural services within the Regional Councils will implement and support

communal rural water supply while fully integrating rural sanitation within its functions. Their capacity should be extended to ensure that the development goals for basic sanitation are met at household level in rural areas.

During the decentralisation transformation process, DWSSC will continue to provide water supply and provision of sanitation services to the communal rural communities.

Local Authorities and Regional Councils, supported by the Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development (MRLGHRD) will be responsible for implementation of water supply and sanitation in the urban areas (proclaimed and un-proclaimed-planned and declared settlements) where demand is continually increasing and a growing backlog exists.

Central Government should also allocate capital resources wherever the Regional Council or Local Authority is not able to provide sanitation to the poor and marginalised, but strict criteria and standards should be applied by DWSSC.

Regulations to control and oversee activities of the WSS service providers will be accommodated within the proposed, revised Water Resources Management Act.

2.2 Overall Sectoral Policy Statement

The Constitution advocates equity as a fundamental principle to ensure fair and reasonable access to services and equitable economic opportunities for all Namibians. The process of rectifying disparities within the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector will take time. **Namibia's Vision 2030**, the **Millennium Development Goals** and the **National Development Plans** provide targets for coverage. It is anticipated that economic growth and the financial performance of the WSS sector will, to a certain extent, determine the pace of national development.

In the national development context, the WSS sector, responsible for water supply and sanitation services affecting all, will be expected to contribute towards social development and to provide the necessary environmentally sound infrastructure for economic development.

Taking the complexity of the situation into consideration and appreciating the immense task lying ahead, it is believed that the objectives will only be achieved by committed involvement and by effecting very close cooperation between all parties concerned.

By interpreting the achievements and shortcomings of the WSS sector in the national development context, the following four components of an overall long term policy are formulated as follows:

1. Essential water supply and sanitation services should become available to all Namibians, and should be acceptable and accessible at a cost which is affordable to the country and beneficiaries as a whole.
2. This equitable improvement of water supply and sanitation services should be achieved by the combined efforts of GRN and the beneficiaries, based on community involvement and participation, the acceptance of a mutual responsibility and by outsourcing services where necessary and appropriate, under the control and supervision of GRN.
3. Communities should have the right, with due regard to environmental needs and the resources and information available, to determine which water supply and sanitation solutions and service levels are acceptable to them within the boundaries of the national guidelines. Beneficiaries should contribute towards the cost recovery of the water supply and sanitation services they desire at increasing rates for standards of living exceeding the levels required for providing basic needs. Full cost recovery for those customers who can afford it and the recovery of operation and maintenance costs, as a minimum, by all beneficiaries.
4. Environmentally sustainable development and efficient utilisation of the water resources of the country and environmentally sustainable development of sanitation services should be pursued in addressing the various needs, and should be strongly supported by information campaigns and continuous educational interventions at all levels.

2.3 Overall Sectoral Objectives

In keeping with the above general overall policy statement and observing

the shortfalls and constraints, the following broad sector objectives were formulated:

2.3.1 Water supply

To improve the provision of water supply in order to:

- Contribute to improved public health;
- Reduce the burden of collecting water;
- Promote community based social development taking the role of women into special account;
- Support basic water needs;
- Stimulate economic development; and
- Promote water conservation.

The overall strategy will be to develop reliable and accessible sources of safe water supplies for improved drinking water sources with sufficient capacity on a **sustainable basis** to serve all in Namibia at an **affordable cost**.

An **improved drinking water source is defined** as a type of drinking water facility or water delivery point that by the nature of its design protects the drinking water source from external contamination, particularly of faecal origin.

Drinking water is defined as water for ingestion, basic personal and domestic hygiene and cooking. Regarding drinking water, a safe water supply means water complying with Namibian drinking water quality standards/guidelines.

2.3.2. Sanitation

To improve the provision of sanitation services in order to:

- Contribute towards improved health and quality of life;
- Use improved sanitation infrastructure options;
- Ensure a hygienic environment;
- Protect water sources from pollution;
- Promote water conservation; and

- Stimulate economic development.

The overall strategy would be to guarantee safe and affordable sanitation, encouraging decentralised sanitation systems where appropriate. The strategy should also promote recycling through safe and hygienic recovery and use of nutrients, organics, trace elements, water and energy or the safe disposal of all human and other wastes, including sewage and industrial effluent, in an environmentally sustainable fashion. The concept of Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) which incorporates solid waste collection, recovery and safe disposal should be the guiding principal of the overall strategy.

Clear sanitation targets exist but special emphasis should be placed on coordination by allocating adequate capital funds and making appropriate institutional arrangements to effect rapid implementation. Wherever possible, “*improved*” sanitation systems of infrastructure should be selected in accordance with the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme definition (see Table 1 below for details).

Table 1: Improved and Non-improved Systems

Improved Sanitation Facilities	Non-improved facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flush, pour flush to water-borne sewerage • Flush, pour flush to conservancy/septic tanks • Flush, pour flush to pit latrine • Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines and pit latrine with slab • Composting toilet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared toilet (public and shared between households) • Bucket • Pit latrine without slab/open pit • Open defecation

2.4 Sector Strategy and Plans

The WSS sector policy and objectives should be seen as setting out the intentions of government. Based on the policy and objectives, the Sector agencies responsible for water supply and sanitation, both rural and urban, will prepare:

- the WSS strategy which will set out how the policy should be implemented; and

- the WSS operation national and regional action plans which will quantify the strategies in terms of resources, utilisation, manpower, time and costs. Such plans should follow the principles of integrated water resources planning and development.

2.5 Overall Principles

2.5.1 Water Supply Priorities

The supply of water from surface and groundwater resources to competing demands in areas with water shortages will become increasingly difficult in the future. The priority ranking in this regard should be as follows:

Priority 1

This is the provision of water for drinking water use (as defined in Section 2.3.1).

Priority 2

This is the provision of water for economic activities.

Priorities for the allocation of water for economic activities will, in each individual case, have to be determined by their respective value including economic multiplier effects by local value addition and social benefits in relation to the overall development objectives and plans of the country. In determining priorities, the cost to provide water, as well as the economic value added from the water used, should be carefully calculated and considered.

While giving priority to the rural communal areas, it is equally essential to maintain and improve the present water supply and sanitation coverage levels in urban areas to address the current and future accelerated urban population growth particularly in informal settlements. The exceptionally rapid influx of people to the urban centres will require accelerated expenditure on water supplies and sanitation infrastructure development to provide essential services and to prevent spread of disease in high density urban areas. With the growing lower income urban target group in mind, efforts should also be aimed at making low cost “*improved*” sanitation solutions for urban sanitation more attractive, along with the augmentation

of existing infrastructure capacities for those who can afford it. Feasibility and optioneering studies should take a staged approach to appropriate levels of service taking into account all the physical, engineering and social constraints.

It is important to promote the benefits of the provision of sanitation as a public good to communities in rural and urban areas. These benefits include, inter alia, improved health and the prevention of pollution as well as energy generation through bio-reactors and treated water for food production. The development of local skills and stimulation of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to participate in the implementation of such decentralised sanitation schemes is essential.

2.5.2 Stakeholder participation

The provision of WSS services is seen as a continuum where the authorities and beneficiaries have mutual responsibilities. Individuals and communities are encouraged to improve their living conditions and to contribute to the development of the country. The WSS interventions by GRN should be regarded as an opportunity to achieve this objective.

Where possible, it should be left to the community itself to decide on internal priorities and the division of responsibilities. Community ownership and management of facilities should be adopted as the strategy of choice for the WSS sector in general.

Government support services should be seen as a medium for self-sufficiency and not be extended free of charge. In order to adhere to the cost recovery principles outlined in Section 2.2, rising block tariffs, rebates and cross subsidisation for both water supply and sanitation services should be taken into account during implementation. In accordance with the National Water Policy, clear costing, tariff and credit control policies are required to achieve cost recovery without sacrificing equitable access to the poor and marginalised.

The allocation of responsibilities refers to the eventual goal to be pursued. In some cases where responsibilities are to be transferred to the rural consumer representatives, the transfer of these functions will have to take place over a transitional period to allow for training of those involved.

This has already been done for rural water supply and can be emulated for sanitation services.

