

**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 Uutoni	<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 Nguvauva	<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 A Riruako	
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	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr B Amathila	
Dr M Amweelo (Mr)	<i>(Deputy Chief Whip)</i>
Mr N Angula	<i>(Minister)</i>
Dr H Geingob (Mr)	<i>(Prime Minister)</i>
Dr S C Ankama (Mr)	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Ms P Beukes	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr E Dingara	
Mr J Ekandjo	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr B Esau	<i>(Minister)</i>
Dr T-B Gurirab (Mr)	<i>(Speaker)</i>
Ms P Haingura	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr M Hausiku	<i>(Deputy Prime Minister)</i>
Mr U Herunga	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr P Iilonga	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Mr W Isaacks	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Ms P Iivula-Ithana	<i>(Minister)</i>
Dr N Iyambo (Mr)	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr J Kaapanda	<i>(Minister)</i>
Dr E Kaiyamo (Mr)	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Dr R Kamwi (Mr)	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr P Kapia	
Prof L Kasingo (Ms)	<i>(Deputy Speaker)</i>
Mr I Katali	<i>(Minister)</i>
Ms J Kavetuna	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Dr A Kawana (Mr)	<i>(Minister)</i>
Mr K Kazenambo	
Ms L Lucas	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
Ms S Makgone	<i>(Deputy Minister)</i>
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
11 MARCH 2015**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: The Business of the House is called to order. We know it, but I must direct you by informing you about the passing on of our Dear Colleague Philemon Moongo; one of the longest serving Members of this august House.

In the same vein, I also wish to inform you about the passing on of the husband of Honourable Angelica Muharukua, Festus Muharukua. As we get to know the further arrangements – Memorial Services and Funeral Services and so on, we shall respond accordingly. Let us all rise to observe a moment of silence.

HOUSE OBSERVES A MINUTE OF SILENCE

ANNOUNCEMENT

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much indeed. I appreciate it. I wanted to say that we are beginning to know more and more, step by step, as some of the things are being unveiled to the general public that we belong to. The Right Honourable Prime Minister, more in his incoming capacity as President Elect, exposed to the general public, some of what were secrets – the tip of the iceberg. We are grateful for knowing, like

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**ANNOUNCEMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

some of you were telling me – *I told you so, I knew it all along.*
(*Laughter*)

I do not believe it, but I saw it with my own eyes. For those of you who have access to television, some people sitting here with us will be sworn in and other Protocol matters are still to come. One of the longest serving Members of this Chamber, a former Minister of this, the other, and yet the other; I forgot his name, has been presented to the general public as the Vice-President of the Republic of Namibia. We commend you.
(*Applause*)

There are also two ladies, one seated here and the other out on service. The one, now Minister of Finance, I think you know her name, will be coming back after swearing in as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia. Congratulations. (*Applause*)

The Comrade too, who is absent on service assignment, will deputise her as the Deputy Prime Minister, and that is none other than, Honourable Netumbo Ndaitwah (*interjection*)

HON MEMBER: Why only women?

HON SPEAKER: It is a price we pay, you got carried away with the 50-50 representation (*laughter*) We are, of course, awaiting some more and when that happens, we would be feeding you after we find out, and are able to confirm the way that it has been done this time around. Honourable Mbumba was there on television too, but we will pray for you.
(*laughter*)

Congratulations and thank you very much, Right Honourable Prime Minister, for keeping us informed through your step-by-step style.

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HON SPEAKER: The First Notice of a Motion is the one of the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs. Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be now introduced?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objections? Agreed to. Will the Honourable Minister please table the Bill?

Since I have jumped the gun, because of excitement, the Secretary will now read the Bill a First Time.

**FIRST READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill [B.3 – 2015]*

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: I have Reports to table, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: I will give you the time to do that Minister. In the excitement that I started with, I did not follow the leaders of the programme. The first one was the Speaker's Announcement.

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON DINGARA**

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Honourable Dingara.

**TABLING: REPORT ON THE OVERSIGHT
VISIT ON THE DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECTS OF
THE MINISTRY OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

HON DINGARA: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table for note taking, the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs on the Oversight Visit on the Development Capital Projects of the Ministry of Regional Local Government Housing and Rural Development in the //Karas and Hardap Regions from the 27 January to the 7 of February 2014.

**TABLING: REPORT ON THE STUDY VISIT
TO THE PARLIAMENT OF FINLAND**

HON DINGARA: I further, lay upon the Table, the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs on the Study Visit to the Parliament of Finland from 29 September to 3 October 2014. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please table the Report. Other Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance?

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

TABLING: REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

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

- (i) Ministry of Trade and Industry for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (ii) Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (iii) Ministry of Justice for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (iv) Ministry of Mines and Energy for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (v) Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (vi) Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (vii) Ministry of Education for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (viii) National Assembly for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (ix) National Council for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (x) Office of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013;
- (xi) National Planning Commission for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2013; and

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

- (xii) Anti-Corruption Commission for the Financial Year ended March 31st 2013.

I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Reports. Thank you. Notice of Questions? Notice of Motions? Do we get back to where we started?

The Secretary will now read the Bill as introduced by the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration.

**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP (SECOND)
SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 - 2015]**

SECRETARY: *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill [B.3 – 2015]*

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be now read a Second Time.

HON MINISTER OR HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objections? Agreed to. I will give the Floor to the Minister to motivate the Bill.

HON MINISTER OR HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:

Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Members, since I am the first to speak in Parliament today, after a landmark decision has been announced to the public and out of my own excitement, that the gender issue is taking root in our society, allow me, Comrade Speaker, to start by congratulating my own, “Dr Nickey Iyambo,” for his designation as our next Vice-President.

Secondly, I would like to congratulate my sisters, old and young for their designations as Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, respectively.
(*Applause*)

Having said that, Comrade Speaker, allow me now to get to what made me take the Floor.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the *Namibian Citizenship Special Conferment Act*, 1991 (Act 14 of 1991) came into force in 1991 in order to provide for the conferment of Namibian citizenship upon certain descendants of persons who left Namibia owing to persecution by the colonial Government, which was in control of Namibia before 1915. This was necessary because Article 4 of the Namibian Constitution only caters for the first generation of descendants of such persons and not the second and subsequent generations.

The first generation may apply for citizenship by descent. With the enactment of the said Act, a number of persons of Namibian origin who were citizens of Botswana, relocated to Namibia during the early 1990s. The said Act was only in force for five years after its commencement. This means that persons who may fall in the category provided for by that Act, but not relocate to Namibia within the given time are not covered by

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

the same Law. With that in mind, it is a fact that there are still many descendants of those persons who fled Namibia under circumstances prescribed by that Act who wish to relocate and settle in Namibia, and acquire the Namibian citizenship.

I am pleased, Honourable Speaker, to inform this august House that on the 24th of February this year, Cabinet granted approval for the introduction of a Law to remedy this anomaly. The purpose of the proposed Law is to provide legislative room to enable persons falling under the category referred to above who desire to become residents of Namibia and thus become citizens of the Republic of Namibia, to do so. Like its predecessor, the Bill I have the honour to table provides a timeframe of 10 years after its commencement within which the affected descendants can apply for citizenship.

It is important to set a time limit because the Law is aimed at addressing the plight of a specific group of persons. The plight to be addressed is not of a permanent nature and will eventually come to an end. It also aims at making it easier for the affected category of persons to acquire the Namibian citizenship. The enactment of the new Law is in line with Article 4(9) of the Constitution, which provides that Parliament shall be entitled to make Laws not inconsistent with the Constitution regulating acquisition or loss of Namibian citizenship.

The 1991 Act cannot be amended, as it is no longer active. It is, therefore, necessary to enact a new Law for this purpose. Honourable Speaker, I have taken note of the concerns raised why the second and subsequent generations cannot be granted citizenship by descent. I must add that this is not the first time this issue of citizenship, by descent, by the second and subsequent generations in question, is being raised in this august House.

It was discussed from the 29th of October to the 18th of November 1991 during the Debate for the *Namibian Citizenship Special Conferment Act of 1991* and it was also explained by the current Attorney-General on the 17th of July 2014, during a Ministerial Statement, after some media frenzy on

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

the matter. Article 4(2) of the Constitution provides for citizenship by descent and limits such citizenship to two categories of persons only:

- 1) Those whose parents are already citizens of Namibia at the time of their birth; and
- 2) Those whose parents would have qualified for citizenship by birth under Sub-Article 8 of Sub-Article 1, if the Constitution has been in force.

This clearly omits the second and subsequent generations. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the Constitutional position is that second and subsequent generations do not qualify for citizenship by descent. This interpretation is not new. It can be traced back to 1991. It was, in fact, because of this Constitutional limitation that the *Namibian Citizenship Special Conferment Act of 1991* came to life. I will, therefore, not dwell into a Constitutional discourse of the then discourse of the matter other than to offer the interpretation as given by the then Attorney-General in the name of Dr Ngarikutuke Tjiriange and it reads as follows and I quote:

“The grandchildren and further descendents of these people meaning those that are descendants of Namibia, who are still in Botswana and who were not born in Namibia and who are not married to Namibian citizens, do not qualify for Namibian citizenship under the normal criteria laid down in Article 4 of the Namibian Constitution. Such persons must apply for citizenship within five years then and ten years now from the commencement of this Act”.

Honourable Speaker, as Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, I have neither the power nor the mandate to vary the legal interpretation offered by the legal Advisor of Government in the position of Attorney-General of the Republic. The comfort I can offer, though, is the length of time within which descendants referred to can now apply to become citizens of the Republic of Namibia – instead of five years, it is now ten years.

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HON MAAMBERUA**

Finally, Honourable Speaker, note should be taken that the group of persons in question is not limited to the OvaHerero who fled to Botswana, but to all second and subsequent generations of persons who fled Namibia owing to persecution by the colonial Government, which was in control in the country before 1915.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I now present the Namibian *Citizenship Second Special Conferment Bill* for your kind consideration and I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. We heard it. Any further discussions? Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I want to make some comments, but I have not seen the Bill. Is it possible that we can be provided with the Bill?

HON SPEAKER: All of us do not have a copy.

HON MAAMBERUA: So that we can (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: It is being distributed. You can get started. You have a copy. Give him the copy first.

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERENCE BILL
HON MAAMBERUA**

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I think it is just what the Minister said. I would first want to wholeheartedly, (*interjections*) one speaker at a time, please. (*Laughter*)

HON SPEAKER: Thank you for the assistance.

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes. I would first want to wholeheartedly, applaud this good intervention on the side of Government even though, as the Minister admits, it comes from a long-standing outcry for this issue to be addressed. I wish to offer, not a direct response as such, but perhaps look at the circumstances that may not have been fully captured in the Minister's Statement that led to many Namibians being scattered all over the world, and therefore, not only in one epoch, but in over several years.

I wish to start as follows, before I look at the specific legal issues regarding this Bill. However, also before that, I wish to pose a question as to what happened to the time limit of 1915 – as presented in the Order Paper – whether it is still part of the Bill we are discussing or something different from the Order Paper – the cut off date?

I wish to start by saying that from the time of slavery, many, many slaves were taken from northern Namibia, Angola already in 1611 thereabout. (*Interjections*) 1611, that is when slavery started from the northern part of Namibia and Angola. The Portuguese regime has been in Angola, before their Independence, for about 500 years – for your information. These people that we can regard as Namibians – and mind you some of the kingdoms in the northern part of Namibia, if I have to be specific, the Kwanyama, was divided into two. During the division of 1884, during the Berlin Conference, that is when the demarcation of borders came into being so that (*interjections*) just listen (*intervention*)

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HON MAAMBERUA**

HON SPEAKER: I want to listen to the presenter.

HON MAAMBERUA: (*Interjection*) No, no, no – just listen.

HON SPEAKER: We will take time and get it right. Let us listen to him. Everybody will have an opportunity.

HON MAAMBERUA: We have many Namibians who were split between the two countries with different relations. The fact that some of these Namibians ended up in Angola is not of their own volition, but because of the colonialism. Therefore, I would regard those people as having the right to also claim Namibian citizenship by descent.

Similarly, the slaves that are referred to whose descendents find themselves in Latin America, in America, etcetera, obviously, went there not of their own volition, but because of the force of colonialism, and, therefore, by descent, in my view should have the right to claim or apply for Namibian citizenship, if they so wished through citizenship by descent.

There were also Namibians in 1903, particularly from the Nama population who were transported to Togo. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Deputy Minister of Justice, Honourable Nambahu.

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON MAAMBERUA**

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Can I offer the Honourable Member, a piece of advice – Comrade Maamberua, let me call you Comrade this time. Since you are alone and you only have one chance, would it not be advisable for you to read the Bill and make a contribution because that is your only chance. How do you use your only bullet to shoot in the sky when the enemy is coming?

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: This is a very serious matter and the approach must be in the way I am doing it, because we must give a historical background before we conclude as to what type of citizenship and the time limit that is being provided for.

In 1903, Namibians from the southern part of Namibia were taken by Germany to Togo. There are descendents of those people in Togo today. Others, in the same year and some years earlier, were taken to the western part of Cameroon, particularly, to a town called Buea, near Mount Cameroon, the highest mountain in West Africa. I lived there for about a year. The descendents of those people who were taken there by Germany are still there. These are people who can still, in my view, within this Bill should have the right to claim, by way of descendents, Namibian citizenship. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Minister of Justice, Honourable Nujoma.

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(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON MAAMBERUA**

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: May ,I ask Honourable Maamberua a small question?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Honourable Maamberua, I am now totally lost.

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes, of course.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Because the title of this Bill is *to provide for the conferment of Namibian citizenship upon certain descendants of persons who left Namibia owing to prosecution by the colonial Government that was in control of the country before 1915, and to provide for incidental matters.*

Now, Honourable Maamberua, this is not a Historical Conferment Act where you narrate the Slavism, Togo, Benin and Tanzania and all that. Please, let us be specific, because we want to deal with a serious matter that is affecting our people. That is why the Bill has come before this House so that we can pay the necessary attention to it and not dwell on historical background.

If you want another Act, Honourable Maamberua, you can do that here through a Private Members' Bill or your Party and we look at it. Please we want to do the work as fast as possible so that our people can get what they deserve. Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON MAAMBERUA**

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Honourable Speaker, if we enact Laws, we have to inform ourselves, fully. A Bill of this nature, looking at conferment of citizenship on the basis of descent, must be fully understood within its historical context. Therefore, this historical narration is very, very important. Who are these people that we are going to confer citizenship to if we do not even understand them or if we do not even know them? *(Intervention)*

HON SPEAKER: Chief Ankama.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Honourable Speaker, one is a Point of Information, second is a question.

Point of Information – Honourable Maamberua, you are narrating history in pieces and if you are narrating history, other countries can also narrate history in their own respective countries. What you are trying to do is to collect everyone who has moved away from this continent at one point or another; people who have gone in Diaspora because of their own interest. You are in actual fact infringing on other people's Governments, sovereignty, countries and States.

Are you trying to incite other people in their countries to revolt against their Governments to want to come to Namibia? That is my question. Thank you.

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HON MAAMBERUA**

HON SPEAKER: Continue, Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Another group of Namibians who also deserve consideration under this Bill are those who were forced by the people – who left South Africa under the so-called *Voortrekkers* of the Great Trek, who tracked through Botswana, Namibia to Angola.

These Namibians were forcefully taken along this great track up to Angola. Some of them have come back, that is now the descendents bearing the names of Van der Merwe, etcetera. Their parents who left with this Great Trek people already in the 1840s, obviously the descendants who are still in Angola deserve the right, if they so wish, to also apply and to qualify under this Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Minister of Mines and Energy.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: May I please ask Honourable Maamberua a question?

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Honourable Maamberua, you are saying the people came through Botswana and Namibia to Angola.

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HON MAAMBERUA**

HON MAAMBERUA: Die Groot Trekkers, yes.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: If they came through Botswana and Namibia, where did they come from, and how can they become citizens, if they just passed through?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON MAAMBERUA: My Friend, I am saying the *Groot Trekkers* came from South Africa through Botswana to Namibia. In Namibia they took some Namibians by force, with them, as semi-slaves. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I want us to be orderly. This is a very important matter we are discussing. Let us give it the serenity – urgency that it deserves. Honourable Ekandjo.

HON MINISTER OF YOUTH, NATIONAL SERVICE, SPORTS AND CULTURE: May I ask the Honourable Member a small question?

Honourable Maamberua, your and my great great grandparents originate from Central Africa from a village somewhere near Kigali, close to the Great Lakes Region.

Are you implying that we too, should all go back to the Great Lakes, if that is what you are talking about – 500 years ago? We all, you and I,

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originated from the Great Lakes. Does it mean that everyone must go back there, including you and I?

HON SPEAKER: I was here. (*Laughter*)

HON MAAMBERUA: We are talking about people who were forcefully removed from Namibia under colonial circumstances. The descendants of those people are the ones we are addressing through this Bill. We are not talking about people who came from Central Africa. Central Africa is not in Namibia for your information. We are talking about people who left Namibia under colonial pressures. Honourable Minister of Sports and Culture, I think that is clear.

Another group of Namibians that we need to consider, as we apply this Bill and understand this Bill within its historical context, are those Namibians who were forcefully taken from Namibia under semi-slavery conditions, together with some of the missionaries, to foreign countries like those who went with Reverend Hugo Hahn, in this case, to South Africa in the 1800s. That is another category of people that we need to pay attention to. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Can I ask the Honourable Member a question?

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HON MAAMBERUA: Yes.

HON KAURA: Honourable Maamberua, this Bill is dealing with individuals that are identifiable. What you are trying to address is something completely nebulous.

Do you have any evidence of those people who went with Hugo Hahn or whoever, anywhere in the world, where you can point out that that particular person intends to come back to Namibia or are you just pontificating and talking in the wind?

HON MAAMBERUA: The Bill must be intelligible. In other words, we have to ensure that we cover the circumstances that are intended by the Bill. There is evidence that Hugo Hahn went with certain Namibians to South Africa who never came back. Therefore, it is not for me to say that I know that particular descendant of that group, but it is now for researchers to allow that opportunity for whoever finds himself as having been part of that enforced entourage to be able to take advantage of this opening that is offered by the Government of the Republic of Namibia. That is your answer. I am not pontificating.

Indeed, coming back to the cut off date of 1915, I think that is problematic – 1915 is problematic because there are Namibians who left the country, under colonial wars and colonial forceful circumstances, to other countries. Let me give you an example. When Chief Mandume Ya Ndemufayo was killed in 1917, that was in battle, his soldiers and some of his subjects left this part of the border of Namibia into Angola, because of the war and that war, as I said, started in 1915 to 1917 and Mandume was killed in 1917, on the 6th of February.

How can we not consider the descendants of those people who were forced

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by this war against the Uukwanyama Kingdom, to flee to Angola, that their descendants could actually now come back and claim citizenship by descent, if they so wish? Why do we have to have a cut off date of 1915?

Let me go to other circumstances after 1915. There were many Namibians who left Namibia, either for the Liberation Struggle purposes to other countries, already in the 40s, in the 50s, 60s and some of them never returned to Namibia. Their descendants who may not have come back to Namibia and may still be living outside Namibia, must be part of the intention of this Bill. Therefore, the cut-off date (*interjections*)

Namibia only got independent in 1990, so it is not unique to Namibia to extend the citizenship by descend for several generations. Other countries have done that and I agree with the intention of extending that for Namibians, but I have one very serious problem and that is the ten years limitation.