The Regional Councils should ensure physical planning for proclaimed, declared and planned settlements at an early stage, to ensure the orderly development thereof and to establish the most appropriate level(s) of affordable service. This should be achieved by the combined efforts of the government and the beneficiaries, based on community involvement, community participation and the acceptance of a mutual responsibility. Outsourcing should be considered where necessary and appropriate, but should be done under the control and supervision of those funding and requiring the service.

Cost recovery for WSS service delivery, 'duty to care' and the 'polluter pays principle' for water supply and wastewater management are essential considerations in the overall strategy and are strongly recommended to improve WSS services.

Water use efficiency, water demand management practices and the use of unconventional sources should be evaluated and quantified as part of the planning process for the development and planning of any water supply augmentation scheme or any new sanitation scheme.

2.5.3 Cost Recovery

The basic premise of cost recovery is that water is an economic good with a social responsibility to make water available to the poor. It is accepted that the overall sustainability of the WSS sector will depend on its ability to become financially self sufficient. Without the necessary revenue, the service providers will be unable to continue providing the expected water supply and sanitation services. In all instances, it will be essential to recover the full financial cost or, in low income rural and informal urban areas, at least the operational and maintenance costs with capital infrastructure expenditure support from GRN subsidies or cross-subsidies amongst consumers for operational expenditure. As stated in the National Water Policy, MAWF will determine tariff policies in consultation with the service providers and the public, taking the tariff policy principles indicated below into consideration.

The following general principles should be applied with the development of such a policy within all the sectors:

1. Money generated through domestic water use or sanitation should not be used to subsidise water to any other economic activity;
2. Any industrial, commercial or mining activity should pay the full cost recovery tariff taking the scarcity of water and the cost of future water supply augmentation into account.

Full cost recovery and prevention of debt as part of the principle of water supply provision as an economic good should be promoted and implemented, based on equitable tariffs to improve access by poor and marginalised communities. This consolidated national tariff policy for water supply and sanitation provision should include appropriate credit control measures.

The Water Regulator, to be established, should harmonise the expectations of the consumers and policy makers without compromising the financial sustainability of the service providers. It is essential to control the increase in tariffs by service providers, to assess the performance of service providers through performance indicators and to evaluate their service plans.

Mechanisms for transparent subsidies and/or cross-subsidisation by means of rebates for those who are unable to pay for WSS services should be created. It is important that the consumer should know the amount of the subsidy, why a group of consumers is being subsidised and by whom.

The income generated by WSS services should be used to maintain and improve the coverage of WSS services and should not be used to cover the cost of other services, except where an exemption is approved by the relevant Minister.

2.6 Guiding Principles

With the constitutional provision of State ownership of all water resources in the country, it is appropriate that the present status regarding GKN's responsibility as the guardian over these resources be maintained. In this regard, NamWater provides bulk water on a commercial basis, but remains under the auspices of MAWF as the resource manager.

2.6.1 Communal Rural Areas Water Supply

Ownership and Management

The communities in communal rural areas mainly consist of farmers and their families living on the land. They should therefore be supported as such to become better farmers and to develop associated industries. The water supply support envisaged provides for an opportunity to contribute to the achievement of this objective. With the projected global food shortages, it is important to improve subsistence farming to provide sufficient food at household level to raise nutrition and to supply products to the market.

Where possible, it should be left to the community itself to decide on internal priorities and the division of responsibilities. It is recommended that community ownership and management of facilities should be adopted as the strategy of choice for water supply in the rural communal areas.

Government support services should be seen as a medium for eventual self-sufficiency and as a matter of principle, not be extended free of charge, but be priced, with cost recovery a primary principle, according to a transparent tariff policy to be agreed upon. Government should continue to pursue the role of a facilitator rather than a provider.

GRN must demonstrate and actively promote full acceptance of and support for implementation of the requisite social responsibility for the provision of WSS services to the poor.

Rural Water Tariff Policy Principles

Some basic principles should be incorporated into a recommended tariff policy:

1. An agreement between the community and the relevant authorities setting out mutual, accepted responsibilities and commitments should be a prerequisite for government support.
2. Payment by the community for operation, maintenance and replacement costs should as a general rule always apply, although there may be cases where a transparent rebate, cross-subsidy or subsidy may be granted.

3. If communities are notable to maintain or operate water supply systems on a sustainable basis, the services can be outsourced to SMEs or NGOs, as part of an agreement between the Government, community and technical support service provider. Such an arrangement is expected to improve the situation and contribute to improved cost recovery and service delivery.
4. Because of the great variation in conditions and income levels in general throughout Namibia, it is recommended that a system for the individual assessment of the need for rebates, cross-subsidies and/or subsidies be worked out. Affordability of services by the community, integrated with cost recovery, should constitute a key principle and be adhered to.
5. Turning off water supply to a water point or branch line should not be used to enforce cost recovery provided that the WPC and LWC agree to turn off supplies to non-paying customers. The WPC and LWC will be responsible to pay the supplier for water supplied.

2.6.2 Urban Water Supply

Ownership and Management

Water supply in urban areas (all non-farming areas) where people reside on a permanent basis should be approached in a similar way as water supply in formal, municipal areas. A council representing the users will own, operate and maintain the infrastructure.

This type of representative management is already well developed in the bigger towns and should be maintained. It is recommended that Local Authorities be strengthened in their autonomy as providers of local WSS services through adequate legislation and access to credit facilities.

Urban Water Tariff Policy Principles

Considering the scarcity of water in Namibia, the tariff structure should encourage water conservation and reduce wastage through the application of rising block tariffs for industrial, business, institutional and residential consumers and specifically differentiated tariffs for non-domestic users (business, industry and institutional users) to recover the full cost

including an incentive to enhance water use efficiency linked to the cost of future supply augmentation.

The tariff structure may also be designed to provide for transparent cross-subsidies between users. However, as a matter of principle, residential consumers should not be expected to subsidise industrial customers and the mining sector. Also, water should not be provided to any industrial customer at below total cost rates if water supplies are inadequate. Only when local water supplies are plentiful, so called economic development rates can be considered.

It is recommended that the tariff structure should have:

1. A fixed, low price for a defined minimum lifeline volume of water or a rebate on usage by residential consumers.
2. Progressively increasing rates for increased consumption.
3. Tariffs charged for water for mining, industrial and commercial enterprises should recover the full financial cost, and ideally they should recover the full economic cost.
4. The recovery of capital costs for internal water distribution to erven should be considered as plot-related development costs and should be recovered directly as part of the selling cost of the erven.
5. The recovery of capital costs for water supply mains, reservoirs, pumping stations, treatment works, service reservoirs, distribution systems and other ancillary infrastructure should be integrated into the tariff structure for mining, industrial, commercial enterprises and all domestic users.
6. The tariffs should be subject to revision by the Water Regulator to ensure compliance with the national tariff policy as determined by the Minister responsible for WSS services and to ensure any adjustments in tariffs or tariff structures are warranted and justified.
7. With the tariff policy, it would be appropriate to enforce payment for water. For those who still cannot afford to pay, assistance should be given from a social security vote, in a transparent manner, to be

provided for by the authority responsible for these social services in any specific urban area, rather than to circumvent the water revenue collection system.

Temporary termination of water supply to an entire Local Authority or proclaimed settlement by a bulk supply service provider should not be used to enforce cost or debt recovery provided that the Local Authority terminate or restrict provision of services to individual non-paying consumers. Local Authorities are advised to use trickle flow valves, similar devices or other control measures for the specific individual residential or institutional offenders. Alternative methods for credit control should be included in the implementation strategy for the several levels of service providers.

The Local Authority is obliged to use the revenues generated from water supply services for repayment of NamWater services. This should be included in the licence conditions for registration as a water service provider in accordance with the *Water Resources Management Act*.

2.6.3 Rural Sanitation Services

Ownership and Management

The communities in communal rural areas mainly consist of farmers and their families living on the land. The sanitation support envisaged provides for improved health and hygiene to achieve better livelihoods.

In most instances, ecological or dry sanitation for individual households will be the affordable option, in terms of water use and cost of infrastructure, however where possible it should be left to the individuals to decide. If community sanitation options are selected, whether ecological, dry or wet, the community should be left to decide on division of responsibilities. Relevant information must be shared with communities and full understanding of the development implications must be built within the community to guide them in decision making and make the collective, long term commitments needed.

It is recommended that community ownership and management of sanitation facilities should be adopted if the strategy of choice is a communally shared sanitation system, whether ecological, dry or water-

borne sanitation. Nevertheless, experience has shown that despite community ownership and agreement, collective responsibility for water supply or sanitation options are not always assumed by the community. Community ownership must be fully backed at the political and media level.

Government support services should be seen as a medium for eventual self-sufficiency and, as a matter of principle, not be extended free of charge but be priced, with cost recovery a primary principle, according to a transparent tariff policy to be agreed upon. Where water supply and sanitation support services are provided together, the cost recovery should take account of economies of scale with GRN acting in the role of a facilitator instead of provider.

GRN must demonstrate and actively promote full acceptance of and support for implementation of the requisite social responsibility for sanitation to achieve the development goals.

Rural Sanitation Tariff Policy Principles

Some basic principles should constitute a recommended tariff policy:

1. An agreement between the community and the relevant authorities setting out mutual responsibilities and commitments should be a prerequisite for government support.
2. If community-based or individual solutions are the agreed option, payment by the community or the individual household for operation, maintenance and replacement costs should be a general rule. Payment for operation, maintenance and replacement of sanitation at border posts, hostels, schools, clinics and other institutions, lies with the responsible line Ministry.
3. There may be cases where a targeted subsidy may be provided by government for provision of ecological dry sanitation facilities or for small scale water-borne recycling systems. Affordability of services by the community, integrated with cost recovery, should be an important consideration.

2.6.4 Urban Sanitation Services

Ownership and Management

Provision of sanitation in urban areas (all non-farming areas) where people reside on a permanent basis should be approached in a similar way as provision of sanitation in formal, municipal areas. A council representing the users will own, operate and maintain the infrastructure.

This type of representative management is already well developed in the bigger towns and should be maintained. It is recommended that Local Authorities be strengthened in their autonomy as facilitators of local sanitation services through adequate legislation and access to capital.

Where possible it should be left to the community itself to be part of the review process to consider options of the type of sanitation facilities and whether they are for individual household or community use. Cost recovery principles should prevail.

Urban Sanitation Tariff Policy Principles

Considering the **paucity of water** in Namibia, the tariff structure should encourage **ecological or dry sanitation** or systems that conserve water and reduce wastage or that reuse or recycle wastewater. The tariff structure may also be designed to provide for transparent cross-subsidies when required for ecological systems, dry sanitation systems or small scale water-borne recycling systems.

It is recommended that the tariff structure should have:

1. A fixed, low price for provision, monitoring and maintenance of ecological sanitation, dry sanitation or small scale water-borne recycling systems.
2. For water-borne sewerage, the sanitation tariff should be linked to the water consumption of the relevant property.
3. Direct and immediate recovery of capital costs for wastewater collection and treatment or onsite ecological sanitation, dry sanitation or small scale water-borne recycling systems, which can be considered

as plot-related development costs, should be recovered from the selling price of the plots or through house or plot leases.

4. Tariffs for sanitation services for mining, industrial and commercial enterprises should recover the full financial costs including an additional charge based on the pollution load of the wastewater in the case of mining and industry.
5. The wastewater tariffs should be subject to administrative approval by the Water Regulator for compliance with the national water and sanitation tariff policy as determined by the Minister responsible for WSS services.
6. It would be appropriate to enforce payment for small scale water-borne recycling systems and wastewater services. For those who still cannot afford to pay, assistance should be given in a transparent manner by the authority responsible for these social services in any specific urban area, rather than to circumvent the wastewater services revenue collection system.
7. Subsidised capital infrastructure investment for sanitation by GRN it should continue to receive prominence, particularly in areas with high population densities in urban areas to prevent the spread of diseases. A priority system of selection needs to be introduced for investment planning.

2.6.5 Irrigation Water Supply

Ownership and Management

Irrigation schemes should be developed, owned and managed by the owner in individual cases or through a common body in all other cases where more than one farmer is involved. Where bulk water is supplied by GRN, the distribution network and land management (including the drainage system) should be the responsibility of the beneficiaries. The quality of drainage water and the possible pollution aspects related thereto should be controlled by the MAWF in accordance with legislation to be enacted.

Tariff Policy Principles

In all cases where water is supplied by GRN, it is recommended that irrigation water is charged at a full financial cost recovery rate. This may, pending consideration by Cabinet, be reduced through a special transparent subsidy determined by the value of the produce relative to its socio-economic benefits. Such a subsidy should be budgeted for by the line Ministry responsible for agricultural support.

2.6.6 Mining Water Supply

Mining companies should develop their own water supply schemes or should provide the investment capital for the construction and development of WSS infrastructure to mines provided that GRN or the service provider only contributes to the expenditure if other consumers benefit from such infrastructure. Mines may negotiate and agree with any service provider to operate and maintain the water supply infrastructure based on full cost recovery principles on a commercial basis avoiding subsidies to the mines or pre-financing GRN or service providers.

2.6.7 Strategic Projects

As a result of the full utilisation of natural water resources in large parts of the country and the high variability of rainfall and surface run-off, supply augmentation, effluent recycling and resource recovery projects may be classified as projects of strategic importance for continued economic and social development of Namibia. This warrants the allocation of capital from GRN for the development of such schemes for the benefit of the country.

2.7 Recommended Allocation of Responsibilities

2.7.1 The administrative framework

Recommendations concerning responsibilities for the WSS sector were made within the rationalised administrative framework, taking account of statutory responsibilities. It is expected that some of the recommendations may need adjustment in due course as the restructuring of governmental services is being implemented. It is however important to agree on a

revised provisional allocation of responsibilities for the sector to lay the foundation for systematic and organised development of the Sector.

The community members, through their own local committees or through representative councils, are expected to play an increasingly important role in the sector in future. Hence, they are considered a complementary part of the administrative framework.

2.7.2. Basic Policy Principles Regarding Allocation of Responsibilities

The **six basic principles** for the establishment, operation, maintenance and replacement of WSS schemes are:

1. The maximum involvement of the users;
2. The delegation of responsibility to the lowest appropriate level;
3. An environmentally sound utilisation of the water resources and environmentally sound wastewater management;
4. Non-core functions should be outsourced with sufficient control and oversight maintained by the responsible Ministry;
5. Income generated from WSS services should first be used to pay the service providers and secondly to maintain and extend future services;
6. Income generated by service providers from WSS services should not be used for other services unless approved by the responsible Minister.

Obviously, GRN and users have a common interest in keeping the cost of water supply and sanitation services as low as possible and in maintaining functioning systems. Thus, the users should be self-supporting in their WSS requirements where possible and the extent of direct government involvement should be restricted.

2.7.3 Allocation of Responsibilities

The recommended allocations of general responsibilities for the sector are summarised below. Certain functions relate to statutory and others to

general responsibilities such as water quality and pollution control and sanitation.

These responsibilities include:

1. Overall water resource inventory, monitoring, control and management issues are to remain the responsibility of the MAWF.
2. For supply of bulk water supplies which cannot be handled by an individual Local Authority, the Local Authority may approach NamWater or any other organisation willing to construct the necessary infrastructure and experienced in such operations, provided that such agreement is approved by the responsible Minister.
3. Public health considerations and user health education campaigns are the responsibility of the MoHSS with the Local Authorities and Regional Councils taking part in or discharging these functions in their areas.
4. The MoHSS is also responsible for developing/implementing/enforcing health policies/legislation to promote good sanitation practices. It establishes and monitors indicators, e.g., number of cases of diarrhoea in children under 5 years old.
5. Water supply and provision of sanitation services to urban areas is the responsibility of Local Authorities and Regional Councils supported by MRLGHRD, within their areas of jurisdiction, and should be provided in accordance with the latest standards and technical manuals, coordinated by the DWSSC.
6. Once decentralisation is complete, water supply and provision of sanitation services to the communal rural communities will be the responsibility of the Regional Councils, Division of Rural Services, and will be coordinated by the DWSSC. During the decentralisation transformation process, DWSSC will continue to provide water supply and provision of sanitation services to the communal rural communities.