I had to sketch these historical circumstances because if we say within ten years, the descendants of all these different categories ought to have applied for Namibian citizenship. How are we going to inform the descendants of Namibians who are now living in Togo, Cameroon, Brazil, wherever they find themselves in the next ten years? Is the Ministry going to launch and mount information campaigns in Togo to inform these people that if you do not do that within ten years – or how are we going to inform people within this ten years? (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Minister of Mines and Energy.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Honourable Maamberua, Point of Information. I keep on saying that it is better for you to go and read the Bill in order to prepare yourself after you understand the

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Bill. The Bill is not intended to go and campaign all over the world that all Namibian descendents must come back. No, it is not like that. These are citizens of other countries. The Bill is intended for those who, voluntarily, want to come back.

Some of them have already applied; it is only that there is no instrument to allow them to do what they want to do. It is not a campaign, *per se*, to go all over the world and say; if you are a descendant of Namibia come back home. It is not like that. Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Maamberua.

HON MEMBER: Honourable Maamberua must be arrested.

HON MAAMBERUA: It is only under your regime that a person like me can be arrested. Thank God, you did not become the President of Namibia and most probably you will not become one. You cannot threaten citizens with arrest, if you are a serious politician.

My friend, I am not saying this is a Bill to campaign for citizens to come back, but for all intent and purposes this Bill is to give an opportunity to those who, otherwise, would never have had that opportunity to be able to be informed to take the advantage of this window that we are opening.

My contention is that ten years is not enough. Why do we have to limit it to ten years, if we know that potential citizens through descent, may not get that information? Why do we not look at a reasonable time period like 50 years? (*Intervention*)

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HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kaura?

HON KAURA: Honourable Member, are you aware of the fact that there is already a Constitutional Provision that anyone who comes to Namibia and stay for five years can apply for citizenship. Would that not cover your people in Brazil, Togo, Cameroon or anywhere else?

HON MAAMBERUA: The people in Togo, Cameroon, Botswana and the rest of the world are not my people. These are Namibian people for your information. Please, I am not speaking on my own behalf, I am speaking on behalf of the Namibian people. I am a concerned Leader of the country and I am perplexed to have received that question from Honourable Kaura who should actually know this information that I am providing much better than me.

Those are not my people. These are people of Namibia and I still argue that ten years, just like the five years did not make any difference, is also not going to make any difference and will not help the situation that we want to address at all. Therefore, we have to give ourselves enough time for these people to access this information and to take the opportunity to apply, if they so wish. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Ankama, this is your third time you are rising.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Honourable Speaker, I am rising for the second time and

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I would like to ask Honourable Maamberua a question. I think Honourable Maamberua hopes that when he (*intervention*)

HON MAAMBERUA: Are you asking a question or making a comment?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Yes, I am introducing my question to you.

You are campaigning vigorously for these people who have left this country hundred years or how many years back to come back with the hope that when they come here they would become members of SWANU.

Forget about this, because it is not even making provisions for Party issues. These provisions are just made for those people described within this instrument that we have at hand. Forget about looking at membership right now. I think we better concentrate on the instrument at hand.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Honourable Speaker, I think we are dealing with a very serious issue here, an issue of life and death, because these people were forced at gun point to leave Namibia and I am not going to take that foolish comment from the Honourable Member.

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HON SPEAKER: Withdraw the *foolish* part.

HON MAAMBERUA: I beg your pardon?

HON SPEAKER: Withdraw the *foolish*.

HON MAAMBERUA: I withdraw that word. However, Honourable Speaker, my contention is that we have to take all these circumstances and the different historical epochs that the Bill intends to address into account.

I think the cut-off date of 1915 should be removed. That is what I recommend. The period of ten years is too short. It will not make any difference. That is by way of summary and I would propose between 50 and 100 years – that should be the proper consideration and I submit. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker for granting me the opportunity to speak on this Bill.

I would like to ground my comment and contribution on Page 2 of the Bill on the definition where it talks about *Conferment of Citizenship upon Certain Persons*. I would address both Clause (a) and Clause (b) as contained in the Bill. Apart from that I will address myself to (2) A

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person who is entitled to Namibian citizenship in terms of Subsection (1), may, within a period mentioned in that Subsection in the prescribed form, applied for registration as a Namibian citizen.

Let me make my contribution in addressing the points I have highlighted by briefly painting a historical background, because this Bill is dealing with issues of historical nature. The persons we are addressing here are products of circumstances and consequences, which unfolded in this country on historical basis. The majority of the people who are sitting in this august House today, and I will repeat myself; the majority of the people who are sitting in this august House or the National Assembly today, are not from the fourth generation, if my memory serves me well.

Some people who are sitting here are direct descendants of the people who witnessed a manifestation of colonial carnage in this country. That is one category – the majority of us who are sitting here. Some will be the second generation and at least some would be a third generation, if there is any here. Myself who is speaking here and I am turning 52 years in July, I am from the third generation.

I am a son of a person whose parents survived the Genocide. If my English serves me well I am from the third generation because my father's parents were directly affected. They witnessed the carnage. My grandfather participated in the war as a soldier or as a fighter and fled this country. He witnessed the carnage and the same applies to my grandmother. It is only my father who was born in exile. I was also born in exile and I carried on where my grandfather left and participated in the Liberation Struggle which forced my grandparents to leave this country, and the pioneers of that struggle, include the Speaker who is sitting there.

They are the people who carried on the message of the carnage that took place in this country. When we are dealing with this issue history will record us; generations and generations down memory lane – that the third and the second generations of the people who have witnessed the carnage of displacement and dispossession. How did they handle the matter of that

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background in conferring or in the conferment as the document reads – in the conferment of citizenship on the off-product, if I may say, or offspring of the people who, at one point suffered at the hands of colonial killers in this country? Are we addressing these Laws in the spirit of reconciliation, which we have set as a guideline? In fact, we do not have a Policy on Reconciliation in written form, but you can also have a Policy in a non-written form that can guide you. Are we sensitive to our historical background or are we taking the comfort of today to disconnect ourselves from the carnage, suffering, torture and humiliation of yesteryear? What choices are we making when we are making these Laws, and what heritage and legacies are we leaving behind in making these Laws?

Comrade Speaker, people like to say some issues are sensitive, but for me this issue is not sensitive. It is about me. It is about my existence. It is about my identity and I think it is about the identity of many others in this country, as well as outside this country. In today's world, not in a barbarian world of yesteryear –let me repeat that – in today's civilised world, not in a barbarian world of carnage, colonialism and of people who had power and could impose on others and humiliate others, today we are guided by International Instruments and Conventions, as civilised societies, to regulate our alliance and relationships. It is not based on the will and the likes of who – it is a question of co-existence in the global world, in sharing the space on this mother earth – co-existence and mutual respect in sharing the space on this mother earth.

Therefore, the Laws, be it domestic Laws, International Conventions, be it the ones made at the United Nations, are designed to guide society in a civilised manner.

My identity is not traded, my identity is not begged, my identity is a birthright! It can be ancestral, it can be a birthright! *Mo ndjizuu kutja metjavi?* (Do you understand what I am saying?) My identity can be a birthright, I can be born with it, my identity can be ancestral, I can inherit it from those who brought me on this mother earth. Therefore, when we are dealing with this Law we must be guided by the understanding that the

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identity, the ancestral rights of individuals unfold and present themselves in two forms. You are born with them or they are passed onto you by your ancestors.

I am not a Herero by choice. I am a Herero by birth. I am naturally a Herero whether I am alive or dead and no earthly Law will change that. Arrangements can be made, instruments can be made, but I am a Herero by birth and there is no tribalism in that. Those who have not matured should know that all of us, sitting here, were born with an identity, a Human Right identity that is protected by International Instruments and Conventions.

Where do I come from and what do I want to infer here? People fled this country before it was even Namibia – nobody on earth can determine their citizenry. You can determine it by Law to regulate it within who they are and our Laws should be prepared to address that. It is the reality. They can claim those Laws and Rights as a right because of their birth or they can claim it through their ancestors. Go and look at International Instruments when we are talking about heritage. My heritage is my language, my heritage is my culture my heritage is my being. My heritage remains my heritage. My language remains my language, whether I am in the United States of America, London, Gam or Botswana.

What are we talking about here? Why should we limit citizens of this country? And by the way, what do you mean by citizens? When these people left this country it was not Namibia and it was not German South West Africa – check your facts! Where do you cut the line that they have no claim to this country and where do you delete that line? Tell me! Tell me which Constitutional Clause gives this House the Right to design this so-called conferment and put a time limit. Which Clause empowers that? Which Law of this country gives us the Right to take the Ancestral Right of Namibians – Ancestral Rights of Namibians wherever they are, for us to sit in this House and say that we put a ten-year limit – ten years limit based on what? My ancestry has got no limits of years. Where do I begin? To start with, the Parent Clause in this Law, maybe you have not

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read and understand it – you offered it. Understand the Clause in this Law: The people or their parents, who left this country because of persecution never renounced their citizenship of this country. They left this country and they have never acquired or applied for citizenship of the countries where they were. Check your facts! They will remain Hereros, Mbanderus, Namas, Damaras, Kwanyamas, Mbandjas or Ndongas wherever they are. Are you going to cut that identity?

Let us stop the bluff and the pretences here. Many of us here were the liberators of this country. This thing is unconstitutional, is illegal, it is laughable and it is shameful. This thing as it stands here – it speaks, it confirms and it agrees, silently, to the extermination order of Von Trotha that was issued in this country. Nothing more and nothing less! I will repeat – as it is here, call me to a disciplinary hearing tomorrow, fire me out of this country, but you cannot deport me from this country. Call me to a disciplinary hearing. This country is a silent killer. It agrees with the language of Von Trotha that if you find an armed or unarmed Herero with or without arms, child or woman, you must push them to their people. *Kalese otji marihee! (That is what it implies go and read it).* Where are you pushing the ancestors that you are coming with this Law? Where are you pushing them to? To hell or to heaven? It is illegal, it is uncalled for it is shameful, and it is a sham – *Mave nyanda ku naami mba* (They are playing with me here). (*Intervention*)

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

HON MAAMBERUA: Point of Order. The Extermination Order given by Von Trotha read as follows. “*I, as the Great General of the German soldiers, send this letter to the Herero people. The Hereros are no*

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longer German subjects. They have murdered and robbed. They have cut off the ears, and noses and private parts of wounded soldiers and they are now too cowardly to fight. I say to the nation, any person who delivers one of the Herero Captains as a captive to a military post will receive 1,000 Deutsche Marks. The one who hands over Samuel Maharero will receive 5,000 Deutsche Marks. All Hereros must leave the country. If they do not, I will force them with canons to do so. Within the German frontier, every Herero with or without a gun, with or without cattle will be shot. I will not take over any more women and children.” (Interjections) It affects you, my sister, so do not make jokes out of this thing. *“I will not take over any more women and children, but I will either drive them back to their people or have them fired on. These are my words to the Herero people. The Great General of the Mighty Kaiser, Von Trotha.”* Just to confirm what the Honourable Member was saying’.

HON KAZENAMBO: It cannot be more tragic and sad than that. *It cannot be more tragic and sad than that!* Yesterday, the Germans arrived here. They called this country a German Territory. They have thrown the citizens of this country out of the borders. The descendants of the very same people come here and sit in the same house, pass a Law that there are people who were pushed out of here and there is a ten-year limit. Why have I participated in the Liberation Struggle? I was correct and I will fight this thing tooth and nail. It is a sham, it is shameful, it is unacceptable, it is an insult and it is provocative.

There is no difference between him and this person, *Twa sana atuhe* (We are all the same), all probabilities are the same. They are barring the descendants of these people to enter this country. They are putting a limit to the descendants of these people to come into their country of ancestry. Come on, let us have a rethink. Come on, let us not push each other far. Come on let knock sense in our heads. Come on let us put the sensitivity that drove us to take the armed Liberation Struggle. We are insulting one another.

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We are insulting and provoking one another. How do I lose my legacy? How do I lose my heritage? Who takes my heritage from me? Who gives that person the Right to take my heritage – like it is designed here? And by the way, who gave us – we are the descendants, just similar to this one – who gave us the Right to have citizenship of this country? Some obtained it by birth, but many of you returned with your kids from Angola, Zambia and from wherever. Some had children there and some are still out there. Are they going to arrive here in ten years and you put a limit to them?

This Clause is discriminatory. It defeats all intent and purpose of this Constitution. It is provocative and uncalled for. You cannot put a time limit on the citizens who were pushed by Von Trotha in this situation. They are ancestors of this country. Their citizens of land. The time limit is an insult and it is provocative to them. A ten-year grace period? When we came here we were given a grace period. When I returned here there was an amnesty by the South African Apartheid colonial Government that the so-called freedom fighters who were in Zambia – they used to call us terrorists, and we are giving them a grace period, and now the very same Government, led by Freedom Fighters is giving a ten-year period to the citizens who left Namibia under these circumstances. It is a sham, it is shameful, it is unacceptable, it is an insult, it is provocative, it is taking our Rights! This piece of paper. I submit.

HON SPEAKER: The next Speaker on my list, Honourable Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I rise to make my contribution to the Bill before the House.

My contribution was particularly triggered by the contribution of

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Honourable Maamberua. Honourable Maamberua sought to broaden the scope of the persons that should be covered by the Bill. He spoke about the slave descendants and so forth. (*Interjections*) And *so forth* means and so on. It is not my mistake if the Honourable Member left school without grasping English (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Why is your voice so low? (*Laughter*)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Honourable Speaker, firstly, as the Bill stands here, it addresses a specific group of persons and the Minister was rightly saying so. Now leaving it broad to descendant of persons and so on, I am not too sure whether the category of persons that Honourable Maamberua was referring to – whether their roots to Namibia could be authenticated. If you just say anyone who finds him/herself in the Diaspora, as having gone there because of slavery, should come and have a DNA test in Namibia. Who is going to pay for that DNA test? Suppose everyone who is in the Diaspora, as a result of slavery, decides to come for a DNA test, who is going to pay for the cost of those DNA tests?

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Member, are you responding to that particular question? What happened to the machine?

HON MAAMBERUA: If you are serious about the plight of our people and you are serious about the welfare, wellbeing and Rights, the Ancestral Rights that were referred to a moment ago, then we can afford the opportunity to the descendants of forcefully removed Namibians by

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Colonialism, to bear the cost. If we can only save and become more efficient and be corrupt free to save more money for better purposes than what is happening currently – for your information.

Let us not hide behind that it would be too expensive for the few who will be coming to claim their citizenship, to go through DNA tests, if there are doubts. This is a rich country, we cannot be fooled and made to believe (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Resource rich.

HON MEMBER: Is he still asking the question or is he making a contribution?

HON MAAMBERUA: We can turn those natural resources, as provided for in the Constitution, into capital to be able to improve the standard of living of our people, and to be able to care better for our citizens than to allow foreigners to come and exploit our resources, the minerals, marine resources (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I think you are speaking on something else, not the original point.

HON MAAMBERUA: That is what I am trying to inform my fellow Member of Parliament, because he has doubt whether we can afford DNA

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tests for those we doubt whether they originated from Namibia or not. That should not be a question at all. The other day we were made to believe that the skulls that came from Namibia went through DNA tests.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Mushelenga has the Floor. I think that is a technical point that you are trying to make. Honourable Mushelenga, continue.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. What the Honourable Member was saying because he was talking about the skulls, for example. These skulls were known and have been recorded to be from Namibia. That is why one can say; let us take a DNA test, but now the Honourable Member was talking about everyone who left the country because of slavery – not everyone came from Namibia. People came from all parts of the world and the Honourable Member should not think that when we speak of Ancestral Rights, maybe I do not care.

For the information of the Honourable Member, my own great grandfather came from Onayena in Oshikoto Region and because of the persecution of the King, he was chased away and fled to Uukwanyama in the southern part of Angola. That is where my grandfather was born. He came back to Namibia and the rest of the family followed. He would have left family there. Therefore, the Honourable Member should not think that, perhaps I do not care because I was personally affected by these things.

In fact, it is not only those that were persecuted by the Germans because of colonialism, Kings were also persecuting people who fled to neighbouring areas which are not demarcated in different countries. I would want the Honourable Member to bear that in his mind (*interjections*)

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Therefore, Honourable Speaker, I think at least for now, the Minister has come up with a step in the right direction to start addressing this, because the fundamental issue is descendants, not of the first generation, but the second and the subsequent descendants who did not leave this country out of their own volition. There are those who left at their own volition. Maybe I decide to go and settle in different country. That is a different thing altogether, but those who did not leave out of their own volition, because they are not covered under that Provision of the Constitution, which only addresses the first descendants, I think that is a move in the right direction.

However, as I said, I beg to differ with the Honourable Member to just broaden the scope to include everyone – countless thousands of people who have left two or three centuries ago. With these words, Honourable Speaker, I put my case to rest.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I rise to make a few contributions. When the Honourable Minister was introducing the Bill, she mentioned the extension from five years to ten years, but when you look under Section 2 (1)(b) it says that *is by virtue of commitment to the Namibian Nation, entitled to acquire, at any time, within a period of five years after the commencement of this Act Namibian citizenship in accordance with this Act, if such descendant does not qualify for such citizenship on any other ground.* I just want to remind the drafter that the ten years is not yet on the *Draft Bill*. That is one of the concerns.

The other comment is that we cannot start thinking that we are more important because *'I am directly from that'* – we all come from the same

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root. If you follow where you come from you might remain speaking that dialect while others have lost their dialects, but we are all from the same root. I am a Herero by name, but now I am completely out, I no longer think that I am a Herero. I am just a Namibian speaking Oshingandjela. I think the important thing here is that we do not become emotional. We just need to say, if the ten years are not long enough, it must be extended. We can only request that, if possible, because we cannot have that indefinitely. And we should also be honest with ourselves. There is no shame here. Do we believe that our descendants who left this country and now live in Botswana, Angola, South Africa, Cameroon, etcetera, want to come back and become Namibian citizens? I do not think that is the issue. The issue here is the (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Kazenambo, what point are you rising on?

HON KAZENAMBO: On a Point of Information. I do not know why people mention *emotional* selectively. The reason why we fight is because human beings are emotional. It depends on how it touches you and one can protect his interests and think that others are not seeing what he is talking about.

Therefore, on a Point of Information, for me, it is my Right to be emotional – whether I cry or laugh, even laugh is part of expressing your emotions.

Now back to this Law as a Point of Information – during the period we are talking, when our parents were pushed out, some people also came in.

Our German citizens in this country, and I am saying *our German citizens*, have special treatment in Germany, whether you like it or not – even

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today. Even when you get out of here you will find a school here being supported from Germany – special treatment.

The Australians who originated from the United Kingdom and settled in New Zealand, even Canadians, have special treatment in the United Kingdom, because it is their country of origin. Ironically, we are passing a Law here to limit our people – what a contradiction.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Ilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade. The important thing is that we need to be honest with ourselves. When I referred to *emotional*, I did not make reference to anyone, I can also be emotional.

However, the question here is that we now have a mechanism in place, which enables our people to apply for citizenship. If it is not enough we need to ask if this can be extended after ten years.

They must include the ten years in the Draft Law because the five years are still appearing. I just wanted to intervene on that, but there is light at the end of the tunnel, things will be fine. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I wanted to refer to what Honourable Ilonga is referring to that, still in this Bill is five

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years, it has not yet been changed to ten years as the Honourable Minister has said. I have a problem with (1)(a) “*subject to this Act any descendant of a person who is a Namibian citizen by birth or who would have been such as a citizen had he or she been alive*” – a descendant. I do not understand – *of a person*? Any descendant? Where does this descendance stop?