7. The Ministry of Lands and Resettlement is responsible for the establishment of water supply and sanitation on resettlement farms in accordance with the latest standards and technical manuals, coordinated by the DWSSC. Thereafter, the resettlement farmers will be responsible for operation, maintenance and replacement of the facilities.
8. Planning, development and operation of irrigation schemes as well as irrigation extension services are the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture in the MAWF. Water supply and sanitation provision to the irrigation schemes should be coordinated by the DWSSC.
9. Farmers and other communities on private land take full responsibility for their own water supply and provision of sanitation. The DWSSC may provide information and exercise control, inspection or monitoring functions.
10. For independent Government centres including rural schools, clinics and border posts, the relevant Ministries must provide water supply and sanitation facilities in accordance with the latest standards and technical manuals and take full responsibility, including budgetary provision, for these facilities. The Ministry of Works and Transport may be contracted by the relevant Ministry to oversee implementation of development. The DWSSC will provide overall coordination, general and regional advisory functions and exercise control, inspection and monitoring functions.
11. The Directorate: Resource Management, MAWF is responsible for monitoring compliance with water quality standards/guidelines.

2.8 Water supply and Sanitation Sector Decentralisation and Coordination

The **complexity** of the WSS sector calls for **good communication**, positive attitudes towards **cooperation** and **willingness to be flexible** amongst the various stakeholders. Moreover, the complexity also implies a strong need for:

1. Decentralisation, in order for the administration to deal with the service needs or requirements at a level where they are manageable and transparent.
2. Sector coordination, which is to be institutionalised in such a way that sector policy issues, practical cooperation, priority conflicts and appropriate deployment of resources can be achieved. DWSSC will play a strategic role in the implementation of this policy.

Decentralisation

Decentralisation has a particular relevance to services in the rural and urban areas. From a WSS sector policy point of view, it is considered justified to promote a unified administrative structure to assist with all water supply and sanitation functions at regional and sub-regional levels. This would enable planning, coordinated implementation and maintenance support at levels where overview, accurate information and community contact can be facilitated.

Decentralisation of WSS services should be structured in a sustainable fashion. This will require sufficient capacity and resources are available in accordance with the *Decentralisation Enabling Act*, 2000 (Act 33 of 2000) and the Decentralisation Policy (1999).

Sector Coordination

The recommended responsibility allocations imply a sequential involvement of different agencies for the development of a particular scheme, the precise involvement depending on both the type of scheme and type of settlement. The need for coordination is obvious and led by the responsible Ministry. A broad multi-sectoral Forum for Sector Coordination on the operational level should be investigated to support the activities of DWSSC.

Such a forum should have a three-fold objective, namely to:

1. Recommend solutions for sector policy issues;
2. Resolve the practical sector issues such as overall planning, coordination and the determination of priorities; and

3. Coordinate the allocation of funds from GRN to prioritise projects to terminate the backlog in WSS services to meet the development goals.

2.9 Human resource Development

Human resource development is a crucial element in the assumption of responsibilities and in the implementation of the recommended WSASP. The development of adequate extension services for water supply and sanitation, covering the entire range from community management skills through technical training to health and hygiene education, is necessary for the revised WSS sector policy to succeed.

The WSS should ensure that manpower is developed to suit continuing and new requirements such that:

1. Proficiency standards and capacity are pursued through professionalised training leading to diplomas and degrees; and
2. New priority areas are adequately catered for through additional or, where possible, redeployed staff.

Although constraints are placed on expansion of the public service, these objectives may not be attained without selected additional establishment posts. Moreover, the sector management must strive to offer attractive terms of service which will assist in maintaining a stable and motivated work force.

Technical capacity and human resource development, as well as arrangements for suitable technical support services, must be strongly promoted within Regional Councils and Local Authorities for implementation of water supply - and sanitation services. Smart partnerships involving public-private and/or non-governmental organisation (NGO) institutions and SMEs should be advocated for addressing many of the short-comings of water supply and sanitation provision when GRN, Local Authority or Regional Council in-house capacity is limited.

Mentorships are considered particularly important to provide decentralised support for technical staff of Local Authorities and Regional Councils in

WSS services. Mentorship arrangements could be made with experienced - Government departments, NGOs or the Private Sector.

Extension Services

The development of an adequate extension service requires staff to be qualified to a diploma level, spanning the entire range from community management skills through technical training to public hygiene and health education. Raising standards is essential for success in the priority areas of water supply and sanitation. The community ownership and responsibility policy has to be built on an improved local skills basis.

Training at community level should primarily be conducted by the rural water and sanitation extension officers of DWSSC. They will have to be well informed in and have capacity to address integrated WSS services.

Training Within the Public Sector

A large scale educational and training programme will have to be organised and embarked upon to provide the required facilities, material and educational staff to consult, explain, motivate and train all involved. This training must also focus on the administrative, management and all decision making levels.

Sanitation will be added to the priority assigned to development of integrated water supply in the rural communal regions as well as urban situations.

In-service courses and seminars should be conducted with a view to convey understanding of community management, implementation procedures and the framework for decision making with respect to water supply and sanitation. These courses and seminars should address the various sanitation options including eco-sanitation using wet or dry systems. The ensuing internal professional staff development would facilitate introduction of new tasks, enhanced communication skills and improved sensitivity to community needs.

Information and Education Campaigns

A comprehensive information campaign to inform all concerned in

Namibia about the limitations and opportunities of the WSS sector and the adopted future government policy in this regard should be embarked upon. An information campaign is considered crucial for the understanding of the realities of the sector which in turn determine the standard of living and prospects for development in Namibia.

The management of WSS services and wastewater management, including information about alternative sanitation systems, their benefits and management, in terms of the policy and legislation must be explained, described and clarified. This should be in the form of publications and other outreach media accessible to the stakeholders at all levels.

3. SUMMARY

This WSASP provides a set of policy guidelines to be followed by the WSS sector in carrying out its responsibilities with a view to achieving Sector objectives. It reflects the magnitude and complexity of the various aspects of the WSS sector and highlights the particular need for adequate coordination and integration. It allocates responsibilities which require joint commitments for implementation by the different role players and provides the basis for development of the Sector.

The coordination of sectoral activities for strategic planning purposes will be elaborated in the more detailed implementation strategies and plans provided for by the DWSSC.

An increased awareness of the scarcity of the water resources of the country, recognition of the importance of the various types of sanitation, a more prominent water demand management approach and the continued emphasis on participation from all role players are essential.

A uniform approach towards accountability for water supply and sanitation services and an associated comprehensive water supply and wastewater tariff structure policy including credit control principles is essential.

The proposed Water Regulator is required to ensure the implementation of equitable tariffs, improved efficiency and service delivery by service providers for sustainable provision of water and sanitation services. The Water Regulator is a key factor in ensuring debt reduction.

There is a compelling requirement for adequate capital funding from GRN to provide the basic infrastructure for water supply and sanitation, both critical public services for the development of the Nation.

The implementation strategies, followed by development implementation plans, will lead to the achievement of the objectives of the WSASP. Both should be completed and be implemented within one year of Cabinet approval of the policy.

4. CONCLUSION

The acceptance of the WSASP principles by all stakeholders represents the foundation from which to work in order to achieve development goals for water supply and sanitation services. The productivity and growth of the WSS sector will, to a large extent, depend on political will, the provision of adequate funding, the continuous development of adequate human resources, community participation and the dedicated implementation and coordination of the identified strategies and plans to achieve the objectives of this policy.

ANNEXURE III

REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES 1 APRIL 2013 - 28 FEBRUARY 2014

INTRODUCTION

This periodic report shows the achievements and challenges faced by the Ministry during the period 1 April 2013 to February 2014. The report is within the context of the NDP4 Health Sector Strategies; the Ministerial Strategic Plan and Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and the Ministry's Roadmap.

It outlines the infrastructure development and service packages. In addition, the report shows progress realised in the ongoing implementation of recommendations of the Presidential Commission of Enquiry into the activities, affairs, management and operations of the MoHSS.

The focus areas of the report are aligned to the strategic planning frameworks to ensure synergies in human resource development and utilisation; infrastructure and equipment development; governance; public health and health systems research.

PROGRAM 1:

1. PUBLIC HEALTH

1.1. The key objectives of the public health programme is to:

- Establish and improve capacity and systems for disease surveillance, analysis, data bases and control measures. The programmes will include the study of the distribution and patterns of health events, health characteristics, causes or influence in well-defined populations.
- Improve and protect the health and nutrition of families and communities through specific programmes that reduce maternal, infant and child mortality, morbidity and malnutrition.
- To develop policies, measures, programmes and standards to ensure prevention of health hazards and diseases emanating from the environmental management.

1.2. Procurement of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies

The procurement and management of pharmaceutical and medical

supplies at the Central Medical Stores has maintained an overall service level of 83%. The second edition of the National Medicine Policy was approved. With regard to regulation and control of medicines, medical devices and related products, 77 out of 135 dossiers were processed during the period under review, while 79 queries from applicants on dossiers submitted for registration, were analysed and found acceptable at the second submission. One hundred and twenty seven compassionate certificates were issued and 103 human and 27 veterinary medicines were registered during the reviewed period.

At the regional level, the percentage stock level of pharmaceuticals was at 78% to 80%, while that of essential medicines was at 92% to 95%.

1.3. Medicine Regulatory Council

Inspection of health facilities including wholesale distributors, was carried out routinely to ensure that safety and efficacy was maintained when storing, prescribing and dispensing medicines.

Routine inspections ensured that only licensed and qualified health care professionals stored, prescribed and dispensed medicines as provided in the *Medicines and Related Substances Control Act* of 2003 as amended.

Only licensed pharmaceutical wholesale dealers are allowed to import and export medicines as provided for in the Act.

1.4. Public Awareness and Outreach

The Health Sector, through the Ministry, launched health promotional awareness messages that were displayed on the television screens at 75 branches of the First National Bank (FNB) country-wide. In addition, the messages were displayed on television screens at some health facilities in the Khomas and Omaheke Regions. This campaign is part of efforts to increase public awareness on health issues.

1.5. MATERNAL HEALTH AND SAFE MOTHERHOOD

1.5.1. Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT)

Maternal health and safe motherhood, newborn care and prevention of

Mother-to-Child HIV transmission PMTCT programmes achieved the following successes:

- Revised PMTCT guidelines were implemented in 333 out of 355 health facilities that are providing PMTCT services, a national strategy to eliminate mother to child transmission of paediatric HIV infection. This represented a 91% success rate.
- Twenty six (26) traditional birth attendants from Khomas Region were trained in recognising danger signals in pregnant mothers and new born babies.
- Monthly Maternal, Peri-neonatal Death Reviews (MPNDR) were conducted in all the Regions.
- The northern regions together with the Otjozondjupa Region held multi regional MPNDR meetings to share ideas and experiences on the best possible practices.

1.5.2. Maternal Mortality

The main causes of death in pregnant women in Namibia now are HIV/AIDS; Blood loss during and after labour; High blood pressure during pregnancy; Prolonged labour and Septic or illegal abortions.

In line with the MDGs, Namibia is expected to reduce maternal mortality from 225/100 000 in 1992 to 56/100,000 by 2015. However during 2012 and the third quarter of 2013, the rate was 128/100 000. More work remains to be done in this important area.

As the Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Public Health Sector states, much needs to be done to address the so called “three delays” which have been identified as:

Delay 1: The delay by pregnant women to actually go to the nearest health facility in time for a safe and properly supervised delivery. This has been attributed to ignorance, poverty or the means to get to health facilities.

Delay 2: The delay in getting care due to distances, poor roads and non-availability of affordable transport.

Delay 3: The delay in receiving adequate health care due to shortages of staff, poor health facilities and medical supplies, inadequately trained and poorly motivated staff and insufficient referral systems.

The Ministry supports the establishment of waiting shelters for pregnant mothers to address Delay 2. Alongside this, the Ministry will soon roll out the Health Extension Workers programme that will not only strengthen community involvement, but also provide a key reduction to the first delay.

But as the Presidential Commission correctly points out, Namibia's main problem is the third delay involving inadequate health care due to staff shortages and poor facilities, among other causes. To resolve this, we will need large and sustainable investments in our health facilities and hospitals because that is where the largest backlog currently lies.

1.5.3. Child Health

Child health successes cover the areas of immunization of under-fives. Implementation of strategies such as the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI), Reach Every Child, Maternal and Child Health Days on immunization, were successfully conducted during the period under review. Routine immunization coverage for Pentavalent (DPT3) is now at 84%, a slight improvement from the previous years, while measles is at 76%. Supplementary immunization was successfully conducted during a measles outbreak in specific Regions. With regards to (IMCI) ,71% of the districts are implementing this strategy and there has been better management of ill children at health facility level.

The Ministry has continued to implement IMCI and has further strengthened the EPI at birth and six weeks after birth follow up. The coverage of the First Round and Second Round of the National Immunization Day (NID) activities was 93% and 94% respectively. Measles, Polio vaccine, Vit A supplementation as well as de-worming tablets were given to all children under five years old. Growth monitoring and mosquito nets were distributed to the eligible clients. Women of reproductive age were given Tetanus Toxoid shots. Cold Chain equipment

was procured, through UNICEF, WHO and CDC, for the regions as per replacement plan.

The list includes 30 deep freezers, 146 vaccine fridges, 50 RCWs and 1,010 vaccine carriers. The Regions coordinated the implementation of the maternal and Child Health Days during the last quarter of the calendar year.

1.6. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

1.6.1. HIV/AIDS

Namibia has made great strides in maintaining high coverage of ART for patients eligible for treatment with more than 84% coverage against a national target of 90%. To maintain the coverage, new treatment guidelines were launched with exciting changes that will result in better treatment outcomes for people infected with HIV.

The changes are based on the latest scientific evidence as well as on the 2013 WHO recommendations which stipulate that:

- The eligibility criteria for adult people living with HIV (PLHIV) should be expanded by raising the threshold for starting ART from CD4 350 to 500.
- The eligibility criteria for children should be expanded to allow initiation of treatment for ALL HIV-infected children (under) <15 years old at time of HIV diagnosis.

In addition we will now be able to treat all HIV-positive individuals living in stable partnerships with an HIV-negative person at the time of the diagnosis.

Another major change is that we will provide the single dose ART medication, which involves one tablet given once daily, as standard first line for ART. This combination is easier to take and safer than alternative combinations previously recommended. It can be used in adults, pregnant women, adolescents and older children. Implementation will be done in phases as our health care workers get trained on the new guidelines.

1.6.2. Malaria

As you may be aware, the World Health Organisation earmarked Namibia as one of the countries to eliminate Malaria. In fact Namibia is the Chair of the E8 (eight countries earmarked to eliminate Malaria in the SADC Region - Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe).

For the past five years, Namibia has seen a significant decline in both malaria morbidity and mortality. For this we received the ALMA award twice in the past two years. This achievement was a result of combination of interventions that included malaria vector control, effective case management with Artemisinin Combination Therapy (ACTs), community mobilisation and advocacy, and epidemic monitoring and response.

As a result of the above, during 2012, the outpatient Malaria cases were three thousand one hundred and sixty three (3,163) and Malaria related deaths during the same period four (4). However, during the year 2013, a total of four thousand two hundred and twenty three (4,223) outpatient malaria cases were reported country wide with 20 malaria related deaths.

This is of course a timely warning that tells us all that we cannot relax our disease control measures at all. As soon as we slip, the various diseases will flare up.

Therefore, until we fully eradicate the relevant triggering agents, for example, the malaria parasite, Namibia will continue to be faced with increasing cases of Malaria.

It is, therefore, critical to maintain our interventions and to further strengthen the surveillance system until we achieve malaria elimination by 2020 in line with AU and SADC targets. We do not have much time left to reach the elimination target.

Communities in Malarious Regions are also urged to open their doors to allow spray men/women to enter and conduct Indoor Residual House spraying in order to reach the required WHO coverage of 90% and above.

1.6.3. Tuberculosis (TB)

Namibia remains among countries with the highest per capita TB burden in the world. Preliminary data for 2013 indicates that more than ten thousand five hundred (10,500) TB cases were reported in the country.

The contribution of HIV to the TB epidemic remains significant, with 45% of the TB patients also having HIV infection. The magnitude of the TB epidemic is further worsened by the problem of drug-resistant tuberculosis. In 2013, six (6) patients were diagnosed with XDR-TB, while one hundred and seventy four (174) patients were diagnosed with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB). Despite this continued high disease burden, which has earned Namibia the label of being among countries with an extreme burden according to the Global Fund, there has been a progressive and consistent decline in new case numbers since 2006.

Furthermore, Namibia continues to record good treatment success rates among the patients that are started on medication. In 2013, the treatment success rate was 85%, an improvement from the 83% obtained in the previous year. There are also significant improvements in the care of patients who suffer from both TB and HIV infection.