For example, I am thinking of Caleb Tjipuahura who ended up in Robben Island, maybe with Honourable Jerry Ekandjo. He participated in the Liberation Struggle, because his parents came from Namibia and went to Botswana. He considered himself as a Namibian citizen and he had a Right to fight for this country. Is he qualified under this Bill, to be regarded as a Namibian citizen or not?

HON SPEAKER: When I met him, I thought he was a Namibian.

HON KAURA: That is my problem, but the son of Von Trotha, if he was alive today, he could have been a Namibian citizen. His son could have been a Namibian citizen. His son’s son could have been a Namibian citizen and forever. However, the people he chased out of the country have to apply for citizenship. They do not qualify for citizenship. The one who chased out the people qualifies for citizenship *ad infinitum*. And we know what happened. We know the history.

When Honourable Jerry Ekandjo left Namibia and he went to Makunda, he was received by those people who were chased out by Von Trotha, and was treated as their own child with compassion, and he was assisted to go through. Most of you met Munamava; they were ready to assist fellow Namibians who left this country and all of us that went through Botswana, but yet those very same people who did that because they considered themselves Namibians, on the basis of this Bill, do not qualify as

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Namibians. Katjipuka, for example, those who gave their lives for this country during the Liberation Struggle as PLAN fighters. They were Namibians. How do we justify that with this Bill? Is it not an insult to these people? For example (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Information, Honourable Nujoma.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: On a Point of Information. I just want to correct my Uncle there, my Honourable Uncle Kaura, you mentioned Von Trotha; it is stated here at 2 (1)(a) *who is a Namibian citizen by birth*. Von Trotha was not a citizen of Namibia by birth and, therefore, his descendants would not qualify. He was a foreigner in this country. That is what the Bill says. Do not confuse the people outside there.

HON KAURA: My Dear Cousin, what I am referring to Von Trotha, by virtue of the fact that he colonised this country, he automatically became a citizen. By virtue of the fact, yes, (*interjections*) all the Germans became citizens in this country. How did they become citizens? There were some who were born here, but there were those who came here and gave birth to children in this country. Those children are citizens and they themselves who came from Germany were citizens. (*Interjections*) Von Trotha came with Diekmann. They came with Wecke & Vogts. They came together from Germany and those are citizens up to today. What are you talking about?

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, what point are you rising on?

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HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: On a Point of Order, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Kaura, I was expecting you to read this paragraph fully so that we can test our understanding against yours, but you just fell short of 2(1)(a) and 2(1)(a) continues to the other paragraph, which I thought gives the Right to the people, that you are fighting for, to qualify and, therefore, I could not see the line of your argument, if what you want is what is provided in here.

That is why I was shouting, *can you read further so that we can get the understanding together.* Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kaura, continue.

HON KAURA: *Subject to this Act any descendant of a person who is a Namibian citizen by birth or who have been such a citizen had he or she been alive.* How far does the descendance go? *(Interjection)*

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Continue reading!

HON KAURA: *And had left Namibia owing to persecution by the colonial Government, which was in control of the country before 1915.* *(Interjections)*

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Continue reading.

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HON KAURA: You can read it for me. I am asking; how many generations of descendants are we having in Namibia right now?
(Intervention)

HON SPEAKER: You do not have the Floor yet.

HON KAURA: Children whose parents have qualified as Namibian citizens, but they are still Botswana citizen, they do not qualify – those who came in 1993. Their children do not qualify as Namibian citizens. They have to go back to Botswana to denounce their citizenship in Botswana to come back to this country. That is the problem.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Complete the paragraph.

HON KAURA: I can complete the paragraph ten times, it does not change anything. Teacher, please the children of those people who came back in 1993 do not qualify for citizenship.

HON MEMBER: They do.

HON KAURA: They do not qualify, you do not know.

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It is your ignorance. (*Interjections*) They are not allowed. They are not citizens.

HON SPEAKER: Let us cool it. We are here to agree, at the end of the day, and adopt something that satisfies our collective judgment. I am giving you the Floor, yes.

HON KAZENAMBO: I am rising on a Point of Information. Honourable Kaura, you are correct, because this Bill, it is attempting to address the problem that these people do not take citizenship and even some of them are the borders now. Therefore, they do not.

And as a Point of Information, that is the reason why I am saying this thing is infringing on the Fundamental Human Rights of persons whose parents were persecuted, because it gives a time limit – Human Rights do not have time limits. They do not. If it is Human Rights, it is Human Rights for generations, unless if you doubt this person is not a citizen by descend what he is claiming is wrong then, you apply other mechanisms. Otherwise, it is wrong to put a time limit to it.

HON SPEAKER: Point taken. You have the Floor, Honourable Kaura, continue.

HON KAURA: Honourable Speaker, you know, the irony of it all is that our German citizens in this country, do not have a problem with citizenship, because their parents came, at that point in time, to push out those people out of this country, but those who were pushed out and must

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come back have a problem of citizenship. That is the irony of it all. We know how they landed there, yet we are putting things in place to guarantee their citizenship. The problem is that the children of those who came in 1993 are up to now are in a vacuum. Some have completed High School or even Tertiary Education, but they cannot get Identity Documents. They are supposed to go back to Botswana to renounce their citizenship in Botswana and to come back here to get Namibian Identity Documents. That is the problem right now, and it is not addressed by this Bill, so the problem continues. This is what we are talking about. We are not talking in a vacuum. We are talking about the realities on the ground right now. Many young people whose parents are in Gam do not qualify for Namibian citizenship. That is the problem.

If Honourable Kazenambo Kazenambo came back with them, he could not have qualified or maybe he qualified illegally just, because he was a PLAN Fighter. That is why we ask ourselves to look at this Bill in a way where it can become more dignified and address this issue. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. It is painful to listen to the Debate, because I personally, was hoping that we will look at this Bill and take serious note of what is in the Bill; take serious note of the concerns that would be raised in this Debate. I will try to confine myself to talk to the *Draft Bill* in front of me.

Honourable Speaker, let me start with Page 2 on the very same issue that Honourable Kaura was referring to; that is 2(a) and (b) and maybe before I do that, let me try to understand what it is that we are trying to do here.

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Are we looking at the people that we are talking about – the people in Botswana or South Africa? Do we want to give them the Right to become citizens or are we trying to confer to them their Right to be citizens? That is what has been going through my mind.

If I am standing in this very Honourable Chamber and I am trying to decide on the Right of the Honourable Minister of Defence whether he is entitled to be a Namibian by birth or should we confer citizenship to him. If we could solve that problem – that is what we want. The question that has been bothering me, and this needs to be debated, is for us to decide what it is we want to do through this Bill. I am getting the impression (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: It was not personalised, but just an example (*laughter*)
Yes, Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: I would like to explain to Honourable Tjihuiko that my grandfather took part in the battle of Namutoni and any person whose parents took part in the battle against colonialism is regarded to have Namibian citizenship. Full stop!

HON MEMBER: *Iyaloo!*

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, I am trying to be cool-headed. I am trying to control my temper, I do not want to be emotional, but the point that I am raising is critical. Do we have a better Right to decide for others either to be or not to be? In our Constitution, Article 4(b) says;

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“those born in Namibia before the date of Independence who are not Namibian citizens under Sub-Article (a) hereof, and whose fathers or mothers would have been Namibian citizens at the time of the birth of such persons”; - provided that your fathers or mothers were not then persons.

We all know during the struggle, unless you had the UN passport, you could not travel because you were not a *person*. We were refugees and we were not *persons* at that particular moment. We have become persons at Independence. We became human beings – *persons* when Namibia became a State.

The people that we are talking about are in the same position that made us to be non-persons in exile. We were equally not persons, whether you left Namibia in 1975 or before 1915. We were all regarded as non-persons, internationally. Now the non-persons that have an opportunity or privilege to be alive today and make Laws have now decided that the other non-persons will continue being non-persons while we have become persons! I have a problem there.

HON SPEAKER: From one old location to the other old location.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: On a Point of Information, Honourable Tjihuiko, you are wrong here, because right now, most of our people who are in exile either in Botswana or South Africa are citizens of those countries and some of the countries have procedures. If you want to become a citizen of another country you have to follow certain procedures.

Firstly, you have to renounce that citizenship. Therefore, let us be truthful. Let us not try to confuse the people. Most of the people whom we are talking about are children of citizens of those countries. There must be a procedure to be followed first and then they have the Right to apply.

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Nobody can take that Right away. It is their Birth Right, but there are certain procedures you have to follow. We are talking about the Law. It is not the law of the jungle. There are certain procedures which must be complied with. That is all what we are trying to do.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, we must understand one thing when we are making the Law (*intervention*)

HON KAURA: The Botswana Government did not ask the people who came back in 1993 to renounce their citizenship in Botswana, because of the recognition that they came into Botswana under certain circumstances. If they want to go back to their motherland they do not need to renounce their citizenship in Botswana, even if they were born in Botswana. They were still considered as Namibian citizens. You are very, very wrong.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, perhaps to add something to that (*interjections*) you do not have the Floor.

The Law that we are making has nothing to do with the other countries. The Law that we are making will only be applicable in Namibia. Whatever the Botswana or South African Laws are, we cannot say that we will not make this Law, because in Botswana, somebody has to renounce their citizenship. We cannot say that we cannot do this, because in that country the death penalty is still in existence. It does not work like that. (*Intervention*)

HON KAZENAMBO: Point of Information.

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HON SPEAKER: Yes, information.

HON KAZENAMBO: Point of Information; because I see this thing repeatedly cropping up that Hereros in Botswana or Namas or Damaras in Botswana – they are there. Even Oshiwambo speaking people are there, you find them in Mahalapye there. They are considered to be part of those people.

The Point of Information is that, to start with, the then Bechuanaland considered these Namibians who were persecuted as Namibians – people from South West Africa. When Botswana became independent, because these people lived there, they gave them an option – those who wanted to register for provisions. Some who chose not to register did not register. They considered themselves as Namibians. Even now, like Honourable Kaura has said, Botswana recognises these people to be Namibians.

That is why, when this issue of the time limit came about, when the first generation started to come, after 1993, they just allowed them. When these ones who want to come when the Debate started, they also just allowed them, because they recognise these people to be of Namibian origin. There is no confusion in Botswana – and because there is no confusion, I was the person who was recruiting the youth of Namibian origin in Botswana, to join SWAPO. It was a SWAPO Policy in Francistown, under Iipumbu and so on. SWAPO was not accepting Batswana. We were not recruiting – there were so many SWAPO supporters, but SWAPO was not allowing them to join SWAPO in exile in the Liberation Struggle. We were targeting Hereros, Mbanderus, Damaras, Namas and whoever had Namibian connection. When we arrived in Lusaka and Lubango, we were not being asked; *are you citizen by descend?* This limit that I tore up was not there! I was just trained and given a gun to go and fight for my country.

All of a sudden, here the very same Ruling Party and the very same

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people, as Honourable Kaura said and Honourable Amathila also said it the other day, that when the mothers of the descendants of these people were seeing Namibian children, they were not discriminating that this is a Damara, this is what and what. In fact, we used to give them food. I used to take food to them to the prison in Francistown under Iipumbu here. He was my boss. First it was Nghidinwa and then Iipumbu.

We never cared. In fact, we never bothered as long as a person said he or she was from Namibia. We never cared whether you speak Nama or Damara. We arrived here. We are coming up with a Law and the bottom line is that there is no argument to go and recruit other citizens. The intention of this Law is that, those who are claiming citizenship by descend, their Right of descend cannot be generational. It is forever. *Hi toroke moTjiherero po hi hungire vi?* (Should translate to Otjiherero or how should I speak?)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Tjihuiko, continue.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, let me try to test my understanding on what I just said, in the Constitution:

Conferment of Namibian Citizenship upon Certain Persons

2. (1) *Subject to this Act, any descendant of a person who –*

(a) is a Namibian citizen by birth or would have been such a citizen had he or she been alive. My English is very poor, I do not understand this or would have been such a citizen had he or she been alive. Whom are we referring to? Those who could have been citizens, if they were not dead? (interjections) just wait teacher. I will just run through this, because we have raised it so many times.

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(b) *had left Namibia owing to persecution by the colonial Government which was in control of Namibia before 1915.* We have recognised that Namibians were forced to leave this country before 1915. The Act is saying *those who left Namibia before 1915* will automatically become citizens, because we recognise that before 1915 there was a situation which led these people to go into exile. We have recognised that we should take care of these people. In other words we agree that these people are Namibian citizens by birth. That is why we are putting it here (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Uutoni.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER SAFETY AND SECURITY: Comrade Speaker, may I ask Honourable Tjihuiko a question?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER SAFETY AND SECURITY: I have been following the Debate and I have noticed that some of the Honourable Members became emotional, but I fail to understand a specific issue that we need to improve in this Bill.

Let me ask this question: Are we not happy with the word *descendant*? Is it what we are not happy with so that we can improve on that? Are you perhaps not happy with the statement – *application* – that the people should apply? Is it what we are not happy with? Are we perhaps not happy with the words *denouncing citizenship of other countries*? Are we

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perhaps not happy with the procedural way of people applying for citizenship of this country? What are we really objecting to? I just want to understand, because people are becoming emotional and we do not understand where we (*intervention*)

HON TJIHUIKO: Take your Floor. (*Laughter*)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Need to improve.

HON TJIHUIKO: I will not answer that, because that is a statement. Honourable Speaker, I want to come to a point where I want to make a recommendation on that 2(a) and (b), since we have recognised the fact that these people have become non-persons, because of the situation as it happened with us before 1915. (*Intervention*)

HON KAURA: Any descendant of somebody who could have been a Namibian citizen had he been alive, would qualify for conferment. That means that Honourable Kazenambo's father who was born in Botswana does not qualify and Honourable Kazenambo himself does not qualify. (*Interjections*)

Honourable Kazenambo's father could qualify, but Honourable Kazenambo himself could not qualify based on this Bill. Any descendant of a Namibian citizen who would have been such a citizen had he been alive. Samuel Maharero could have qualified for citizenship. His son that he fathered in Botswana could be a descendant, but the son of a

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descendant does not qualify for citizenship. (*Interjections*) This is what the Bill says! Honourable Kazenambo does not qualify for citizenship. This is what the Bill is saying!

Colleagues, take it to your legal advisors, they will advise you correctly. This has been the situation that children of the people who were born in Botswana do not qualify for citizenship. They came back with their children and made them to qualify because their parents were from Namibia, but their children who were born in Botswana did not qualify as Namibian citizens, they are still Botswana citizens.

Therefore, we have here in Namibia, a parent who is a Namibian citizen and a child is a Botswana citizen. This is what you do not understand.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, I thought that we would discuss this Bill and get it done with before we close, but it seems that we might need to have a legal opinion on this thing.

Nevertheless, let me come to the point that I wanted to make. Honourable Speaker, I am trying to say that based on those two points and also moving a little bit further:- *...by virtue of commitment to the Namibian Nation, entitled to acquire, at any time within the period of...* Let us say in the period before 1915, not ten or five years. This is five years, but not ten years, because here we have recognised 1915 as a deadline, as it was proposed by the Honourable Minister. Therefore, for us to recognise the fact that there were people who were persecuted before 1915, and now we are saying; ten years – it does not say anything. Let us agree that instead of ten years, we would say before 1915, the legal drafters can draft it.

However, let us agree to change the period of ten years and say; before 1915. Anybody before 1915 that we have recognised in this that has brought us here – but we were Stateless by then, we have a cut off date of 1915. Let us now be consistent and use the 1915 cut off date rather than

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these ten years that does not really make any sense. I submit that that should be changed.

The second point, Honourable Speaker, which I want to touch, is the question of my Right as a citizen, and Honourable Kaura's Right as a Namibian citizen like me. We were Stateless yesterday – one in London, the other one in New York and the other one in Gaborone, Botswana. My Right is defined by Law. The Right of Honourable Kaura will be depending or is subject to the Minister, because if you go to Clause 4, it states that – *the Minister, subject to such conditions as a Minister may think fit to impose, may delegate the power conferred by this Act, except the power to make regulations, to any officer or employee in the public servant attached to this Ministry.* (Intervention)

HON KAZENAMBO: On a Point of Information, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Make your point, but I want to give the Floor to (intervention)

HON KAZENAMBO: This will be my last intervention, Honourable Tjihuiko. (Interjections) Hopefully, yes, because it is really about me, irrespective of the importance.

This is the bone of contention, you know the Rights as you have clearly stipulated. There are two issues here. The Rights of a person, be it citizenship, and the lawyers are here, are not extinguishable. It is a legal term. It is not extinguishable.

A Minister cannot revoke my Fundamental Human Right as a citizen. As

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you read it; *as Minister think fit* – it is not for the Minister to *think fit* when it comes to my Fundamental Human Rights and the Citizenship Rights of these people. This is where the bone of contention is.

These people, as long as they are who they are, they fall into this category. They will forever remain citizens of this country by descent, if they so choose. If they remain wherever they are, it is their story, but if they arrive in this country, it is wrong and this is where the emotions come in, for those of you who are not affect by it.

If I can give you my passport or my citizenship, it is written that I am a citizen of this country by registration. Therefore, if the *Minister saw fit*, can kick me out of this country. What is the definition of *if the Minister saw fit*?

HON SPEAKER: Stick to one thing. You have an opportunity.

HON KAZENAMBO: If *the Minis saw fit*, what is *saw fit*? Seeing fit is that they can even kick me out of this country. Where does the Law make me the difference? (*Interjection*) Interpret it if you are a Lawyer. What makes you to have citizenship by birth or descent, or your child who was born in Angola to carry citizenship by descent? Your child was not even in the bush. I was in the bush. What makes your child qualify as citizen, of this country, by descend and not me? You wrote; *by registration* in my documents. It is an insult! You are insulting me! Some of these children that I am asking (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: You rose on Point of Order.

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HON KAZENAMBO: The Point of Information is that (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: That sounds better, because you do not have the Floor. You actually rose on a Point of Order. I do not know how long you are going to be on the Floor. We are not going to make any progress. We are simultaneously debating legal principles and the drafting to combine the two things. I know the Deputy Minister is here, but the Minister left me alone when she left. She could not avoid the engagement that she has at the Ministry, but these two things needs to be sorted out.

We can disagree on finding the right word, that is drafting of language. The other is a totally different matter. It is a fundamental disagreement on principle and this is going to be a Law, unless these two things are separated and sorted out, we would keep on repeating ourselves and disagree. At some point we need to rest the case, have the Minister come here. I do not know whether we convert the Assembly into a drafting Committee or some mechanism must be found that we agree on using the right words to mean what we legally intend when this becomes a Law.

Otherwise, we are reacting politically and disagree on wording and what we say ourselves when we take the Floor. We are stuck there. No amount of giving the Floor to this Honourable Member and the other Honourable Member will resolve those two things. That is where we are stuck.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, that is the point that I wanted to raise.

The second point that I wanted to raise is a question of – *the Minister subject to such condition as the Minister may think fit to impose. My problem is; may delegate the power conferred by the Act to a civil servant in the Ministry.* Now my citizenship, because it happens that I was born in

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Botswana and I was a victim of (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I do not know whether you are saying anything new that Honourable Kazenambo has not said, that Honourable Kaura has not said or you are just to repeating what they have said.

HON TJIHUIKO: No, I am trying to raise a point and then I want to make a recommendation as I did with the ten years. With the ten years, I raised my point and then I made a recommendation that it should not be ten years, but it should be (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Why do you not just make the recommendations then? You have heard everything so far. There are others also who want to make contributions as to how we can get out of this.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me try to make use of these few minutes. It is 17:00 and I will not take another ten minutes, Honourable Speaker, take it from me.

I am trying to make a recommendation here Honourable Speaker that the powers that have been given to the Minister, by Law, should not be delegated to a Civil Servant in the Ministry to take those decisions. Those are the powers that have been vested in the Minister. That is one.

Honourable Speaker, I have to reason why I am saying that. The issue that we are talking about and the majority of the people that we are talking about here are, let me use the word *Hereros*. These are the people who are

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always fighting about traditional leadership, the Headman, this and that. Now the moment the Minister delegates powers to a Civil Servant in the Ministry who belongs to this Traditional Authority, then the whole Government becomes part of the tribal and traditional conflicts within a specific tribe.

Government should not delegate. The Minister should not delegate the powers given to them by the Act of Parliament to an employee. That does not make any legal sense at all. Therefore, I recommend Honourable Speaker. Wait, I am busy recommending now. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I want him to conclude. It will come to your Ministry to sort out this legal aspect.

HON TJIHUIKO: I hope you are a legal expert.

HON SPEAKER: No, Honourable Tjihuiko, just finish, I am talking to him..

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. What I am recommending is that we should do away with this Chapter of delegating power. The Government, the Minister is responsible and the responsibility (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: That is a good advice, but it has nothing to do with

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what we are discussing now.

HON TJIHUIKO: But it is here.

HON SPEAKER: It is not helping us. You are just repeating your own version or what the others have said already. The same problems that you are having, in your own way, are the same things that were pointed out by other persons. I am consulting as I am listening to you.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, I think this Bill is so critical for us to open up, take advice from others and also give advice. What I am trying to do, with due respect, Honourable Speaker, is to highlight areas where, I think, we need to improve.

I have not heard somebody who have said; let us change this to this. I think so far I am the only one who is making recommendations. With all due respect, Honourable Speaker, let me, before I conclude, because I am being pressurised to conclude (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: No, you are not being pressured. You are just repeating yourself, you are not saying anything. If you have a particular proposal to get us out of this, then I will entertain your contribution on this point.

HON TJIHUIKO: Before I conclude, Honourable Speaker, because this

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON TJIHUIKO**

is critical. I am now recommending, Honourable Minister, and I hope the Deputy Minister will take notes.

On Citizenship of Namibians – we must have equal Rights to citizenship in Namibia. Therefore, the citizenship should not be decided by an individual. It should be decided by an Act that confers citizenship to all of us, as Namibians, as one Nation. Otherwise, we will end up having a Law that is specific to the people who are living in Gam or Botswana. Then tomorrow we will say that, if you raise that issue, it is a tribal issue while the Law itself is tribalistic. That is why we are saying this *Draft Act* – the way it is now – should not be accepted, it does not serve the purpose. *(Intervention)*

HON SPEAKER: I think you can vote against it.

HON TJIHUIKO: My recommendation is that, it does not serve the purpose, it is divisive and some of you do not come from the community where some of us come from. *(Intervention)*

HON SPEAKER: I do not want to rule you Out of Order. *(Intervention)*

HON TJIHUIKO: You do not feel the pain because nothing has happened to you.

HON SPEAKER: Can you complete what you are saying?

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HON TJIHUIKO: You were not part of the extermination order. You are playing with it. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I rule you Out of Order, Honourable Tjiuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: No, no, no.

HON SPEAKER: Sit down. I am not going to give you the Floor anymore. Honourable Chief Whip.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I have listened a great deal to the intervention and a lot of interesting issues have been raised, but I feel that in the light of all this, we need to reflect on the matter. I am proposing that we allow a process of consultation to look into some of the issues that perhaps can help us to craft the Bill before us in a manner that would, hopefully, deal with some of those issues in order to create a conducive atmosphere.

I am simply saying that lengthy interventions cannot help us. I think we know exactly what the areas are where there have been some objections and we should pause and allow a process of consultation to see how we might be able to meet each other half way. That can only come as a result of us consulting and learning a little bit more, because, for instance, we do not have a copy of the Honourable Minister's Statement and all these sorts of things. If we pause and consult, particularly on this side of the House, we might be able to come back afresh and do justice to the Bill. I am

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HON MAAMBERUA**

proposing for an adjournment of the Debate so that we may consult further.

HON SPEAKER: We are not going to make any progress. I accept and I hope that the House would accept what the Chief Whip has proposed.

HON TJIHUIKO: Can I conclude now, Honourable Speaker?

HON SPEAKER: No, I have ruled you Out of Order, unless you are saying something different from what the Chief Whip has said. You do not have the Floor.

HON MAAMBERUA: Honourable Speaker, I would like to subscribe to what the Chief Whip of the SWAPO Party has suggested, but I would like to make a small Amendment in that the consultations should involve all of us. Otherwise, we will come back to the same divide, because we have taken it that since the Bill is from that side of the House who have consulted fully, we had the problem with this and, therefore, if we can consult maybe in a smaller group the Chief Whips of the Political Parties here, then we can come back with some version that we can agree on. That is my proposal.

HON SPEAKER: I think that is what the Chief Whip had in mind. I do not know.

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HON PROF KATJAVIVI / HON NAMBAHU**

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: I just wanted to reinforce similar the sentiments expressed – initially the consultation was, of course, on this side of the House among ourselves, but we just intent to make it wider in terms of drawing in the Whips from our various Political Parties represented in the House. I can assure the Honourable Member that that is the intention.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Nambahu, I do not want you to take the Floor on the substance of the discussion. We are talking now about how to get out of this.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you very much. I will not make my contribution, I just want to enrich the suggestion. The problems that we are encountering here, Comrade Speaker, also have to do with the understanding of the subject matter.

I would wish that the consultations that will take place are also informed by a small workshop, by the officials in the Ministry, because at some stage, when we say we condemn the five years, we do not know – we did not hear the rationale as to why they arrived at the five years. In Court you always ask (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I assume it is part of the consultations. You are not saying anything as part of consultations. It is your baby, collectively, the legal people. Just get together.

The further consideration of this Bill stands adjourned until the consultations are concluded, we are advised. The Minister will be fully in the picture.

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**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE
6TH LAND TRIBUNAL
HON !NARUSEB**

The Notice of a Motion is the one of the Honourable Minister of Lands and Resettlement. Does the Honourable Minister of Lands and Resettlement Move the Motion?

HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT: Yes, I Move the Motion, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Thank you. You have the Floor, Honourable Minister.

**MOTION ON APPOINTMENT OF
MEMBERS TO 6TH LAND TRIBUNAL**

HON MINISTER OF LANDS AND RESETTLEMENT: Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Members, of this august House, I am standing to present a very important Motion, in my opinion, that is aimed at motivating the approval, by this House, of five persons who as per Section 63(2)(a), (b) and (c) and Subsection 3 of the *Agricultural Commercial Land Reform Act*, 1995 (Act 6 of 1995). If you allow me, I shall quote the relevant small portion “*shall be appointed by the National Assembly by resolution upon a recommendation of the Minister,*” to be members of the Sixth Land Tribunal for a period of three years starting from 2015 till 2018.

As per Section 63(4) of the above mentioned Act as amended, the term of the current Land Tribunal has expired. Section 63(1) of the *Agricultural Commercial Land Reform Act*, 1995 (Act 6 of 1995) provides for the

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establishment of the Land Tribunal.

If you allow me, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I would like to brief this House on the functions of the Land Tribunal as outlined in the principal Act. The Land Tribunal has the jurisdiction:

- 1) To determine the purchase price in instances where there is a dispute between the owner of commercial agricultural land and the Minister as representing the State once the land has been offered for sale to the Government;
- 2) To determine any appeal lords within the terms of any Provisions of the enabling legal framework;
- 3) To consider and give a decision on any application made to it in terms of the Provisions of the said Act;
- 4) To inquire and adjudicate upon any matter which is required or permitted to be referred to it under any Provisions of the Act or any other Law;
- 5) To preside over land-related disputes between the Ministry and beneficiaries of resettlement or members of the public who may be aggrieved by the manner in which agricultural land is allocated.

As indicated in the Notice of Motion, I have chosen the following persons to serve on the Land Tribunal for a period of three years, with effect from March until the 31st of March 2018, if this House should endorse them:

- 1) Ms Elise Mutaleni Ndjavera-Angula – Ms Angula was identified in accordance with Section 63(2)(a) of the enabling legal framework, which provides for a member of whom one shall be a person with legal qualifications, and who has been practising Law for a period of not less than five years, and who shall be the Chairperson.

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It is against this background that Ms Angula was identified and appointed, with your kind indulgence, as a Chairperson of the Land Tribunal. She was admitted as a Legal Practitioner of the High Court of Namibia in June 1998. During 2005 to 2006, Ms Angula served Namibia in various capacities, such as President of the Law Society of Namibia and Board Member of the Development Bank, Foschini Group of Companies, the Frans Indongo Group PTY Limited and Motor Vehicle Accident Fund. She served as an alternate to the Chairperson of the Fifth Land Tribunal.

Ms Angula with her wealth of experience will, in my opinion, successfully chair this important statutory body.

- 2) Mr Lawrence Clive Kavendjii – Mr Kavendjii was identified for appointment in accordance with Section 63(3) of the *Agricultural Commercial Land Reform Act, 1995 (Act 6 of 1995)*, which provides that *the Minister shall subject to the requirements of Paragraph (a) of Subsection 2 and with the approval of the National Assembly appoint a person to be alternate of the Chairperson of the Land Tribunal as mentioned above.*

Mr Kavendji is a Legal Practitioner of both the High Court and the Supreme Court of Namibia. He was admitted in 2001. Mr Kavendji served Namibia in various capacities such as Council Member of the Law Society of Namibia from 2007 to 2010, as Deputy Chairperson for the Motor Vehicle Accident Fund of Namibia and in April 2014, he was appointed as a Member Namibia Refugee Appeal Tribunal Board. Mr Kavendjii's vast experience and exposure in various Sectors of our economy will bring a wealth of experience to the Land Tribunal.

- 3) Mr Ryno Van Der Merwe – Section 63(2)(c) of the enabling legal framework provides for a member who shall be a person who has experience of agricultural matter.

For your information, Mr Van Der Merwe was identified as suitable to

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serve as a member of the Land Tribunal. Mr Van Der Merwe was the past President of the Namibia Agricultural Union. Just to give you a bird's eye view into the profile of Mr Van Der Merwe; in November 2012, my Neighbour, here, as a Minister of Agriculture, Water and Forestry honoured Mr Van Der Merwe with an Award of Appreciation for the contributions he made towards the development and growth of the Agricultural Sector in Namibia.

Mr Van Der Merwe will, therefore, be a valuable asset to the Land Tribunal as a result of this vast experience in agricultural matters in our country and within the region. Mindful of the demographic composition of our society, it is just proper that we look at the cross section of the cultural divide that we need to be proud of.

- 4) Honourable Clara Bohitile; in accordance with Section 63(2)(b) of the *Agricultural Commercial Land Reform Act, 1995* (Act 6 of 1995), which provides for a member who has experience of economic or financial matters, the Ministry identified Honourable Bohitile.

She was the former Minister of Education and former Deputy Minister of Finance and also a former Member of Parliament of the Land of the Brave. She is endowed with expertise in policies, philosophy, farming and financial matters. She is a trustee of the First National Bank Trust and is a member of various organisations. Her experience as a large-scale commercial farmer will serve as a valuable input, especially when dealing with functions pertaining to the resolution of disputes between the Minister and beneficiaries of resettlement, or members of the public who may be aggrieved by the manner in which the agricultural land has been allocated.

- 5) Mr Orben Simataa Sibeya – the Minister of Land and Resettlement – I am speaking about myself now, at least until next week Friday – also intends to appoint, to the Land Tribunal Mr Orben Sibeya.

Again, you might say that there is a strong bias towards Legal

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Practitioners. He is a Legal Practitioner of both the High Court and the Supreme Court of Namibia. From May 1998 to 2000 he was appointed as a Public Prosecutor, in other words, he was a Legal Officer at various Courts countrywide. In 2000, he was appointed as a Principal Legal Officer and as a Regional Court Prosecutor for the Zambezi and Kavango East and West Regions. He was a Control Prosecutor from 2002, at the Oshakati Magistrate's Court. He served as a State Advocate and was promoted to Chief Legal Officer in 2004. He became a Deputy Prosecutor-General in 2008.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, having regard to the functions of the Land Tribunal, I have no doubt that the persons I am recommending to serve on the Land Tribunal possess both individually and collectively the skills required to carry out the aforementioned duties.

The nominated persons have amongst them the legal, agricultural, economic and financial matters, and general social skills that will render the Land Tribunal effective in carrying out its national responsibility.

The Curricula Vitae of the proposed Members of the Land Tribunal, hopefully have been made available to the Honourable Members for their perusal and informed input.

At this juncture, I humbly request the House's indulgence in disposing off this crucial function and if you want, I plead that this august House approves and endorses the appointment of the five candidates as recommended by Yours Truly to your good service, to serve on the Land Tribunal for the next three years. That is from March 2015 to the end of March 2018. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. The Minister provided us with the Curricula Vitae of the individuals that will serve on the Land Tribunal. Is there any objection? Agreed to.

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**REPORT ON THE PROHIBITION TO
EXPORT SHEEP ON THE HOOF TO SOUTH AFRICA
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

The Secretary, will read the First Order.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE PROHIBITION TO
EXPORT SHEEP ON THE HOOF TO SOUTH AFRICA**

SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Prohibition to Export Sheep on the Hoof to South Africa or any destination in the world.

HON SPEAKER: When the Debate was adjourned on Thursday, 10 March, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by the Honourable Amathila who is visible by his absence. The Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry continues to have the Floor to continue his contribution.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you, Honourable Speaker, for giving me the Floor.

I think I have mentioned a number of issues and where I stopped was a question by the Honourable Minister of Presidential Affairs and Attorney-General regarding the checking of prices or prices of poultry products in our country.

I will just answer briefly. The consumer prices of poultry products in Namibia are determined by two things, mainly, in the local Industry it has

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as underlying cost drivers, local production input cost. However, I think we have to realise that if we compare ourselves with South African prices, South Africa has an advantage of an old established Industry that benefited from support when it was established, and by now has paid off its establishment costs. It has the advantage of economy of scale. There is a much larger market for its products and the input costs are lower. If we just compare electricity, water, transport, Namibia input costs are, and I take a more flat figure, about 20% higher than that of South Africa. The result is that our own producers do not manage to produce at the same cost.

The second point I want to raise is that, in order to further shield the South African Industry against imports, South Africa raised their import tariff to 82% and since we are in SACU and under a Common Tariff Regime, we are thus denied the opportunity to import affordable or cheaper priced products from elsewhere. That put us into a predicament and that is that the importers from South Africa into the Namibian market peg their price, not against their actual cost, but against the Namibian production cost. Their mark up is pretty generous to themselves and I think that is the reason why our prices are significantly higher compared to South African prices, about 30% higher, which is very high.

At the moment we are producing about two thirds ourselves and one third of the demand is imported. That is the downside, the upside is, of course, that it made it possible for a number of small home-grown Industries to develop. We have now, all of a sudden, a number of poultry Industries, albeit small ones, all over the country and they supply, not in bulk or large quantities, but small quantities of home-grown, free ranging or niche market supply of chicken and poultry products, which is a good thing.

We are, unfortunately, in a situation where, if I can say it that way, we are to the detriment of the consumer, but there is very little we can do, because the price is driven, by and large by factors that are out of the control of producers themselves. The input costs are not of their making; import

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costs are not of their making and then, of course, retailers' and distributors' mark-up is added onto that, which is also not of their making.

As I said that is the situation, but there is a positive to it and that is that it allows and creates space for small Industries in the Poultry Sector to develop and we are seeing that right now.

Let me go back to the Report – there is one aspect that we have to take into consideration when we talk about the need to improve capacity (*intervention*)

HON KAZENAMBO: Can I ask the Honourable Minister a question, please?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Yes, sure.

HON KAZENAMBO: Comrade Minister, if heard you correctly, this is what I want to confirm, are you telling me that an investor, especially that one, that prices were determined by input and investment at the expense of the consumer?

If I heard you correctly, what protective measures, as a Ministry, did you put in place to make sure that whoever invests in this country will not do so at the expense of the citizens of this country, its consumers and so

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forth? Companies must take care of their social responsibilities and they must be responsible for the research and development of their products.

Have I heard you correctly that it is just viable for anybody to come here And, because they have invested here, they can put a price until they recoup their investment on the product? That is, if I heard you correctly.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you. To answer your question, I think what I said and I want to put it in very simple language.

I said is that the production costs in Namibia for poultry products are higher than those in South Africa. Therefore, if you want to have a Poultry Industry here, in Namibia, if you want, and that is the desire that we have, then you must swallow the bitter pill that the commodities which we produce will be more expensive from a production point of view than in our neighbouring country of South Africa. And that additional cost, obviously has to be rolled onto the consumer. That is what it is. That is how it works and that is the situation and I hope I answered your question. *(Interjection)* Whether we find that in a good situation or not it is another thing. I think I also have my issues with that.

Honourable Speaker, it is important when we want to consider our policy to produce domestic production capacity that we look at the trade balance. At the moment we import about 66% of our consumables or our total import from South Africa and we export about 23% of our total exports to South Africa.

That negative trade balance is widening and it has its implication on the balance of payment, because we pay and buy in difference currencies. To mitigate that problem or to narrow the trade balance or improve the

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balance of payment situation – one way of doing that is to improve your local production capacity and substitute imports with locally produced goods. If we talk about the Agricultural Sector that is very possible by adding value to the raw materials that we produce in the Agricultural Sector.

If it is grain we can mill the grain and add value and import than importing finished from South Africa or elsewhere. If it is meat, we can produce meal ready products instead of exporting carcasses or on the hoof and buy back steaks and *boerewors*. I think this is generally underlying our policy drive to prevent as much as possible the export of raw materials into our neighbouring countries and improve our own productive capacity.

Honourable Speaker, lastly, when I come to the Report itself and its recommendations, I again want to thank the Committee for the work that they have done. I think I have mentioned that the environment in which the Report and in which the Committee did its work had a limited mandate and, therefore, had a limited scope. When we look at the recommendations, we can by and large, agree with a number of them, but if I look, for instance, at recommendation Number 6, which recommends that we review the whole situation with one objective in mind and, that is; we must make sure whether it makes financial sense for the producers. I think we want to have a little wider scope. We want to make sure that the interventions, and the small stock market scheme, at the end of the day, makes economic sense – meaning that the country gets economic gain out it, instead of only one link in the chain. I, therefore, suggest to the Committee that that recommendation could be amended.

I also want to suggest that the other recommendations, which talk about different facets of the marketing scheme, we can all embrace them by recommending and embracing the need to, on a regular and frequent basis, review this small stock marketing scheme and other marketing schemes so that we are always sure that the different stakeholders in that value chain

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HON KATALI**

are not done in, or are not duly or unduly harmed.

With those proposed Amendments, Honourable Speaker, we can support the Report. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: We are nearing the end as per the clock. Any other contribution? Honourable Minister of Mines.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I will address myself to three issues only.

One is from the Report which says that the producers need an alternative market. Then I will address the issue of supply, demand and the price. I will then repeat one of the suggestions I made.

However, before I start, the Honourable Minister yesterday, indicated that Namibians as producers, we are not in a position to buy a cut that is destined for Europe. My question is; I am the producer, I produced this meat and I got money for the whole carcass, but I cannot afford one cut. How did I get paid for the whole carcass, that I am not able to buy a smaller portion of it? That actually indicates, to you, the pricing component of our beef. I will elaborate more if the Speaker can cut me off for tomorrow. You do not really understand this analogy. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Again, further consideration of this Report is adjourned and you will be the first speaker.