HIV testing rates for all TB patients have now increased to 92%, compared to 76% in 2010. Furthermore, we have seen the HIV prevalence among TB patients decline from a peak of 67% in 2006 to 45% in 2013. The coverage of antiretroviral therapy (ART) among TB/HIV patients has increased to 80%, compared to 43% in 2010.

The magnitude of drug-resistant TB in the country remains high. Two hundred and sixty four (264) patients were started on the second-line treatment while six patients were diagnosed with XDR-TB. The institutional capacity for the management of these cases remains grossly inadequate.

1.6.4. Leprosy

With the re-launching of the Leprosy Programme in the country in early 2013, Namibia produced its National Leprosy Management Guidelines, carried out training in regions where leprosy is still present, detected more cases and treated all patients diagnosed with the disease. This year,

the country commemorated the 2nd World Leprosy Day in the Kavango Region where 95 people are affected with leprosy (old and new cases). In attendance, were communities from different districts in the Region, businesspersons, and officials from line ministry's and politicians.

1.7. Malnutrition

Malnutrition remains a challenge. Recent statistics from health facilities show that death due to malnutrition remains high among children under the age of five years and increased during the 2013 drought. Malnutrition cases admitted to health facilities from January to July 2013 were as follow:

- 0-5 years, 473 cases, representing (61.1%)
- 5 to under 10 years, 113 cases, representing (14.7%)
- 10 to under 15 years, 96 cases, representing (12.5 %)
- 15 years and older, 86 cases, representing (11.2%)

Currently, the Ministry is implementing the Nutrition Assessment, Counselling and Support (NACS) programme within the clinical setting in 224 health facilities. This means that the target population is clinically assessed and receives nutrition counselling. Those diagnosed as malnourished are put on treatment such as Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) known as "*Plumpy Nut*" or supplementary food known as Fortified Blended Food (FBF). The programme plans to expand these services to all 343 health facilities in the country over the MTEF period by training more health workers in assessing and treating all cases of malnutrition. The MoHSS is busy with incorporating the management of malnutrition in the curriculum of Enrolled nurses trained at the Ministry's health training centres and Registered nurses trained at the University of Namibia.

1.8. DISEASE OUTBREAKS

1.8.1. Cholera Outbreak

Since November 2013, a total of five hundred and fifty four (554) cases of cholera were reported in Omusati, Oshana, Khomas, Ohangwena, Otjozondjupa and Kunene regions, in which 18 people died as a direct result of the disease. The Ministry, together with partners, undertook

immediate and effective coordinated actions to contain the spread of the disease and the situation is found to have stabilized in these Regions.

However, the incidents of cholera show that more work needs to be done in the area of sanitation and basic hygiene, especially in the informal settlements.

1.8.2. Measles Outbreak

Namibia experienced several measles outbreaks in the past years. During 2013, measles outbreaks were reported in Omuthiya district (Oshikoto region), Andara, Nyangana, and Rundu districts (Kavango East and West region) and Engela district (Ohangwena region). Sporadic measles cases were reported in Opuwo, Outapi and Windhoek districts. All measles outbreaks were responded to by means of vaccination campaigns and were successfully controlled. However routine measles immunization coverage is still below the necessary level of 90% to 95%. Unless we reach that level of coverage for our under- fives, we will continue to experience these outbreaks.

1.9. Atomic Energy and Radiation Protection

The radiological safety and protection of people and environment is a key focus area under the environmental health programme, which is implemented through four Thematic Safety Areas (T5As). The TSA1 pertains to the development and implementation of a system for regulatory control of radiation sources, radioactive and nuclear materials. The Health Sector saw an improved performance from 45% to 57% with respect to regulation of infrastructure and activities such as enforcement and inspections, safety and security of radioactive materials.

Under the TSA2, which deals with Radiological Protection in Occupational Exposure, an improvement of 55% performance was recorded in the regulatory infrastructure and activities such as individual monitoring of 200 radiation workers, workplace monitoring of authorised practises and the implementation of the requirements by the end users. Furthermore, the Health Sector achieved a slight improvement from 37% to 43%, according to international standards in TSA3 that has to do with the development and implementation of medical exposure control Programmes.

The last thematic safety area (TSA4) that involves a public exposure control programme, the health sector, recorded an improved performance from a mere 13% to a moderate 32% achievement. The specific activities undertaken included control of radioactive material discharged; storage of radioactive waste and environmental monitoring.

The Ministry serves as a focal point for technical cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). In this capacity the Ministry facilitates and coordinates the integration of nuclear technology into programmes that address various national priorities such as health, crop production, food safety, water resources management, energy and environmental sustainability and human resources for nuclear technology support.

PROGRAM 2:

2. CLINICAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

This Programme aims to provide a broad range of Programmes to deliver services for in-patient and outpatient health care services to match the need of the communities.

- The eligibility criteria for adult people living with HIV (PLHIV) should be expanded by raising the threshold for starting ART from CD4 350 to 500.
- The eligibility criteria for children should be expanded to allow initiation of treatment for ALL HIV-infected children (under) <15 years old at time of HIV diagnosis.

2.1. Specialised Services

2.1.1. Cardiac Unit

Over the last two years, the Cardiac Unit has established itself as a facility providing virtually the same spectrum of advanced heart procedures as any unit in South Africa, the United Kingdom or United States of America.

The Unit now has a well trained team of doctors, nurses and cardiac technologists to support the local programme.

The following were the Unit's achievements for the period April 2013 to February 2014:

- Increased numbers of planned angiography and angioplasty procedures which helped a lot of patients suffering from cardiac diseases.
- Revolutionary procedures such as renal denervation therapy introduced and others for treating hypertension. Namibia is thus the first African country outside South Africa, where such procedures are available.
- Outpatient cardiology clinic hours expanded to include a second outpatient clinic on Thursday afternoon.
- Cathlab staff is well trained in pacing, angiography and angioplasty. The Unit is prepared to expand the portfolio of advanced cardiac procedures further.
- Medical students regularly attend the Unit and have expressed their wish to become part of the service in the future showing that the MoHSS has managed to motivate these young people.
- A reasonable fee was introduced for the cardiac services provided to private, foreign and PSEMAS patients so that the Unit can generate income to partially cover the costs of the service.
- The Unit has started a regular Sunday procedure in which angiography, angioplasty and pacing are performed in efforts to reduce the waiting list. The Unit routinely performs five to six procedures every Sunday and the patients are discharged on Monday. These weekend sessions have helped the Unit to use the facilities fully and effectively.

4) *The following procedures were performed for the period under review:*

2) Procedure	3) No. of procedures in 2012	4) No. of procedures in 2013	6) No. of procedures planned for 2014
7) Angioplasty Stenting	8) 153	9) 251	11) 300 - 400
12) Angiography Diagnostic	13) 311	14) 523	16) 600 - 700
17) Pacemaker Implantation	18) 61	19) 86	21) 100
22) Complex Devices - lcd, Crtp, Crtd	23) 0	25) 2	27)

The Windhoek Central Hospital also conducted cardiac outreach services to the Oshakati and Rundu Referral Hospitals and six hundred and fifty eight (658) patients were screened and treated for cardiac related illnesses.

2.1.2. The Cardiac Unit's Major Constraints

The Cardiac Unit is too small to accommodate all patients that would benefit from specialised care. There is need for a whole new ward, additional nursing staff and more junior doctors for the Unit to admit all patients with acute coronary syndrome, acute heart failure or severe arrhythmia.

Hospitals currently do not have any cardiology database/reporting solution to produce high quality patient and statistical reports. There is a need to start submitting results to an international body (angioplasty audit) and for that the Unit needs a good database. It is critical that the Cardiology Database Reporting Software be linked to the hospital PACS/HIS systems.

The Unit faces a lack of trained cardiac physiologists (cardiac technicians). The highly specialised staff are few but essential for the service. The hospital needs to recruit at least two more cardiac technicians to provide a reliable 24/7 echocardiography, and potentially angioplasty service. The service could be threatened by the sudden departure of any of the existing cardiac technicians.

The State pharmacies in the regions do not keep the supply of the essential cardiac drugs. As a result a large number of patients are forced to travel from the regions to Windhoek Central Hospital just to get their medications. Unfortunately, the WCH pharmacy only supplies a month of medications, which means the patients must travel to Windhoek every month just to get medications.