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**REPORT ON THE PROHIBITION TO EXPORT
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HON KATALI**

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Yes. Thank you,
Honourable Speaker.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 17:46 UNTIL 2015.03.12 AT 14:30

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
12 MARCH 2015**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: We commence with the Business of the House. I have all the Order and Question Papers.

Chief Whip and your team, I hope that you will continue to remind us at every turn, seeing that we have matters of importance that we must dispose of within the timeframe and dates. You and your Colleagues, the Chief Whips of the Parties represented here, have agreed to sensitise us all. We are on the verge of losing Debates, but I am happy that we are meeting.

The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

SECRETARY: Honourable Speaker, the Petitions.

HON SPEAKER: Oh, those are the usual things. Am I old or why do I forget them? I thought it was the second day.

Anybody with Petitions here? Reports of Standing or Select Committees?
Honourable Dingara.

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON DINGARA**

**TABLING: INTERIM MISSION STATEMENT
BY THE SADC PARLIAMENTARY
FORUM ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION**

HON DINGARA: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table the Interim Mission Statement of the SADC Parliamentary Forum Election Observation Mission to the 2015, Lesotho National Assembly Election for note taking.

However, I just want to read one sentence which is very important, Comrade Speaker. *“The Nation declared the National Assembly elections as having been free, fair, transparent, credible and democratic.”*

I so Move Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: May I ask the Honourable Member to table the Report?

I think there should be some criteria of differentiating between those elections that are done and others that may be close enough, but are not quite there; and others that have just about crossed the border line. There could have gone in either directions. All of them are 100%. That is probably true to human nature, but it is the African way of doing things, I suppose.

Any other Reports of Standing or Select Committee? Minister of Trade and Industry.

TABLING: REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON SCHLETTWEIN**

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. On behalf of the Honourable Minister of Finance, I lay upon the table, the Reports of the Auditor-General on the Accounts of the following:-

- (i) Ministry of Safety and Security – Department of Police for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2013;
- (ii) Ministry of Environment and Tourism for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2013;
- (iii) Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry – Directorate of Forestry – Policy Activities for the Financial Years 2008/2009 up to 2012/2013;
- (iv) Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development – Solid Waste Management for the Financial Years 2010/2011 up to 2013/2013;
- (v) Ministry of Safety and Security – Department of Police Issuance and Control of Firearm Licences for the Financial Years 2009/2010 up to 2011/2012;
- (vi) Agricultural Bank for the Financial Year that ended 31 March 2014;
- (vii) Namibian Broadcasting Corporation for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2010;
- (viii) Namibian Broadcasting Corporation for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2011;
- (ix) Motor Vehicle Accident Fund for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2014;
- (x) National Youth Service for the Financial Years ended 31 March

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON NGHIMTINA**

2010 and 2011, respectively

- (xi) National Youth Service for the Financial Years ended 31 March 2012 and 2013, respectively; and lastly
- (xii) Social Security Commission – Employees’ Compensation Fund, Maternity, Sick Leave and Death Benefit Fund for the Financial Year ended 28 February 2014.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Can the Minister table the Reports? Any Questions? Reports? Minister of Works and Transport?

HON MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the table, the Annual Report of NamPort for the Financial Year 2012/2013.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Can Honourable Minister table the Report. Any Notice of Questions? Honourable Bezuidenhout.

ORAL QUESTION

HON BEZUIDENHOUT: Honourable Speaker, I want to ask an Oral

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**RESPONSE TO ORAL QUESTION
HON DR NAMWANDI**

Question to the Honourable Minister of Education, Dr Namwandi to clarify, rightly or wrongly, the statement that I picked up in the media that Computer Science subjects seem to be pushed to the backburner in terms of the curriculum of future generations.

Can the Honourable Minister explain to us what the situation is and whether it is true or not? What can we take from here, because Computer Science is crucial for the future of this country? Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Minister?

RESPONSE TO ORAL QUESTION

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. I want to assure the Honourable Member that that is untrue. I do not know where people get these types of information, maybe they want it to be like that, but that is not true.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is taught from Grade 1 up to Grade 12 in the new curriculum. I can just say that from Grade 1 to Grade 3, ICT is taught as a cross-curricular theme. In the Senior Primary phase, that is Grade 4 to Grade 7, learners are taught computer skills in a subject called Information and Communication, that is ICT, which was previously known as ICT Literacy.

From the Junior Secondary phase Grade 8 to Grade 11, learners are taught Computer Studies, which are a theoretical and specialised subject. In Grade 12, currently, the subject is still called Computer Studies. However, with the new curriculum it has changed to Computer Science, which is

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**NOTICE OF MOTIONS
HON DR NAMWANDI**

even more advanced. Therefore, I do not know where my people are getting the information from. Maybe the reason why people are giving this type of information is to confuse innocent people who do not know what ICT is or what Computer Studies is. I do not know, but the truth herein is that ICT is taught throughout. There is no way that Namibia would drop ICT. It has never happened and it will not happen. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Bezuidenhout.

HON BEZUIDENHOUT: Thank you very much. Honourable Minister, thank you very much for putting my heart at ease, and for letting the Nation know that the Ministry of Education has not made any changes to ICT in schools. Thank you very much for the answer.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Any other Notice of Questions? None. Any Notice of Motions? Minister of Education, is it a Motion?

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, I give Notice that on Tuesday, the 17th of March 2015, I shall Move that leave be given to introduce a Bill to establish the University of Science and Technology; to provide for its constitutions and

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON P MUSHELENGA**

objects; to provide for the administration and control of its affairs and the regulations of its activities; and to provide for incidental matters. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Will the Honourable Minister table the Motion. Any further Notice of Motions? None. Ministerial Statements? Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Honourable Speaker, I am taking the Floor to inform this august House that after a year of political instability followed by security concerns, the Kingdom of Lesotho held National Assembly elections on the 28th of February 2015. The elections, which were declared by the SADC Electoral Observer Mission, as well as other Election Observer Missions to have been peaceful, transparent, free and fair.

Honourable Speaker, the last National Assembly Elections in Lesotho were held in 2012, with no single Party having won an outright majority, the Political Parties formed the first ever coalition Government in that country. Regrettably in 2014, political instability fell upon Lesotho.

A chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Cooperation, then His Excellency Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba, the President of the Republic of Namibia, sent a Ministerial fact-finding mission to Lesotho in May 2014, led by Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah to ascertain the situation on the ground. The political and security situation in the Kingdom of Lesotho continue to deteriorate and Members of Parliament who were dissatisfied with the political environment crossed the Floor to join the Opposition,

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which led the Prime Minister to suspend Parliament for nine months.

In an effort to officially address the situation in Lesotho, His Excellency President Pohamba, as Chairperson of the SADC Organ, visited Lesotho from the 12th to 13th of June 2014 and met with all relevant stakeholders, including King Letsie III. His Excellency the President, urged the Coalition to work together to ensure the restoration of peace and stability in the country.

At the invitation of His Excellency, the President, Leaders of the Coalition Government of Lesotho undertook a working visit to Windhoek from the 30th to the 31st of July 2014, which culminated in the signing of the Windhoek Declaration on the 31st of July the same year. The Declaration reflected the commitment of the Coalition Leaders to resolve the political tensions in the country and to uphold democratic principles.

Honourable Speaker, following a perceived attempt to a *coup d'état* in August 2014, in Lesotho, the then Prime Minister fled to South Africa for safety. The SADC Organ, Troika, made up of South Africa, Namibia and Lesotho, plus Zimbabwe as Chair of SADC, urgently met in Pretoria, South Africa, on the 31st of August 2014, on the emergency situation.

In an effort to address and contain the underlying situation, SADC appointed a facilitator, His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa, to facilitate the restoration of political stability and security in the country. The facilitation process led to the signing of the Maseru Facilitation Declaration, the Maseru Security Accord, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Army and the Police of Lesotho and the Election Pledge.

His Excellency, Cyril Ramaphosa, was assisted by Ambassador Veicoh Ngeiwete, the former Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who was supported by two officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and one official from the Ministry of Justice.

SADC also resolved to deploy a SADC Observer Mission to Lesotho with

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Police, Military, Intelligence and Civilian Components for three months from October to December 2014, initially, which was subsequently extended to 31st March 2015.

As part of Namibia's commitment to promote peace and stability in the Region, Namibia initially sent 52 security and civilian officers, including the Police, the Army and Intelligence Services. In January 2015, Namibia made its assessed financial contribution of about US\$443,000.00 towards the SADC Observer Mission to Lesotho. Other Member States also contributed financially towards the mission and deployed Police Officers, Military, Intelligence and Civilian Personnel to Lesotho. Additional SADC Police Officers were further deployed to Lesotho to provide extra security during the elections.

In preparation for the 2015 National Elections Namibia, sent ten observers to Lesotho to form part of the SADC Electoral Observer Mission. The team was led by Ambassador Theresa Samaria. South Africa and Namibia as Members of the Troika Organ sent the highest numbers of observers. A total of 82 SADC Observers were deployed in Maseru and in all Districts of Lesotho.

Honourable Speaker, this strong support by Namibia and all SADC Member States for the restoration of political normalcy and security in Lesotho, has paved the way for the opening of Parliament and the holding of early elections in the country which were peaceful, transparent, free and fair.

Namibia, as the outgoing Chair of the SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, will continue to play its part in the consolidation of democracy and the promotion of peace and stability in the Region.

Twenty three Political Parties took part in the Lesotho Elections, however, as none of them gained the seats required to form a Government in accordance with Lesotho Constitution, seven Political Parties led by Honourable Pakalitha Mosisili have formed a Coalition Government

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accordingly.

On the 17th of March 2015, that is next week, Honourable Mosisili and his Deputy, Honourable Mothetjoa Metsing will be inaugurated as Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, respectively. Namibia congratulates the people of Lesotho and urges them to maintain peace and stability in the country. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Maamberua.

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HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would also like to join Namibia in congratulating Lesotho.

HON MEMBER: South Africa!

HON MAAMBERUA: From within. However, I have a question for some clarification that I would like to seek and that is about the Mission that is being referred to – the Observer Mission.

At what stage, in the electoral process, did they declare the elections in Lesotho free, fair, democratic and transparent and so on? I am asking this question against the background of what happened here in Namibia during

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our elections when the SADC Observer Mission and the AU declared Namibian elections as having been free and fair before the Electoral Commission of Namibia released the results of the elections. At what stage was that done in Lesotho?

HON SPEAKER: Deputy Minister?

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: You have already answer that, but I will let you continue.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: The SADC Electoral Observer Mission declared the elections free and fair after the process of elections had been completed – meaning after the voting had been closed, having satisfied themselves that, having observed the campaigns, having observed the Election Day, and the counting process, the elections were free and fair.

They do not have to wait for the Electoral Commission to announce results, because SADC Electoral Observer Mission has guidelines that guides them as to what constitutes the elections to be free and fair.

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Election result is another thing, it does not determine the free and the fairness of elections. If the guidelines, which had been set by SADC have been met and have been complied with, then the elections will be declared free and fair, and not only by SADC, but also by any other Electoral Observer Mission. I so submit, Honourable Speaker.

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

**RESUMPTION OF THE DEBATE ON SECOND READING –
NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP (SECOND)
SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill* [B.3 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: When this Debate was adjourned on Wednesday, 11 March 2015, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration.

Professor Katjavivi, the Chief Whip, adjourned the Debate for further consultations and I give him the Floor to update us on that.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, as you all recall my brief intervention yesterday, requesting for the postponement of the Debate on this Bill was aimed at

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allowing time to consult with the view of allowing an amicable solution to the subject before us.

Before I get into the main points, I would like to thank the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration for having responded to the outcry amongst our people over this issue of citizenship, by bringing the Bill before this House. This matter is long overdue.

As we have observed, there are conflicting views and legal interpretations over this issue of the Bill before us. Some people feel that the Bill does not go far to accommodate intergenerational facts in inherent Citizenship Rights. Some are of the view that, to make this Bill to cater for the first, second and third generation descendants, would require amending the Constitution as well.

Some legal experts have argued that we can amend the Bill to cater for the first, second and generational descendants without necessarily changing the Constitution. It is against this background that I feel, perhaps we need time to pursue these issues, these arguments by going for further consultations so as to allow us to smoothen out these conflicting views and come up with an agreeable solution to the challenge at hand.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, this is my humble contribution and request to this Honourable House. The answer to this challenge might probably come in the next Parliament. Nevertheless, the most important factor is that the answer must be amicable and agreeable to the Nation.

It is against this background that I would like to venture into suggesting that perhaps we, on this side of the House, could engage in what I would characterise as the stakeholders' consultation aimed at finding something that will harmonise the views and then we can have an opportunity to reflect on the matter further.

It is not always easy, but this is aimed at cooling the temperature to,

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make sure that we are able to find something that we can all be happy with. I so submit, Honourable Speaker. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much. That being the clarification, any further discussions unless the Honourable Minister would like to say something. The discussion is still continuing, I do not know what the Minister is rising on.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Comrade Speaker, let me first render my apologies, which I could not do yesterday, that I had to leave because there was an equally important meeting that I had to chair, hence, leaving my Comrade Eliah Kaiyamo, the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration here.

HON SPEAKER: You sent me a note, I know.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Yes, indeed. I probably, missed the spirit of the discussion and that deprived me the opportunity to learn, in good time, what was resolved for the purpose of making an informed decision or consultations, particularly with the Attorney-General's Office, because the issue that is being raised, when I looked at it, is truly nothing than a Constitutional issue – the Citizenship by Descent.

I thought I explained that clearly based on the position taken when the Act

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of 1991 was being deliberated in the House. That same position was articulated effectively by the current Attorney-General.

Comrade Speaker, the issue of whether or not to proceed is not mine alone, it is for the House, but what I can tell the House is only that if we are postponing the Debate hoping that we are going to negotiate a way around the issue of citizenship by descend other than to look at the issue as is, or to take a decision here that we were going to amend the Constitution for the purpose of accommodating this category of persons, then we are just wasting time.

That is from my legal understanding of the current position. However, the decision whether or not to proceed is purely that of the House. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. May we proceed? Honourable Kapia?

HON KAPIA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, apart from what the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration said, most of the concerns, apart from that one, was the issue of the limitation of ten years. In the document it is five years, but in the Statement of the Honourable Minister it is ten years. I really felt that we can continue with the consultations, if we want to do justice to the citizens of Namibia who are at the borders waiting to come back. I thought that the Chief Whip, yesterday and today, has already started with the consultations so that this Bill can come back to the House next week to be finalised.

These are three or four pages, what are we negotiating on this Bill? It is a matter of taking the decision. Can we remove the limitation or keep the limitation of ten years? The other things can be handled in the long run,

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but if we do not want, then let us agree to postpone this to the next Session of Parliament. Maybe the postponement would be the right thing to do, so that we give the Attorney-General and the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, in waiting, ample time to relook the whole issue with a view of the Debate that took place yesterday, and come up with something that will be agreeable to everybody in the House. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Comrade Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Yesterday, when arguments were advanced, I was reasoning that we already have people who are affected by the Law and are not getting citizenship documents in Namibia. These are people who are already in Namibia and not in Botswana or anywhere else. There are two concerns here:

The concern under Section 2(b), which says five years, but which should be ten years according to the Comrade Minister's Statement. The other concern is under Section 4(2) that deals with the Delegation of Power.

Those are the only things, which do not require a postponement. If the ten-year period is short, we can come up with a proposal and say, let us increase that to twenty, for example, and we can have a twenty-year period. At the end of the Act you can put it under review, period – so that we can enable those who are already in Namibia, in need of their citizenship, and do not have other citizenship can make use of this opportunity to apply for citizenship.

We must not, as I said, get emotional and make other people suffer. It is the Law, it is the Constitution, let us just deal with this technically. If these ten years are too short, like the five years were too short, let us agree

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so that the Minister and the Attorney-General can extend it during the Committee Stage. It is no longer a problem. It is maybe an interpretation problem.

On the issue of the delegation of power – when I read it as a *bush lawyer*, *Ilonga* – in my Curriculum Vitae I am not a lawyer, I am a Lawmaker – it only indicates that an officer can register, but does not have to wait for a Minister to come and endorse the registration.

This issue of people doing things other than what they are supposed to do, to me, it is tantamount to someone being reprimanded for. If somebody is given a responsibility and refuses to do it, because maybe he/she has a difference with Honourable Tjihuiko, then that is not the Law. If you are given the power to confer on behalf of the Minister, you must not bring in other personal issues. Those are some of the issues, Comrade Speaker. Thank you very much. That is my contribution.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Yesterday, the Chief Whip of the Ruling Party proposed that we adjourn and asked for the Whips to consult on this issue and try to see how best we can try to accommodate the diverse views that were expressed in the Chamber yesterday.

It is on that basis, Honourable Speaker, that the various Whips met with the Professor indeed, and we looked at the issue as he explained, we looked at the various school of thoughts that were brought to the Table based on the consultations that they had done. And on that basis we agreed that it will not do any damage if we said time is not on our side – it will not kill anybody, if we said let us postpone it and allow the

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consultations to take place in a better atmosphere and then the next Parliament can take it up from there. And obviously, as much as we want to do in the best interest of all the Namibians, we will do in the best interests of the Namibians.

Honourable Speaker, on the basis of that, I would have asked the Speaker to see whether we have rejected the recommendation of the Whips and we continue with the Debate or if we have accepted that, then we refer the Bill to the next Parliament and move on to the next point rather than having two different views.

At one moment, one will start debating and the next moment somebody is looking at it that and saying *let us move this way*. If we have agreed and accepted the recommendation from the Chief Whips, then we can move on from there, Honourable Speaker. I so submit.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, my Colleague can you wait. I like the further clarification by Honourable TjiHuiko in addition to what the Chief Whip informed me that indeed there were consultations, but the latter part deferred further consideration to the next Parliament, that I did not pick up. Does the Honourable Minister know that that was part of the consultations?

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I was saying; based on the consultations that we had, can we either agree whether the recommendation by the Chief Whip has been put aside and we continue with the Debate or we agree with the recommendation of the Whips, and if we agree, then we look at whether we defer or withdraw, or whatever we are going to do. However, we must agree that we either continue with the Debate or we accept the view of the Whips. I think (*intervention*)

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HON SPEAKER: I understood you. I understood you, correctly. That is what I am asking the Minister whether that is something she is aware of – if it has not reached you, now you know what the outcome of the consultations among the Whips was. How would you respond to that?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Honourable Speaker, I have heard what happened. I do not want to complain that as a Line Minister I was not put in the picture of what the Whips were doing.

Nevertheless, my issue is; all the other issues that the two Colleagues have mentioned, are not policy and are not key issue. The only key issue is Citizenship by Descent, that to me is key. Therefore, I am saying, if we are postponing for the sake of that, then we are wasting time.

The other issue is that I am the one who motivated that the term or the life of this Law should be ten years instead of five years and that can be introduced, administratively, during the Committee Stage. We always make Amendments and the issue is solved.

I, in fact, have written answers to all the issues, but I thought maybe this was not yet the time to respond to all the queries as raised yesterday. I was just addressing myself to these particular issues that are being raised as justification for us to postpone the Debate.

Comrade Speaker, I am saying, if we are postponing for the sake of going to change the Constitution, fine, we can try, but I have my doubts. If we are proposing to go and negotiate whether it is five years or ten years, I am saying Cabinet has authorised me to propose ten years instead of five and I was going to introduce an Amendment to effect that change from five years to ten years. Thank you.

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HON SPEAKER: Any reaction to that? Anybody? Ten years instead of five years?

HON MEMBER: Yes.

HON SPEAKER: Is that something that the House can live with? Attorney-General?

HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Maybe just a footnote to what the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration said.