2.1.3. Foot and Knee Clinic

The Foot and Knee Clinic at the Windhoek Central Hospital saw and treated 75 patients. Of this number, 69 patients were assisted through the Special Fund to travel to South Africa for complex cardiac operations. Some recipients of the fund were referred to the Windhoek Kidney and Dialysis Centre for haemodialysis. Using the Special Fund, assistance was given to patients treated at the Windhoek Eye Centre.

2.1.4. Spinal Cord Unit

At the beginning of 2013, the Ministry formed a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding with Sweden and MVA. This helped establish a specialised Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Centre in Namibia to cater for the needs of patients who suffer from spinal cord injuries due to motor vehicle accidents, stab wounds and other conditions.

The new Spinal Cord Unit admitted 54 patients, 19 of whom were discharge after successful treatment.

PROGRAM 3:

3. HEALTH SYSTEMS PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

This Programme aims at developing the capacity for planning and management of health and social services in order to optimally and efficiently utilize the available resource dedicated to the sector. Particular attention is given to planning in the following health system areas: Human resources for health, health financing, service delivery, governance, HIMS, Public Private Partnerships, health care technology and pharmaceuticals.

- The eligibility criteria for adult people living with HIV (PLHIV) should be expanded by raising the threshold for starting ART from CD4 350 to 500.
- The eligibility criteria for children should be expanded to allow initiation of treatment for ALL HIV-infected children (under) <15 years old at time of HIV diagnosis.

3.1. Alignment of Strategic Planning Frameworks

3.1.1. Strategic Planning

- The Road Map - The Road Map for the Ministry is now in place in accordance with NDP4 and Vision 2030 and was approved by Cabinet. It has considered the prevailing conditions and possible future developmental health issues. The road map provides a strategic long-term framework for the Ministry's human resources development, health facilities upgrading and establishment of specialised services or institutions.
- The Ministry held internal consultations on the finalization of its strategic plan and the development of directorates' annual management plans for the 2014/2015 Financial Year. The Ministry invited key development partners to its annual planning and financial management meeting held in Otjiwarongo in October 2013 to give their input towards achieving the health sector strategies. Represented were partners from WHO; UNFPA; UNICEF; GIZ; MVA Fund; I-Tech; PEPFAR; USAID and CDC respectively.
- Restructuring - The document, we have produced, if approved and funded, will ease our work, particularly at operational level. The burn-out syndrome now prevailing in the Namibian hospitals and health facilities will be reduced. The restructuring proposal is now with the Public Service Commission for scrutiny and approval.

3.1.2. Health system Research

Government has assigned the MoHSS the lead role to ensure that quality health care is implemented and the desired outcomes are achieved with the involvement of all stakeholders. To this end, the MoHSS and National Planning Commission (N PC) conducted stakeholders' consultations to develop a sector framework. However, there was poor participation from O/M/As and this delayed the finalisation of the framework.

3.1.3. Legal and Policy Environment

The Ministry is committed to develop broad-based policies and guidelines to deal with the wide spectrum of health problems and management

issues. During the reporting period, the *National Health Bill*, the *Public and Environmental Health Bill* and the *Traditional Health Bill* were completed and ready for tabling in Parliament. Meanwhile the Food Safety Bill is to be tabled at the Cabinet Committee on Legislation (CCL).

The Ministry conducted the Demographic Health Survey in collaboration with the National Statistics Agency (NSA), the National Institute of Pathology and Macro International. A DHS provides affluent information on key demographic and health issues, including fertility and child mortality, family planning, behaviour knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS, childhood immunization coverage, knowledge and use of oral rehydration therapy for diarrhoea, breastfeeding and nutritional status. The field work and data entry were completed. The Ministry together with the partner agencies are currently verifying the data. Preliminary results are to be finalised mid March.

3.1.4. Private Health Facilities Registration

In accordance with the law, the Ministry issued two hundred fourteen (214) licence certificates to private health facilities countrywide.

3.1.5. Information Technology

The Ministry installed an Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) in all its regional offices to establish and maintain an effective and efficient administrative system. In addition, the Health Care Management System (HCMS) was rolled out to all the regions. Six health facilities were connected to the Wide Area Network (WAN). They are Outapi, Otjiwarongo, Okahandja, Opuwo, Engela, Enhanna, Katutura and Luderitz hospitals. Work is in progress in Karasburg, Tsumeb, Grootfontein, Swakopmund and Walvis Bay hospitals and will be completed by end of April 2014.

The installation of a video conferencing system at Windhoek Central, Katutura, Oshakati, Rundu and Katima Mulilo hospitals and the National Health Training Centre was completed. During the financial year, the Ministry rolled out the Integrated Health Care Information System, in short e-Health, to the Oshakati Intermediate Hospital. This is a system that computerizes the operations of the hospitals.

Communications via email remain an important aspect for efficient service delivery. The Ministry therefore, replaced the outdated e-mail server with a new exchange server that will help health staff to receive their e-mails wherever they are and not just at the office.

The Ministry completed the installation of a CCTV Camera System at the Windhoek Central Medical Stores, and other warehouses within the Windhoek Central Hospital premises. CCTV cameras were also installed at regional depots in Oshana and Kavango regions to ensure security and safety of medicine and medical related supplies.

3.1.6. Transport

For effective health service delivery, transport is a crucial component especially with respect to referrals, outreach and other services related to public health. The Ministry strengthened its fleet, during the reporting period, by converting twenty five (25) Land Cruisers into ambulances, procuring two (2) boats in the Zambezi Region, two (2) refrigerated trucks for transporting pharmaceuticals, nine (9) Hino trucks for transporting other goods and commodities, ninety two (92) single cabs , and seventy two (72) double cabs.

3.1.7. Asset Management

Under Asset Management, nine (9) auctions were held in various regions to sell the written-off vehicles. In addition the assets of the Ministry were loaded on the Asset Management Module of the IFMS. The specification for a computerised inventory management system for consumables is being developed.

3.1.8. Human resource Development and Utilisation

The Ministry is currently operating on an approved staff establishment of the year 2003 which is outdated and does not take into account the current needs. In collaboration with Intra Health, the Ministry produced a report on workload indicators on health professional cadres at various levels of service. The evidence was used in a new staff establishment proposal submitted to the Public Service Commission for consideration.

Staff development is a crucial element in health services delivery. For the period under review, one thousand two hundred and twenty (1,220) staff attended various in-service training programmes on communicable and non-communicable diseases, child health and maternal health. These activities were done in collaboration with partners like I-Tech, WHO, PEPFAR and Global Fund.

For improvement in leadership and health management, the Ministry introduced a Senior Management Development Programme under the University of Stellenbosch. Ninety managers from public and mission health facilities and offices were trained under this programme with nine contact sessions conducted. In addition, a leadership health training course, in collaboration with Intra Health, was conducted and 80 health workers were trained.

The Training Network of the Ministry provides for in-service training programmes for enrolled nurses, pharmacy assistants and radiographers. Currently, there are 356 enrolled nurses and midwives, 33 pharmacy assistants and eight radiographers undergoing training in first year while for the second year the intake is 296 enrolled nurses and midwives, 26 pharmacy assistants and 12 environmental health officers. The Ministry has advertised for full scholarships for students to pursue health and medical related fields in undergraduate studies. To this end, 123 students left for the Russian Federation for studies in medicine and pharmacy.

The Health Sector is experiencing a critical shortage of registered nurses because the University of Namibia (UNAM) does not have the capacity to train sufficient numbers. Thus, the Ministry has introduced a Diploma in Nursing Training Project for a six-year period. The classes started on 01 February 2014, with an intake of 230 students. The course is offered at Keetmanshoop, Windhoek and Rundu Regional Health Training centres.

The Health System Review of 2008 shows that health service provision stops at the clinic level. The Ministry, therefore, embarked on a training programme of health extension workers to improve maternal, child and public health and reduce mortalities. The Ministry and its partners, in particular UNICEF, are training 563 people to become health extension workers in five regions namely; Kavango, Kunene, Zambezi, Ohangwena and Omusati.

While the Ministry has introduced its pre-service training, it has signed various bilateral agreements the Republic of Cuba (65 experts), Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, (20 pharmacists), Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Zambia to recruit health professionals.

It is imperative to mention that the current staff components in most hospitals and health centres are inadequate. This has had negative implications for appropriate service delivery at all levels. The situation is further compounded by the lack of human resources at all levels whether it is national, regional, district or facility level. This is quite pronounced in specialist fields such as those of doctors, registered nurses, radiographers, pharmacists, epidemiologist, entomologists, and surveillance officers, amongst others.