Just to confirm that if there was an accommodation regarding the issue of Citizenship by Descent, as the Honourable Minister has stated, in 1991, it was held by the Founder Members of this Chamber that this Constitution in terms of Article 4(2) it clearly defines who is a citizen by descent and it says – *the following persons shall be citizens of Namibia by descent:*

- a) *Those who are not Namibian citizens under Sub-Article (1);* [Sub-Article (1) says by *birth*]. And what is very important comes;
- b) *And whose fathers or mothers,* that is now citizenship by descent, meaning, if I was born in Namibia, my child was born outside Namibia, my child can be given citizenship by descent on account of proof that I, as a parent, was born here either father, mother or both parents. There are two scenarios of citizenship, which are protected in terms of this Constitution, which a Namibian citizen cannot lose, and that is – Namibian by **birth**, and Namibian by **descent** – nobody can

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take away that citizenship, it is part of the decision that was taken by the fathers and mothers who authored this Constitution.

And in terms of the Law of Interpretation as it was really held and correctly interpreted in 1991 – if there is a conflict in terms of interpretation between the Constitution and an Act of Parliament, the Constitution will prevail. Therefore, there is no way we can amend the Bill now to say Namibian Citizenship by Descent goes beyond the second generation. It will not be in accordance with this Constitution. Therefore, the only way to do that, as my Senior Minister here said, is to amend the Constitution and if we decide to amend the Constitution, the process of doing that is a long process.

This particular aspect, if it is this one, we are wasting our time in terms of the Debate. It was found so by Cabinet, by the first Attorney-General, Mr Rukoro, whom I refer to also as a lawyer by tribe and who was a Deputy Minister of Justice, the Minister of Justice himself, Dr Tjiriange, all concurred with these interpretations. When I was asked, I also concurred with this interpretation. It is very clear in black and white about who is a citizen by descent. It was interpreted and agreed upon unanimously by the fathers and mothers of this Constitution – the seven Political Parties then, that drafted this Constitution.

If we can change, we can only change by amending this Constitution. Thus, when it comes to the issue of Citizenship by Descent it is big. I just wanted to clarify this, Comrade Speaker, but there are other issues as I heard during the Debate. One is the timeframe of ten years. Is that enough? That can be changed – we can introduce an Amendment, if there is a consensus.

The other one was; why referring to before 1915, when there were people who left through colonial persecution after 1915? Of course, we do not need to amend the Constitution for that. Those other issues are open for Debate, but the issue of Citizenship by Descent can only be addressed by amending the Constitution. I so submit, Comrade Speaker.

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HON SPEAKER: Thank you. There you are, Honourable Members. Where do we go from here? Any other contributions? Any clarifications required? Yes, Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I think after the clarification by the Attorney-General, I would like to suggest that we concur with the submission of the Chief Whip of the Ruling Party to continue with consultations so that by next week we should have reached some further understanding on those different views and would have harmonised those views and be able to take a decision on the way forward. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can we postpone this to next week? Yes, Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Honourable Deputy Speaker, I want to understand that Honourable Maamberua is saying that now that they understand the implications of what Citizenship by Descent requires, they will now be in a position to go and convince each other that it is not possible to change this Law other than to change the Constitution. When it comes to amending the Constitution, that is no longer my baby.

I was mandated here to table a Law that I was told, and I was convinced, was long overdue, but now that circumstances have changed, I am saying we can go for consultations, those who want to go and consult. The question of consultation can be formulated so that when people go for consultations they know, precisely, on what issues they are going to consult and the timeframe should also be considered, whether it is during

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the course of this Session or not, but what I know is that this Parliament cannot assign another Parliament to deal with any matter. That other Parliament will deal with matters in its own wisdom, so it is up to us. I am not objecting to people going for consultations (*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY MINISTER: Honourable Minister, I think we are engaged in consultations and to the best of my knowledge, it cannot take place now. I was also under the impression that after yesterday, the group that was supposed to be led by the Chief Whip of the Ruling Party consulted the Minister (*intervention*)

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: No.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: If that did not take place, I think we can prudently, allow that consultation with the Minister to take place and hear the way forward on Tuesday, because it now appears as if we are making consultations in the Chamber. Come again, Honourable Minister?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Comrade Deputy Speaker, I am suggesting that the issues on which to consult must be formulated. It is should not just be an open ended consultation. What are we going to consult on?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. I think I will leave that homework to Honourable Professor Katjavivi and the other Chief Whips to formulate

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the issues to be consulted on. I think that if he keeps in mind what was discussed yesterday, there were not a lot of issues, you can narrow it down when you go to the Minister so that those issues are clear to her. I so submit.

With the understanding that this issue is deferred to next week Tuesday, the Secretary will read the Second Order of the day.

**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON SECOND READING NAMIBIA'S
INDUSTRIAL POLICY IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Debate on Second Reading Namibia's Industrial Policy Implementation Strategy.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: When this Debate was adjourned on Wednesday, the 4th of March, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry. The Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration adjourned the Debate and you now have the Floor. Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Thank you, Comrade Deputy Speaker. Comrade Deputy Speaker, I registered to participate in the consideration of this Policy – Growth at Home out of excitement, seeing a beautiful document portraying the future of, I think the City of Windhoek at night.

I do not know how long it will take us to reach here, but I am quite

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hopeful that given the wish and the will of our people to fulfil all those aspirations to be achieved by Vision 2030, we would arrive at this scenario.

Comrade Deputy Speaker, I want to congratulate the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry and his team for setting a course of industrialisation for our country by even sketching the period, framing it in such a way that after every five years, we would arrive at a certain stage. We are targeting Industries such as Mining, Minerals, Agriculture and Agro Industry, Fish and Fish Processing, and these are resources that we have in abundance.

The other day, I was visiting the Walvis Bay Harbour and my heart really bled when I saw those huge blocks of tiles – huge. I do not even know how they lifted them from wherever they got them and take them to Walvis Bay, lined up for almost a kilometre waiting to be shipped to somewhere. I was just imagining the chain through which they are going to go, the number of employment they are going to create and the profit they will be making even before this finished products are shipped back to Namibia for us to buy them back.

Comrade Minister, that is just one example and I also saw a heap of raw salt waiting to be shipped again, to be processed in various products and sent back to Namibia for us to buy it back – readymade somewhere. The number of employment created and the profit these countries are making out of our resources.

Therefore, Comrade Minister, it is time, it is really time that we steamroll – if it was possible, I want us to steamroll the process of creating Industries to turn these materials into finished products in order to create employment for our people.

The other day, not even the other day, we were just debating a Report here of carcasses sent to South Africa – uncut carcasses of mutton, which are sent to South Africa. They go and cut it up in nice pieces, repackage it, then send it back, and then we buy them from Shoprite and other South

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African Supermarkets. My question is (*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of Order.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Sorry, Comrade Deputy Speaker, to disrupt my Commander.

Comrade Minister, I just wanted to find out, you said you saw a heap of rocks and raw salt. Comrade Minister, are you aware that when those raw materials are shipped out of Namibia and come back as final products, there is nothing to show that these materials originated from Namibia? Are you aware of that? If you look at Coca-Cola, wherever you go in the world it shows where it originated.

Comrade “*Kakwa*” wants that when this Policy is implemented, the Comrade Minister of Trade must make sure that our brands or products, whether raw or finished, must reflect our name, **Namibia**.

Did you want to say that Honourable “*Kakwa*,” or do you have that somewhere in your conclusion? If not, can you add this to your conclusion there?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Well, I do not know at what stage a product can be branded as originating from a country, but I think the Honourable Minister will be well versed to explain that part.

However, if I were the buyer of such a block and I take it to my country, I am probably not only taking from Namibia, I am also taking from other

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third world countries and I mix them and I produce them. Why should I necessarily brand them as coming from Namibia? What binds me to say it is from Namibia? But the Honourable Minister will be well versed to answer that question. (*Intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of Order.

HON KAURA: Honourable Minister, even in highly industrialised countries, you find that if someone wants to buy – let us say in the United States of America – a real classy beautiful suit, he will buy a Christian Dior, or Pierre Cardin which is from France. In a highly industrialised country like the United States there are certain countries that specialise in certain things and if you want the top of the class you have to buy a French suit.

For example, with our blocks here, maybe they are shipped to Italy to make tiles, because they specialise in that aspect. Unless we can get the knowhow at the level of Italy, I do not know whether they will export it to us to make tiles that will be suitable to be bought somewhere else in the world – unless we make our own tiles here, and the quality might not be that good to an extent that we can make money out of it. How long will it take for us to maybe reach that level where we can manufacture good quality products locally that can be exported? We tried our clothing here with Ramatex, but it closed down.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Comrade Deputy Speaker, the Policy was tabled by the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry.

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I am making my lay person's contribution towards the Policy, just supporting the efforts that he has come up with, but I am not really well versed to answer some of the questions. I do not know what is involved and what is required for one, for example, to make tiles. He probably knows. I hope he will be able to answer such questions.

I was moving on to the issue on the Floor of Parliament that of exporting uncut carcasses to South Africa. My question was then, since there are so many supermarkets from South Africa here, Shoprite, Spar you name them, they are here, Pick'n'Pay, OK –you find meat in all of them. Meat, in particular, is our specialty here and I do not think that there is a lot to it or that we need rocket scientists to come and help us to cut and package our meat so that it is sold to these supermarkets.

What prevents us from negotiating or having a Policy that forces these supermarkets not to import ready-cut and packaged meat than to buy it from here, from local produce? Even with vegetables – sometimes we have plenty of vegetables from the Green Scheme Projects that do not get consumed, yet these supermarkets are getting their supplies from South Africa. Where are the difficulties that we cannot have a Policy here to force these companies to buy local products – not everything, but at least mutton, goat meat and beef, for example.

For interest sake, you open your small butchery somewhere and Shoprite comes and put up a big supermarket next to you in the name of competition. How can you compete with Shoprite? That is meant to get rid of everything Namibian, and we are seen to be powerless to address this issue. Are we really powerless, Comrade Minister, or can we do something about that?

Comrade Minister, you have stipulated somewhere, I cannot remember the page, where you are giving us the indication that from, particularly, this year, this process of industrialisation is going to start. Is there a specific date on which it is going to be launched, and is it going to be launched based on certain Industries that have sprung up or is it just a matter of *this*

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year we are going to start? And then you are going to evaluate, after five years. Whom are we going to evaluate? Are there specific Industries that we have targeted like this one, that one, Anna's Butchery and that one are our targets for industrialisation during this period so that at least, at the end of the first phase we will be able to say, yes, we have done so now we are moving on? It is a kind of a question.

The issue that I have argued although very little, should not detract from the whole approach taken by the Ministry of Trade and Industry. I just want us all to understand; do not leave the Minister alone so that you can hear what I am saying. All of us should be taken on board. I do not know whether this exercise is enough to take us all on board so that we can support what he is advocating in this Policy.

The people who are supposed to invigorated the Industries are not here in Parliament, how do we reach out to them? How do we tell them? I know there is a Development Bank and the SME Bank. Is that all where we can go and get assisted so that we push forward what is being advocated in this Policy? Otherwise, if we are just proposing nice things and we do not have additional resources to support them, then we are definitely not going to move forward.

The other day I was chatting with my counterpart from Botswana. He is at the same time responsible for the political affairs of the Party in Botswana and he was telling me about the programme they had for their youth. All the graduates, when they graduate from school, are informed as to what exist, and which fund to go to. How they should go there not as individuals, but as groups with already made plans/projects. Stating, for example, that – *this is our project, we are five of us and we are going into agriculture or in farming or in whatever, and they are given this amount of money as starting capital and the repayment is half. Half of the amount is a grant while they pay back half (intervention)*

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HON MEMBER: What Is happening there?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: I think they are consulting on Citizenship by Descent. (*Laughter*)

I think we should also think in terms of creating a similar programme for our young people who are leaving school, to benefit from, in order to start projects such as this one.

For us who are politicians and in Parliament, we may want to venture into these kinds of projects, but we do not have time. The people who are out there are the ones who have the time, and probably the energy and resources too – resources in terms of ideas, but they do not have money, particularly the youth – so that they push this Policy forward. Otherwise, if it is just a Policy advocating nice things for Namibia to be where and where this time, and the other time there, yet we are not engineering how to get there, it may not succeed the way we want it to.

Otherwise, as I said, the Policy is good, let us empower the implementation aspect of it. Comrade Minister, I support the Policy.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: I recognise the Honourable Minister of Justice.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Thank you. It will not be fair, if I just keep quiet while my neighbour has introduced such an important Policy. Therefore, I am rising to support it.

I was glancing through this beautiful document and I was just thinking this

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is Vision 2030 and if we could implement all these good ideas with Vision 2050, I think we will reach there.

The first thing I read here on what the Minister was saying was; *Growth at Home provides a roadmap for the execution of Namibia's Industrial Policy*. I cannot agree more with the Minister, because if you look at our Fishing Industry, I think it is one of the most successful Industrial Policies Namibia has ever undertaken. I think we are there in terms of the Fishing Sector. If you go to Walvis Fishing Factories and you will see how value is added. With the kind of machinery and the technology there, I think we have reached a very high level there. I do not know to what extent this is benefiting our people. Yes, Comrade Vice-President, you are welcome *(laughter)*

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: I would like to ask my Honourable Colleague a question or rather seek information from him.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, please proceed with the question.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Comrade Minister, you rightly mentioned the beautiful positive efforts being made in our Fishing Industry. There seem to be quite some positive progress made, but do you know that all the tomato ketchup that is used in those factories is imported from China?

Tomatoes can be produced in Namibia and we can make our ketchup that can be transported to Walvis Bay and add even more value that you are talking about. Are you aware that more still need to be done in that area although it looks like some progress has been made?

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HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: You are right, Comrade Minister. I forgot the inauguration has not yet taken place, so I will now call you Honourable Minister (*Laughter*)

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Please.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, I agree with you, Comrade Minister, it is true. This is one of those elements. We do well in one Sector and then we neglect the other Sectors, so if we could have combined this Agricultural Industrial Policy, Honourable Mutorwa is here, we can produce the tomato ketchups. You can add value and create employment in the country. These are the things we need to combine and I think that is a good suggestion, Comrade Minister. I am sure the two principals here, Honourable Schlettwein and Honourable Mutorwa, are listening and will take note of that.

The other area is the Mining Sector. This Sector is highly mechanised, unfortunately, but with the Diamond Industry we have also made strides. I think it is also highly industrialised, but the problem is that it is quite labour intensive. You have to move thousands of tonnes of sand in order to get one or three diamonds, so it is another Sector again which we need to look at carefully. However, I agree with the Honourable Minister – he is proposing that with the Diamond and Cutting Industry, we should increase the allocation – what do we call it? Honourable Katali is listening carefully here.

Currently, we only give to this people who are cutting and polishing diamonds. Maybe they are only given 10% and the Minister is suggesting an increase of another 10%. What will it help if we want to industrialise, unless we say we will allocate another 50%? Otherwise, our diamonds are taken to Botswana, which is adding value and we end up losing.

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HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of Order.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: May I ask Comrade Utoni a question?

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, you are welcome, my Brother.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: I agree with you that polishing does not even add half of the value. Polishing just make it easier for those who are going to add real value, like the one who start making rings. I was expecting that instead of the 10%, they would increase it to up to 50% by having the factory here, so that when Namibian diamonds are going out of the country, they are in the form of either rings or necklaces (*intervention*)

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: As a finished product.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Yes. That is what I think will be better, as opposed to increasing up to 50% just for diamond cutting, without making a finished product.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: I agree with you, Comrade *Ekanda*. That is the way we have to go, because we must really add real value,

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adding superficial value which will not help us. That is one Industry as well that the Minister also mentioned in the growth Industry. Yes, Honourable Katali. (*Intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of Order.

HON MEMBER: He has some diamonds in his pockets.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: It is in the pocket here now. (*Laughter*) Thank you, Honourable Deputy Speaker.

Just a piece of information. Yes, we are crying, we want to add value to our diamonds, but there is no Law that is preventing us from doing it. If that is not happening, it is not because of anybody else, it is just us. One can just open up a factory to make rings, watches and everything that you can sell. There are no restrictions from us to do all these things.

Therefore, we should not cry as if there is somebody who is preventing us from doing it. Open a shop, get the diamonds, and make rings and sell, that is it!. The problem is that we are just not doing it and there is nobody whom we are blaming, we are just talking. Thank you.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, proceed, Honourable Minister.

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HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, Honourable Katali we hear you, but you are the one who was supposed to give us these things so that we can do that. And now you are telling us that we are just talking.
(*Laughter*)

What were you doing all these years? You were supposed to give us the diamonds. People are crying for them and saying – *you do not give us diamonds*, now you say we are crying while the diamonds are there. Give us the diamonds!

The other Sector is Agriculture where we can also add value to. I recall
(*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is another Point of Order.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Oh, another Point of Order?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: After that, I think we must try not to interrupt too much, because we need to finalise this agenda point.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:
Honourable Deputy Speaker, may I ask my Honourable *Mbushe*, a question?

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, you are welcome my Brother.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: When you have started with your discussion, you have indicated here that this is a nice Policy in terms of job creation. You even said that the two Ministries, that of Trade and Industry and Agriculture, Water and Forestry can join forces so that they can create jobs.

Honourable Iivula-Ithana there, was asking the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry whether there was something in the Policy, prepared for the youth.

Now the question is, there has been what we called a Credit Guarantee Scheme which used to assist the youth in the past for them to start business. Have you seen there anything in the Policy in terms of the Credit Guarantee Scheme, maybe as a new idea in the Policy?

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: The Policy is just complimenting all those efforts – the SME Bank, which we were told here, the Development Bank of Namibia, the Agricultural Bank and various Financial Institutions to assist. It is all encompassing, it must be the Private Sector and the Government. Government is putting in money and the Private Sector must also come in. Industrialisation in all those countries has taken years. That is why I am praising the Minister that it is complimenting the efforts that has already been undertaken.

I was coming to the other issue of Agriculture. We slaughter so many cattle and so on, and there were Namibian entrepreneurs with very good ideas. They came up with an idea to establish a leather processing factory in Ondangwa. This thing was just left like that, there was no financial support. Of course, we know we lack management skills, but (*intervention*)

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HON MEMBER: There is money.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Oh, I did not know. (*Laughter*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of Order.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Tjihuiko, Tjihuiko!

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Deputy Speaker.
May I ask the Honourable Minister a question?

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Welcome, my Brother.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Minister, I am trying to understand what you are raising. We have a Policy here and you are now referring to the tannery in Ondangwa, which was an effort by the Ministry to create an environment for the Private Sector to come in. Once Private Sector comes in to take over, the Ministry cannot go and dictate to them. If they fail they cannot go to the Ministry and say – *the tannery in Ondangwa has failed*. I think what he could have said or the point that we should raise, is an issue that would add value to the Industrial Policy. Do not mix the Policy and Programmes.

The SME Bank is a specific Programme. The Minister has put it there and

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it is in the hands of private people who are running it. Therefore, do not go to the private people, speak to the Policy and be more specific. Do not mix these things – you want to talk about the youth and you are using the platform of the Industrial Policy's Growth at Home. Comrade Minister, please, otherwise, we will walk out.

HON MEMBER: You will walk out?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, proceed.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Honourable Tjihuiko, confusion as usual. I do not blame you the confusion is sitting somewhere there (*laughter*)

However, we consider all these good policies as complimentary. We need to move on. We need to plan and this is what Honourable Schlettwein is saying. He is planning and he is even mentioning that Namibia could be considered as a testing centre for cars like Mercedes Benz. I always see these people on the road, maybe you do not see them – BMWs are being tested here. They drive from South Africa because they manufacture some of the vehicles in South Africa. Why can we not bring some of the manufacturers here, the Germans are closer to us and many others. We can convince them to bring the Audi or the Volkswagen to be assembled here.