3.1.9. Health Extension Programme

The Health Extension Programme has been scaled up in five regions being Kunene, Omusati, Ohangwena, Kavango East and Zambezi. The Ministry decided to roll out the programme during the 2013/2014 Financial Year after successfully piloting it in the Opuwo district in 2012. A total of 563 Health Extension Worker (HEW) trainees are currently undergoing six months training. The trainees, 163 from Kunene and 100 each from Omusati, Ohangwena, Kavango and Zambezi Regions will be deployed to work in their respective constituencies after completion of their training in March 2014.

The Health Extension Programme will empower families and communities to improve health practices and seek behaviour change through the provision of promotive, preventive, rehabilitative and basic curative services at household and community level. Therefore, HEWs will bring basic health services closer to the community and ensure equitable distribution of community and household centred health services.

As such those new cadres will be a link between communities and health facilities and act as change agents in their respective communities.

The Ministry of Health and social services will implement this programme throughout the country in phases. The plan is to roll out the Health

Extension Programme to five more regions, Karas, Hardap, Oshana, Oshikoto and Otjozondjupa, during the 2014/2015 Financial Year.

The Ministry conducted a number of activities on HIV/AIDS. These included the National Condom Awareness Day commemoration and the National Male Circumcision Strategy that has been finalised. The Ministry maintained 86% ART coverage as per National Strategic Framework set targets.

3.1.10. Infrastructure Development and Maintenance

With regard to infrastructure development and maintenance, the Ministry commissioned an assessment of health facilities to determine urgent, medium and long-term maintenance requirement.

The main projects under strategic intervention are the upgrading, renovation and construction of health centres, hospitals, training centres, regional management team offices and supporting infrastructure. Also included is the planned preventative maintenance of infrastructure and equipment, and information communication technology infrastructure. To this end, 17 projects were completed during the reporting period and are listed as follows;

- clinics in (Kanono, Rehoboth, Daan Viljoen, Buite Pos, Omungwelum, Otjondeka Mondesa, Masokotwane, Impalila Island and Hakhaseb;
- health centre in Okankolo;
- hospital components comprising Usakos hospital administration block, St Mary's accommodation, Opuwo maternity ward, Oshakati maternity ward, final completion of Oshakati Hospital Nuclear Medicine Unit, Oshakati Hospital ward 54 and 55 and Windhoek Central Hospital maternity ward.

The improvement to health facilities is ongoing at 14 clinics, two health centres and six hospitals. It includes the erection of prefabricated accommodation at rural clinics at Etegameno Rehabilitation Centre and Oshikoto Regional Management team offices.

Due to the poor performance of contractors, there have been delays in the completion of projects. The Ministry asked for contract determination on one project, while on another, the project contract was determined. The implementation was further delayed by the lengthy process of tender evaluation and submission. Furthermore, after awarding the contract, there were delays in raising the necessary performance guarantee and insurances by contractors.

Equipment in most health facilities is old and worn out and has exceeded its lifespan. The MoHSS has developed standard guidelines and specifications for equipment procurement at various levels. This has limited the acquisition of the medical equipment.

PROGRAM 4:

4. DISABILITY PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION

The main object of this programme is to contribute to prevention and rehabilitation of disability in the country.

- The eligibility criteria for adult people living with HIV (PLHIV) should be expanded by raising the threshold for starting ART from CD4 350 to 500.
- The eligibility criteria for children should be expanded to allow initiation of treatment for ALL HIV-infected children (under) <15 years old at time of HIV diagnosis.

Namibia ratified and adopted both the international and continental instruments on Persons with Disabilities that paved the way for the mainstreaming of disability issues. Nationally, this led to the adoption of the National Policy on Disability in 1997 and the enactment of the National Disability Act, Act 26 of 2004. Furthermore, the Government established the Disability Advisory Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister and the National Disability Council (NDC) within the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

Shortly after the establishment of the National Disability Council, various problems related to governance and management of the Council arose. As a result, a Committee was set up to look into the affairs of the Council.

The Committee conducted the investigation over two months through interviews, a review of documents and through questionnaires. A report with findings, recommendations and a time-line of 24 months for implementation of the recommendations was then presented to Government.

The recommendations covered aspects of legislation and policy, broad governance issues, planning and budgeting and management. In particular, the Committee recommended good governance including the stewardship role of the Ministry, the fiduciary duties of the Council, systems to improve the management of the Council and the strengthening of relationships between the Council and its stakeholders.

In its Report, the investigating Committee acknowledged Government's efforts in addressing the challenges faced by people with disabilities. Cognisant of the status of and opportunities for persons with disability, the investigating Committee was of the opinion that reasonable accommodation should be provided for people with disabilities to cater for their special needs in a transparent manner that would provide equal opportunities for people with disabilities.

The focus on disability and rehabilitation is to contribute to the prevention and rehabilitation of disability in the country. For the reporting period the achievements were as follows:

4.1. Orthopaedic Technical Services

A total of 322 clients received assistive appliances, while 433 were screened for wheelchairs. Home-based follow-ups in the Regions were conducted on these patients. In respect of eye health care, the Health Sector gave support to 1,214 patients who underwent successful cataract surgery.

PROGRAM 5:

5. DEVELOPMENTAL: SOCIAL WELFARE

Developmental Social Welfare Programme aims to ensure quality delivery of social care that provides care while enabling people to retain their independence, control and dignity. The Programme includes activities

such as support of people with disabilities, promotion of family wellbeing, counselling, administering policies and legislation for registration and operations of welfare organizations and institutional centres, offenders health, mental capacity, learning disabilities, and assistance to people affected by the abuse of drugs/substance.

Strives towards being the leading provider of integrated quality developmental social welfare services by providing rights-based, participatory, and community centred services responsive to the needs of all.

Alcohol consumption is high and increasing in Namibia. Alcohol abuse plays a major role in various medical, psychiatric, social and family problems, such as increased domestic and common violence and unintentional injuries. Furthermore, it decreases productivity, causes child neglect and abuse, motor vehicle accidents and various diseases. Social workers in the MoHSS provided therapy to one-thousand-nine-hundred-and-ninety-four (1,994) people who are addicted to alcohol and drugs. In line with Vision 2030, the Ministry campaigned strongly and disseminated information against the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs through the Coalition on the Reduction of Harmful Drinking Committees (CORD Committees), which currently number 23 country-wide. Twenty-five (25) aftercare groups are functional in communities as well.

The purpose of welfare organisations is to provide social welfare services to the vulnerable, poor and marginalised people in society and to complement existing social welfare services. Four hundred and forty three (443) welfare organisations are now registered with the MoHSS. Of these, 16 received subsidies and financial assistance from the Ministry.

Attempted suicide cases are referred to social workers by hospitals, medical personnel and family members. Currently, attempted suicides are one of the top 10 social problems dealt with by social workers. One thousand three hundred and seventy nine (1,379) people received therapy from social workers country wide. Aggressive campaigns were conducted with various stakeholders in an effort to reduce suicides.

5.1. Gender Based Violence

Namibia is faced with huge challenges in combating gender based

violence particularly against women and girls. It is recognised that substance abuse is a contributing factor to such violence as well as leading to risky sexual behaviour. It has also been identified as a behavioural risk factor for ARV non-adherence.

Calls have been made for the closure of *shebeens*, increasing of fines and punishments for drug traffickers and those conducting illegal *shebeens*.

These are necessary measures at the supply side of drugs and alcohol. However, as far as the Ministry is concerned, Namibia needs to deal with the demand side - that is people who use and abuse alcohol and drugs.

The Ministry is tasked with rehabilitation and has developed an extensive response to substance abuse including policies and strategies for prevention, rehabilitation and treatment.

For this purpose, the MoHSS has set up an in-patient programme at the Etegameno Rehabilitation and Resource Centre which provides community based services on alcohol prevention and education. It admits 16 patients per intake for a period of four weeks. There are also after care groups country-wide that provide counselling services.

The most commonly abused substances in Namibia are alcohol, dagga, mandrax and crack cocaine. The challenge is to develop strategies to effectively deal with drug abuse as it is becoming a bigger problem in the country.

In addition, the MoHSS has gone as far as making available community counsellors in most health facilities. This cadre works closely with the nursing and medical staff as well as with social workers in addressing personal issues through counselling, anger management and constructively discussing problems in family settings.