HON MEMBER: Or bring back the Uri.

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HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Or bring back the Uri. The Uri was here (*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of Order. This should be the last Point of Order, so that we can make.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, please so that I can put my ideas together.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE: I am not usually in the habit of interrupting my Minister, but I just wanted to ask a tiny question, Comrade Nujoma.

With some of the needs that were propagated here – is it really true what Honourable Tjiuiko said that when someone takes a private initiative, they can just start doing what they want and Government has no say in it?

Suppose I set up a school here and start teaching whatever I am teaching, is it true that Government cannot come in and say – that material that you are using to teach is not proper? Comrade, I just want to hear your reaction to that.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: No, thank you my, Brother. We cannot allow that, because anybody can come here with funny ideas, men marrying men and all these things. (*Laughter*) We cannot allow that. They want to bring that confusion in this country, but we cannot allowed

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that. We need to move forward.

Comrade Schlettwein, I was talking about testing centres, and our leather products to manufacture seats for these cars. It has been discussed, other countries are benefitting a little, but we are not benefitting at all. We have been talking about the Industrial Policy; there was this SADC Programme of the INGA Project, to bring electricity to Namibia. We could support the DRC with cash revenue and now we are struggling with electricity. We will start experiencing blackouts anytime.

There is so much that we can do, if we can work and plan together as Africans. There are so many benefits. We can bring in a lot of water from anywhere. In Russia they have (*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, Honourable Tjihuiko, we are now dragging on. Can you help us to make progress please, because this Policy has been debated for quite some time now?

HON TJIHUIKO: He is off the topic (*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, he is not. Let him round up. Can you now round up, Honourable Minister?

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, thank you very much. These were some of the things I wanted to highlight, but (*intervention*)

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HON MEMBER: From Congo?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, do not listen to him , continue please.
(*Intervention*)

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: No, from Rundu here.

HON MEMBER: From the Kavango River.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, the Kavango River, even from Zambezi. What is the problem with that?

HON MEMBER: We have our share there.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Yes, we have our share (*intervention*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! anyone who would like to talk can take the Floor. Can you please round up, Honourable Minister?

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HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Honourable Schlettwein, I think we are on the right track. Let us address those issues coupled with Education, Human Resources and Capital. Capital is the critical one. There have been so many Industries created by Namibians, but there is no support. I heard about a company which wanted to establish a glass manufacturing plant in the South

HON MEMBER: Yes, in Tses.

HON MINISTER OF JUSTICE: In Tses. These projects have been talked about, but nothing came to fruition. Those are the things we want to do. We can add value and bring Namibia to the level of a highly industrialised country in a few years' time. I thank you.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the absence of anyone who would like to take the Floor (*interjection*)

HON TJIHUIKO: Can I speak again please?

HON SPEAKER: Does the Minister of Trade and Industry wish to reply?

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Yes, I do, Honourable Deputy Speaker.

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HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Would you like to do that now or postpone?

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Comrade Deputy Speaker, in fact I am able to respond now.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed in a summarised format please.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: If I have the Floor, I would like to proceed.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can start.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you very much. Thank you for giving the Floor to me again.

First of all, I want to express my gratitude to all the Members who supported this important Policy. I have not heard any diverging voices and I am really pleased that this strategy fell on very fertile soil and that I have the support of the House. Thank you very much for that.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, before I venture and respond to the individual interventions, let me share with you that yesterday evening, I had the privilege and honour to attend, with His Excellency the President, Comrade Hifikepunye Pohamba, a dinner organised by the business

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community, the NCCI, to honour the President on receiving the Mo Ibrahim Prize. I think it is important to share that, because the Private Sector expressed its gratitude to our President. First of all, of course, for the very deserved price that he got, but further than that, they also said that the fact that Namibia, since Independence, has maintained peace and stability, has maintained microeconomic stability; has maintained respect for Human Rights; has maintained democracy and free press; and a conducive climate to do business in, which in fact culminated into the price that has now been given to His Excellency. That it created a situation now, where Namibia is firmly placed on the map for a very conducive investors' home, a very conducive climate to do business in and to grow our economy.

I think it is quite appropriate to appreciate that the opportunity that we have now, through consistent good performance, in governance will not easily come again and if we do not grab it now by implementing these kinds of policies we will miss a very important opportunity. Again I think from a Trade and Industry point of view, the legacy that we want to continue and that we have to continue, is absolutely necessary to remain and be able to grow our economy. It is not to be taken for granted.

Honourable Deputy Speaker, *Honourable Tjihuiko* raised the concern regarding implementation, were he is seeking comfort in the ability of the Ministry of Trade and Industry to implement the intended activities as per the Growth at Home Strategy. The issue is, of course, well recognised and we agree that the Ministry will have to be reviewing its structures and its capacities so that all the activities that we mention here as institutional review matters can be implemented.

Currently, work is being done to ensure that the key Institutions and legislations for that, for instance, for the Namibian Industrial Development Agency, are forwarded. The Draft Legislation is very much advanced and I am in the process of tabling it with Cabinet so that we can bring it to this House.

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In addition, a key provision of the Implementation Plan is embedded in both Internal and External Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms. I think Comrade Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana has also mentioned it with the question added that; *whom are we going to monitor?* I think the monitoring and evaluation process is not so much a process where we monitor and evaluate individuals or projects, but we want to monitor and evaluate outcomes and outputs.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sorry to disturb you, Honourable Minister. I would like to request the different Chief Whips, to kindly request their members to come into the Chamber. I am made to understand that they are somewhere outside, because we are about to adopt this Policy. Okay, proceed.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you. What I wanted to put emphasis on, is not individual projects, although they will also be monitored, but the overall monitoring will be that of outcomes. These outcomes that we want to put in the evaluation plan are those of economic growth, additional jobs created, wealth creation generated, and how successful we evaluate the disparities and income. Therefore, the income depth needs to be monitored. The equalisation of the economy as a whole is to be evaluated and those will be the yardsticks along which the success of the Industrialisation Policy will be monitored.

Furthermore, the Honourable Member has postulated somehow that Growth at Home should be the opportunity rather to ensure that local production fully meets local supply before there is a bigger focus on export. There is thus, in his view, a need for local production to fill the local market first before exporting.

We, the Ministry, through the work of the retail charter, agree that local

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sourcing is an important element and that local sourcing, and the production for the local market is an important matter. However, we realised that our domestic market is rather small and if you want to be successful in the growth model, we have to be export driven more than consumption driven at home.

It is always good to have a domestic base for your products, but the size of our market, the size of our consumption is too small to allow for a sustained trend of growth at levels that we predict will be needed to catch up and erode away unemployment, erode away the skilled economy that we are suffering from today. The principle that local sourcing forms a base of assisting and stimulating industrialisation is very much taken.

Finally, Honourable Tjihuiko alluded to the need to ensure that even packaging materials for our beef export, as an example, are embedded within our local value chain ambitions and here I agree again. Secondary Industries like packaging, repackaging and moving to near ready or finished products is a concept that we are following within the Logistic Hub approach in Walvis Bay, where we can even receive raw materials from somewhere else that can be then value added to finished goods and then repackaged and marketed, domestically, as well as places elsewhere.

Honourable Kazenambo raised the issue that, in general, monitoring programmes in Government do not work, especially as an example, the monitoring of quality of goods produced by SMEs is not sufficient to enable them to supply efficiently and effectively. This is a constant challenge, I think. If you have an economy that is a mix of informal activities, micro-enterprises, SMEs and large economies, I think the difficulty or the challenges of having a watertight monitoring system on standards available is difficult. You will appreciate that in an informal setting, the ability to monitor, the ability to inspect is bypassed by direct cash or barter trading that happens in a specific locality. But I do think that we have reasonable legislative frameworks in place, one for Food Safety and Security, one for Health Provisions, but also other standards in the Construction Industry, the Steel Industry and other Heavy Industry that

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enables us to maintain acceptable standards. However, the challenge, as he mentioned is recognised and we also agree that it has to be reviewed and we have taken that up within our review of the SME Policy that is to ensure the advancement of manual and instructions to look at the raised and supporting standards for SMEs manufactured goods. There is a programme in place that assists SMEs to improve their standards.

Honourable Kazenambo also raised the issue of implementation of programmes and asked whether the Ministry of Trade and Industry is not understaffed to deliver, or whether there are some sub-optimal deliveries in terms of work output. Well, obviously that may be the case, but I think the need to review has been accepted. The need to restructure, institutionally has been accepted and it, of course, goes along with a need to train and build capacities within the Ministry so that all the varying demands can be fulfilled.

We now have a process through which we want to set up a fully-fledged department that addresses industrial development and I am happy to say that a Deputy Permanent Secretary with a dedicated function to lead that institution has been appointed.

Honourable Katjavivi lends his support, and I thank you for that – to our efforts to industrialisation and called for the need to foster Infant Industry Protection, further. I think that is an aspect that we also want to agree with. I think it was also raised by Comrade Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana or the broadening of measures that would shield local vulnerable Industries against undue competition from outside.

I think we are following Infant Industry Protection measures with a number of principles in mind. The first principle is, of course, it must be legally allowed by Domestic Legislation and by International Laws and Treaties that we have to adhered to. Therefore, we will only implement them in as much as they are covered and allowed by whatever legal obligation we have committed to and which is binding on us.

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The second principle is that Infant Industry Protection measures must be time bound. If you keep them in place for too long, they induce the risk that the market will be distorted significantly and it becomes a harmful practice rather than a helpful practice. At some point of time, Infant Industries must mature to Industries that can stand on their own and that are viable businesses in their own right without the protection that distorts the market and distorts prices.

Thirdly, we believe that the Infant Industry Protection holds the inherent risks that drives up consumer prices, so whatever Infant Industry Protection is implemented must not do so without taking due cognisance that the consumer is not unduly harmed by such protection measures.

However, the principle that those measures that industrialised countries used to industrialise, serious protective measures, be it through tariff barriers, be it through standards, be it through non-tariff bearers, be it through subsidies, those measures cannot be kicked away, therefore, we should, wherever possible use these similar protective measures to create the necessary Policies based on our Industries to effect development and reach maturity levels where they can stand on their own feet. Therefore, Honourable Professor, I think you are very correct.

Honourable Ilonga, enquired as to how in terms of domestic value, our northern-based communal farmers above the Redline are to benefit. The development of the value chains should also apply there, and I, of course, agree with you. The common sense is still a barrier and I think it is, unfortunately, not only a perceived the matter, but it is an actual fact that, especially in the Livestock Industry, there are significant disadvantages that are brought along with that fence. If we dismantle the fence, there are, of course, also consequences that can be very severe and we have to be very much aware of them.

The Industrialisation Policy *per se* has as its core, that we have to improve and develop value chains as close to the raw material as possible. Therefore, in agriculture, yes, abattoirs and meat processing must also be

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happening in the north and north of the Cordon Fence. But it must also happen in our grain production areas at our Green Scheme sites at the Fresh Vegetable Hubs and at Horticultural Centres that are to be developed. Therefore, wherever possible, the raw materials supplied from agricultural production centres need to be channelled into markets where they can either be consumed as a finished fresh commodity, but also as a processed and canned or whatever commodity, because then your actual yield from the harvest can be improved quite significantly. I think from an industrial point of view, the Cordon Fence will only limit meat products and related matters, but I think the Policy targets production centres and communities to benefit from the development of value chains there.

Honourable Ilonga also postulated that it would be ideal to see the Manufacturing Sectors contributing to our Gross Domestic Product – to reach not only 50%, but even 100%. Yes, I think that is noted and our efforts as a country is to guard against a narrow Sector dependency and thus, with the NDP4, manufacturing is one of the key Sectors that has been identified and manufacturing is not limited to specific Sectors as manufacturing *per se*. And again, I think we do agree.

However, the NDPs also identified Agriculture and Agro Processing as a possible Sector, it identifies the Mineral Sector and beneficiation possibilities as investment potential Sectors and then on the services side, Tourism, Transport and Logistics are identified as Sectors, and those are the ones that we are targeting.

Finally, Comrade Ilonga alluded to the need to ensure that vocational training is improved and I think the new Educational Policy targets that through the Namibia Training Authority where vocational training receives a significant boost so that we can accelerate capacity building through vocational training. The training levy will also help to get the necessary material resources in place to make that happen.

The Honourable Minister of Defence, ***Comrade Nahas Angula***, supported the Growth at Home Strategy and, in fact, he was quite excited about it.

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We are very happy to hear that a Senior Member of this House is excitable and he believes that NIDA is to be the engine of economic growth and we agree. I think the Namibian Institute for Industrial Development will be a key Institute to drive our Industrialisation Policy, but most importantly the implementation thereof.

Honourable Swartz lamented on the skills gap and I think I have touched that. I agree that the skills gap exists, it is still not settled. There is a gap between what the labour market is in need of and what our educational system kicks out, so I think we have to come closer to a match between the demand of the labour market and the ability of the Educational System to provide that.

Honourable Swartz also expressed concern regarding SMEs access to land and the need to ensure its availability. We have recognised that need for some time now. One of our programmes that is the Sites and Premises Programme, in fact, targets SMEs and provides with SMEs full industrial space, warehousing space or retail outlet space. That scheme is specifically designed to cover those needs of SMEs. I must, of course, admit, however, that the demand is much higher than our ability to supply and it needs to be stepped up.

Honourable Tjongarero referred to dairy products development programme and suggested the incorporation of youth in terms of making cheese and other dairy products. It is an interesting observation and I think the observation comes from the experience that some time ago, Namibia had a reasonable capacity in the Dairy Industry. We had the manufacturing capacity to produce a number of dairy products, but then I think there was a change in the Agricultural Policy and Comrade Mutorwa can help me. In those years South Africa dictated their Policy to us and South Africa felt then that agriculture in South Africa has better potential to provide us, as a fifth colony, with dairy products instead of us providing it ourselves, and in Namibia, we should concentrate on livestock production only, to supply raw material, that is, red meat to the South African markets for beneficiation and reselling to the whole market.

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Now that brought about that the Dairy Industry in Namibia completely to collapsed and to disappeared from the landscape. Only after Independence did we see some resurgence of the Dairy Industry. And I think with the collapse of the Dairy Industry, we also lost the capacity, the skills needed for that Industry. However, I am happy to say that we are back. The Dairy Industry that we have established, currently, is an Industry that is competitive at least in quality and many products. We do not have a whole range of products as yet, but we are moving in the right direction.

It is, by the way, one of the Sectors where we attempted to introduce the Infant Industry Protection measures. We were rebuffed by the High Court although an appeal is still pending. We still think that it was an appropriate action, but, of course, it is a *sub judice* matter that will be decided in the Appeal Court.

Honourable Mushelenga provided his full support, which I am thankful for and a comprehensive contribution of his understanding of the Growth at Home Strategy and emphasised the underlying principles such as value addition and Infant Industry Protection measures. We welcome the input as a whole and also his support. I can assure him that some of the suggestions such as looking at Infant Industry Protection or Sectors such as construction and so on, we will analyse them as we go. Infant Industries, as they crop up, can be evaluated whether they are properly constituted to justify Infant Industry Protection.

I also want to thank ***Honourable Mutorwa*** for his support for the Growth at Home Strategy. He also deeply lamented on the issue pertaining to our produce not necessarily driven towards fulfilling domestic demands and I think that is recognition again. We discussed that some of our meat products are only sold in the export markets and not here. Some of our diamonds, some of our dimension stones – there are a whole range of products that are not available to our consumers or our manufacturers, for that matter, and we agree with that point, but I will elaborate a little bit later on that when I talk about the intervention of Honourable Iivula-Ithana.

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We also very much welcome the support and the notion that growth should be broad-based and across the whole of the Namibian spectrum. Surely, indeed a growth that is not primed on domestic markets will lead to our quest to be competitive, at both local and global levels, and if not, it will lead to adverse comments.

Honourable Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana mentioned a number of important points. First of all, I want to thank her for the support. Let me start with the example that she used on dimension stones leaving the country as blocks and returning as finished products. That is a very appropriate example that can be used to show what should not happen and what actually should happen. Dimension stones are used mainly to make tiles, slabs and the like. It is not a very sophisticated Industry. You can buy the technology, you can buy the machines to do that and the skills that are needed to make these goods are also not that complicated. We, therefore, have a real opportunity here to turn and develop a value chain based on dimension stones. We have an abundance of it. We have Marble in different shades and qualities, we have Granite in different shades and qualities, we have Sodalite and we have a number of other smaller dimension stone material that can be utilised.

Comrade Pendukeni Iivula-Ithana, we now have an investor on board who wants to do exactly that. Get dimension stones of whatever quality or type into factory and you can then, wherever you are in the world, order your tiles, your slabs, your kitchen table face or whatever online and that factory will custom-make that product and ship it to you. That investor is busy setting up business in Karibib. I think it is a good example how we can grab these opportunities and really develop value chains with materials that are competitive.

Let me also at the same time move to the question of branding – whether branding is necessary. I think branding as a marketing tool is a crucial matter, but branding can happen at many levels. We can brand our products, nationally, like Airlines, they are normally branded nationally, like Air Namibia – you brand it as a reliable carrier that is linked to a

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specific country. Branding can also happen because of the quality of the raw materials and here dimension stones are a good example or our diamonds are a good example. We have gem diamonds, Namibia is known to have the best quality of gem diamonds. Now if you brand that then as a Namibian product that would be beneficiary in price tagging, because you know that that source is a source of premium quality. There is a good example where national branding is important, without any manufacturing process attached to it.

The same with dimension stones, if you have very beautiful marble or very high quality and beautiful shades of granite, the source is the one against which you do the branding, because whether you do a tile of high quality from that stone or a dull looking stone it is the same, the technology is the same. It is not the manufacturing that allows you to have a good branding, it is the quality of the raw material that is allows you to brand.

Here we have an example where we should brand a Namibian product, but a suit is another type of branding, because here you brand the quality of the manufacturing process and not so much the quality of the raw material that is used for the commodity. Again, it is not to say that we should not brand processed and manufactured goods, but I just want to give an example how branding is different and how it can be used differently, but it is an important matter.

With the meat products, I agree that we should, by all means, try to supply our local market with commodities in the Food Sector, where we are able to use them ourselves, whether it is meat, grain or horticultural products. That needs to be done.

As I indicated in the discussion on the provision of sheep carcasses, what has happened is, our export market for beef, for instance, in Norway, pays much higher prices for a product than we can afford here. Now the Private Sector then, of course, takes advantage of those high prices and sells lock, stock, and barrel into that market instead of supplying the local market. But I do agree that whatever the case is, these products should be made

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available to local consumers. We are driving towards that goal through our Retail Charter, which is a framework through which we want to promote local sourcing. Of course, the Manufacturing Sector is roped into that discussion so that they are also ready to make their raw material or manufactured goods available to the retailers so that the consumer has the benefit to consume them.

Whether we can regulate imports, will depend on, as I indicated earlier, the legal framework under which we are operating both internationally and domestically, and I think there are some possibilities to regulate, but the principle is that the multilateral link, that is, the World Trade Organisation (WTO), under which we are committed to, prohibits quantitative restrictions with some exceptions for developing countries and some exceptions to address balance of payment issues. However, overall Infant Industry Protection should not target to exclude imports from similar products from other countries. That is the principle of free trade.

I think the message or your request, Honourable Iivula-Ithana, is that we should try whatever we can, to exploit policy space that allows us to protect without detrimental effects for the consumer to promote local industrialisation, and I agree with that. I think we need to be more aggressive there.

Standards are, of course, very important, if you want to be competitive your standards must be acceptable, if not above average.

I have talked about the Retail Charter and that is one of the Sectors that we want to deploy to bring about local sourcing. The observation that the Retail Sector is expanding, but it is expanding mainly through foreign entities that bring their retail outlets into Namibia and that local retailers are crowded out, that is a risk that we are very much aware of; hence, the Retail Charter where we try to bring about some space for local retail outlets.

But I can maybe also share with the House that whether you are a South

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African or a Namibian, the Policy of Industrialisation and the Policy to export oriented finished goods is pretty much the same. What is happening is that, South Africa is quite successful in penetrating its neighbouring countries with retail outlets and these retail outlets protect and sustain their supply chains at home – their factories and their jobs at home. Now, if we portray the same here, we would be running into the same need. We also want to expand our market penetration in neighbouring countries. One way of doing that is to take our Wecke & Vogt, our Woermann Brock and our Retail Sectors into the neighbouring countries and supply and source them from here. That is what South Africa is mainly doing.

How to react against that within a Single Customs Union and a Free Trade Area of SADC is a challenge, but the challenge is accepted and I think we cannot afford to completely crowd out our own small businesses.

I am almost done. The last question that I want to address, from Comrade Iivula-Ithana is, how do we implement industrialisation and how do we monitor it so that we remain on course? I think the question was do we have policies or how do we make sure that it is actually happening? We are to realise that industrialisation is indeed a process where many things have to happen at the same time. We have to have an institutional review to which we create the necessary legal framework to enable us to industrialise. That may include how we regulate access to raw materials that may include conditionality to that access. It may include an incentive package that we offer to manufacturers. It may, and it will include questions of how we are addressing competitiveness, how we address land for business, how our skills are prepared. Therefore, it is an across the board approach, but what I do agree with and what I want to strongly suggest is that whatever we do should support industrialisation.

If we develop a new curriculum for vocational training, the first question should be; does it address the needs for industrialisation? That should be the core question. If we develop access policies for raw material, we should make sure that the conditionality that we can legally impose must

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support our industrialisation efforts. Our Financial and Fiscal Policies should be aiming at improving industrialisation and implementing industrialisation. That is why, Comrade Pendukeni, I agree very much we have to have concerted efforts in all Sectors to push as hard as we can to become industrialised.

My Neighbour, *Honourable Uutoni Nujoma*, thank you very much for supporting me, and I am happy you were the last. You talked about the Fishing Industry and how successful it was to create value chain. I agree, I think the Fishing Sector did make some strides in creating value chains and create finished goods, but there is a large component, I must unfortunately say, that it is still not yet going through value chains that produce finished goods. A large component of the wide Fish Industry lands at raw material or bulk material in Spain and is processed there into finished goods and I think we can improve much more.

The other issue that was raised while you were on the Floor was the point that we can link Industries. If we have a Fishing Industry that cans Pilchards and Horse Mackerel, we can just as well create a tomato sauce factory that supplies that Fishing Sector with tomato sauce and then you can go to the next link, you can then also plant beans and can beans in tomatoes sauce when the Pilchards is not in season, so that we have a much more effective chain and utilisation of the factory.

I think we are working together with Agriculture to do that. We have looked at the concept of their Fresh Produce Hubs that we can link, as I indicated earlier, fresh produce consumption with manufacturing capacity so that we improve the yield of the early harvest. A tomato plant is the first one that we want to embark on, because there are obvious linkages that we can use.

Diamonds and Value Addition – yes, in the Growth at Home Strategy, we have, in fact, identified jewellery making as a potential value chain that can be developed. Again, we can cut and polish diamond, but we can also cut and polish semi-precious stones. We can refine silver and gold. We

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can create alloys out of various metals. All these can lead to a supply chain for jewellery manufacturing which is the end product and where the actual value is.

There was a question about target groups. Yes, we are reviewing the SME Policy and within that review we have taken the principle decision that we have to consider youth and women as specific target groups, and we are contemplating to introduce quota systems in the allocation of resources to these two groups so that we give effect, in a meaningful way, when we distribute our aid.

I am almost at the end. There was a question about the Ondangwa Tannery was. Honourable Tjihuiko is correct, that the Ondangwa Tannery was an effort in the early days after Independence to create a manufacturing capacity that would exploit a raw material that is available in abundance and almost completely exported to neighbouring countries. That was the principle idea, which is a good idea and we still pursue that same idea.

What did not go well at the Ondangwa Tannery is that the setup machine bought to tan, was not matched well with the raw material available. The emphasis was on sheep and goat skins, where the bulk raw material supply in that area is actually in cattle hides. Therefore, the tannery did not do well, because it could not exploit the raw material base at hand. We have restructured it now and I think hopefully when it comes on line again, it will have addressed that so that we can tan both small stock hides, but mainly leather from cattle. However, it shows you that it is important to have, in the business plan, an accurate knowledge of what your market demands are on the one side, and also what your material base is on the other hand.

Again complimentary approaches were mentioned and I agree that they are very much needed. They are actually the essence of value chain development where you create upwards and downwards linkages between Sectors, so I agree very much.

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Honourable Deputy Speaker, I think I have tried to address the queries with the answers provided, and I again, want to thank the House for the support that was given. I rest my case. Thank you very much.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: I put the question that the Policy be adopted. Any objection? Agreed to.

How many minutes do we have?

HON MEMBER: Nothing! (*Laughter*)

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing? We still have five minutes. The Secretary will read the Third Order of the Day.

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF REPORT
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE
ON THE MOTION OF PROHIBITION TO
EXPORT SHEEP ON THE HOOF**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Consideration of the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Motion of Prohibition to Export Sheep on the Hoof.

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HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: When the Debate was adjourned on Tuesday, the 10th of March 2015, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by Honourable Ben Amathila. The Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy has the Floor to continue. Honourable Minister, we have four minutes to round up.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Yes, Honourable Deputy Speaker, yesterday the Honourable Minister left me exactly the same time as today, and I could hardly start. (*Laughter*)

However, what I was saying yesterday is that, when the producers indicated that they wanted a different market, it is not that they do not want to take the sheep to South Africa. Sheep here or to South Africa is not the issue. The issue is that they want a better market.

I studied what we call the *Economics of Education*, which is totally different from this *Economics of Supply and Demand*. I get confused with these issues of supply and demand where people are saying the price is set by the markets.

Here you have a producer and the producer knows exactly what he/she puts in production, but it is not him/her setting the price. The price is set by somebody else. The Honourable Minister also indicated here that the Private Sector rushes to the European market, because it is lucrative. It is lucrative, but it does not follow the same principles, because the beef is supposed to be expensive or should yield a higher price from the producer, because the market there is lucrative, but it does not happen that way.

The producer who is also the buyer, for example – when a vehicle, a bakkie, is produced the price is not determined by the buyer, it is determined by the one who produced it. However, when it comes to the livestock, the producer does not set the price. What does this economy of supply and demand tell us, because if you are a producer and you sell a

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Carcass, but you are not able to buy meat from that carcass, which means that you have been robbed somewhere, because it is supposed to be following the same principle – when you produce, you calculate the input and then you set the price, but that is not what is happening. Somebody else will set the price for you.

Let us say, for example, we want to go and sell our beef to the DRC. Who is setting the price, is it us as producers here or is it the DRC?

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: One second?

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: I will have to continue.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you still have to continue?

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Yes, because I have three elements, and I only started with one now. There are still two.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can continue on Tuesday. Before we adjourn, I would like to humbly request the Honourable Members, since next week will be our last week – probably just two days.

I, thus, humbly request us to make very short and productive interventions. You can say a lot in ten minutes. If it is elaborative like the Minister of Trade and Industry you could have finished within thirty minutes. You

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON PROF KASINGO**

almost took an hour. Of course, it was very important. Honourable Amathila, let us do justice so that we can finalise this very important Report.

With that, Honourable Members, the House is adjourned till next week, Tuesday, the 17th of March 216, at 14:30.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 17:48 UNTIL 2015.03.17 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: Good citizens, we shall start the Business of the House scheduled for today, as indicated on the Order Paper and whatever other references there are that I will flag when we get to them as may be required.

With that said, any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Honourable Amathila.

**TABLING: REPORT ON THE 20TH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE**

HON AMATHILA: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Colleagues, I lay upon the Table, the Report of the 20th Session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference, held in Lima, Peru, from the 1st to the 12th of December 2014, for note taking. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please table the Report. Any other Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Honourable Minister of Finance.

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**TABLING OF REPORTS
HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

TABLING: REPORTS OF THE 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 Otjiwarongo for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013;
- (ii) Town Council of Oranjemund for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2014;
- (iii) Town Council of Oshikuku for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2014;
- (iv) Village Council of Witvlei for the Financial Years ended 30 June 2008 and 2009;
- (v) Village Council of Witvlei for the Financial Years ended 30 June 2010 and 2011; and
- (vi) Village Council of Witvlei for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2012.

I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Reports. Next time we expect you to speak about these things, not table the Reports – in your future life. Thank you, Right Honourable Prime Minister.

Any other Reports and Papers? None of the above. Notice of Questions. None. Notice of Motions? Minister of Veterans Affairs.

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**NOTICE OF MOTION
HON DR IYAMBO**

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Honourable Speaker, I give Notice that tomorrow, Wednesday, the 18th of March 2015, I shall Move that leave given to introduce a Bill to amend the *Veterans Amendment Act* of 2013, so as to substitute Section 13 of the Act and to provide for incidental matters.

I so Move Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Motion. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs, why are you flagging the book titled Rules and Orders? What does that have to do with what the future of Vice-President was talking about? (*Laughter*)

Any further Notice of Motions? Ministerial Statements? Minister of Health and Social Services.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES: Thank you, Honourable Speaker for giving me the Floor.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise to give information related to an important subject in the fight against infectious diseases, especially TB and HIV/AIDS.

As many of you may already know, Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV/AIDS

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remain major public health challenges facing the world today. As one of the top five countries with the highest per capita burden of TB in the world, Namibia is implementing and putting in place all vigorous initiatives to try and get rid of this disease as a public health concern.

Given that one infectious person has the potential to infect an average of 20 other people, it is imperative to find and appropriately treat each and every case of TB or any other infectious disease. This situation is aggravated by the fact that about half of our TB patients are infected with HIV, that is the so-called HIV/TB co-infection, making addressing the dual epidemic even more pertinent.

I am encouraged that the sustained collective efforts are starting to bear fruits. There are notable achievements in the major international indicators that are used to monitor the pandemic. Should we continue on this path, the ultimate vision of a Namibia free of TB can surely be achieved.

I am also encouraged that the Government has shown commitment to the battle to rid Namibia off TB and HIV/AIDS reflected in the substantially increased budgetary provision for the control of these two diseases.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, one of the key challenges that we have regarding TB in this country, pertains to the constant cross border movement of people between Namibian and her neighbours, especially given the different levels at which the Tuberculosis Control Programmes are currently operating for historical reasons. This is particularly so given the Anecdotal Reports of a vibrant Medical Tourism Industry characterised by patients from Angola travelling to Namibia to seek treatment at private and public health facilities. It is against this background that we need to ensure that the current situation does not significantly derail the commendable progress that we have made in Tuberculosis and HIV control to date.

Untreated people with Tuberculosis whether from Angola or Namibia, remain the most significant threat to Tuberculosis control in the country.

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Given that we cannot control the constant movement of people along common borders due to family ties, inter-marriages, economic needs. There is need to ensure that this movement does not jeopardise our disease control efforts. These are also WHO Conventions regarding access to health services by cross border patients, which restraints Namibia from turning away sick foreign nationals.

While our strategies and resources like medicines are currently intended for Namibians, the following are the potential downfalls of an Inhibitive System regarding treatment of Angolan nationals:

- 1) Medicine sharing among patients potentially resulting in the development of resistance, because clients do not complete the treatment regime.
- 2) False identity and contact details, which result in failure to trace patients who default treatment. Already we have observed up to 75% defaulting in this area.
- 3) False treatment history resulting in inappropriate treatment regime, because some people will come up with false information in order to hide their identity.
- 4) Untreated infectious patients resulting in continued disease transmissions.

For these reasons, it is preferable for all these patients to come freely and openly to our facilities if we are to prevent further spread of TB and exacerbation of the problem of TB drug resistance or the worst resulting in XDR-TB in the country, which will have even bigger financial repercussions.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the magnitude of the problem can be demonstrated by the numbers that we are receiving from the various Institutions. For example, about 40% of patients admitted to the Katutura TB Unit with Tuberculosis are Angolan nationals, while 276

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representing 30% of the 932 patients who commenced treatment in Engela District Hospital during 2014 were Angolan nationals.

Needless to say, this has significant financial and resource implications for the country. This is not good return on our investments and we would definitely like to see the situation changed. It is for these reasons that as a Ministry, we are and remain grateful to Cabinet who approved that Angolans with TB and other infectious diseases should be treated free of charge at the point of service delivery and that Cabinet also approved our request that the Namibian Government engages the Angolan Government to work towards developing an agreement whereby the Ministry of Health Social Services is able to obtain reimbursement for all the services that the Ministry of Health and Social Services' health facilities provide to the Angolan citizens free of charge at the point of service delivery.

This is found permissible in accordance with the WHO International Health Regulations and SADC Health Protocol. Given the good relations between Namibian and Angola, we believe that cost recovery should be possible with the assistance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the WHO. The health facilities shall keep record of patients, the treatment provided and the cost involved. These records shall then form the basis for negotiation for reimbursement by the Angolan Government.

One of the mandates of the Ministry of Health and Social Services is to protect all Namibians from infectious diseases and we remain committed to that mandate to protect Namibians from being infected, hence the need for preventive measures early enough to avoid an epidemic outbreak.

I trust that this information will now allay fears that some Namibians had thought we were just there to treat Angolan nationals without us benefiting anything. Clearly, this is in fact a win-win situation for both countries, Namibia and Angola. Together we can live in a TB and HIV/AIDS free Nation. Thank you.

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HON ANGULA**

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. Any questions? None. Honourable Minister of Defence.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Members of this expiring august House (*laughter*) As part of the Silver Anniversary Celebrations marking the 25th Anniversary of Namibia's Independence, the Ministry of Defence is cordially inviting all Members of Parliament to join the viewing of the Defence Equipment Display that will take place on Friday, the 20th of March 2015, starting at 10:00, in the morning.

On this occasion, the Namibian Defence Force will proudly welcome the 25th Independence of Namibia with the Defence Equipment Display on the eve of the investiture of the new Government that will begin on the 21st of March 2015, when the current President of the Republic, His Excellency President Hifikepunye Pohamba hands over reins of power to the President-elect, Comrade Dr Hage Geingob. To this effect, the Honourable Members are invited, as I said, to attend the Defence Equipment Display from the VIP stand that will erected for this purpose in front of the City of Windhoek buildings.

The route of the equipment display will be from Luiperds Vallei Military Base through Otjomuise Road, into Independence Avenue and back to Luiperds Vallei Military Base. At the same time, the Minister of Defence is taking this opportunity to invite and inform the residents of Windhoek to come and view the defence assets of the Namibia Defence Force on that date, but we request everybody to be orderly and disciplined so that the display can march on in an orderly and peaceful manner. Thank you for responding to my invitation. You are welcome.

HON SPEAKER: We heard you. Minister of Foreign Affairs.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON NANDI-NDAITWAH**

HON MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Members, in celebrating our Silver Jubilee, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is inviting Members of Parliament to a Panel Discussion on United Nation Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

We had to choose this activity, since we know we are able to celebrate our Silver Jubilee because of peace and security that is prevailing in our country. At the same time, Namibia is highly linked to this Resolution. It was on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the United Nations Transitional Assessment Group when a Declaration was adopted in Windhoek on the 31st of May 2000. Among others, the declaration reads:

“In order to ensure the effectiveness of peace support operations, the principles of gender equality must permeate the entire mission, at all levels, thus ensuring the participation of women and men as equal partners and beneficiaries in all aspects of the peace process – from peacekeeping, reconciliation and peace-building, towards a situation of political stability in which women and men play an important part in the political, economic and social development of their country.”

Motivated by this Windhoek Declaration in the year 2000 when Namibia became a non-permanent member of the Security Council and when our rank came to chair, the Namibian delegation under the leadership of our then Foreign Minister and our current Speaker of the National Assembly, introduced a discussion in the Security Council to discuss women and peace. It was not easy as we all know, because other members felt women issues belong to the ECOSOC, which is the Economic and Social Council.

However, Namibia mobilised others and finally, it was agreed for the matter to be discussed. Subsequently, Resolution 1325 was adopted and this year, the world is celebrating the 15th Anniversary of this Resolution and the Security Council has directed the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make a review on the implementation of that Resolution.

Therefore, the Panel Discussion that we are having this evening, is part of

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that review and we are inviting all Honourable Members to attend. I believe you have all received your invitation and it is taking place at the Polytechnic Auditorium from 18:00.

Amongst the panellists, we have, I am happy to inform you that we have the AU Envoy on Women and Peace who will be one of the panellists. Please if that invitation has not reached you yet, I kindly and humbly request you to take my word as being the official invitation to you at 18:00. Thank you for your attendance in advance and thank you for your kind attention. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. This is fully endorsed by the Former President of the Security Council. Any other Ministerial Statements? None.

The Notice of a Motion is the one of the Honourable Minister of Education. Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be now introduced?

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

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Agreed to. Honourable Minister, please table the Bill.

Secretary will now read the Bill a First Time.

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**FIRST READING UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE
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SECRETARY: *University of Science and Technology Bill* [B.2 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister, Move that the Bill be now read a Second Time?

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

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objections? Agreed to. The Honourable Minister now has the Floor.

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HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. It is indeed a high honour and privilege for me to stand in motivating the *University of Science and Technology (UST) Bill* of 2015.

Cabinet at its meeting of 12 December 2012, in response to the Education

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Ministry's submission and the Polytechnic transformation has issued a number of directives on the Reform of Higher Education in Namibia, including the renaming of the Polytechnic of Namibia to the University of Science and Technology, and to keep certificates and diplomas courses for periods of not more than five years.

The abovementioned directives clearly identified the need to institute a paradigm shift for the Polytechnic of Namibia from a Technicon into a fully-fledged University of Science and Technology. The transformation process will be implemented through the promulgation of a new establishing Act, which will repeal the current *Polytechnic of Namibia Act*, 1994 (Act 33 of 1994). The new legislation will provide for the Institution to function as a University, a new name, namely the University of Science and Technology, new governance structures and precise description of its aims and objectives.

The Law Reform and Development Commission (LRDC) assisted to facilitate the reformed process, particularly the drafting of the new establishing Act and to further engage stakeholders as the need may be by virtue of its mandate provided by the *Law Reform and Development Commission Act*, 1992 (Act 26 of 1992) Section 6.

The reform process, Honourable Speaker, included publication of a Discussion Paper, which was made available to various stakeholders. At this stage, as the Minister responsible for Education in Namibia, I indicated that there was a need to conduct nationwide stakeholders consultations aimed at ensuring that all stakeholders participate in the development and the formulation of policy to ensure that the consultative process engaged, results in the building of an all encompassing consensus around the content by the proposed Bill and that it commands the support and will of all the key stakeholders in Higher Education.

These consultations took place during 2014, at Windhoek, Swakopmund, Keetmanshoop, Oshakati and Katima Mulilo. The extended consultations were a concrete expression of the democratic will that is the motor-force

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of our emerging Nation and reflects my Ministry's commitment to stakeholder's participation in the development and formulation of policy.

The transformation of the Polytechnic of Namibia into the University of Science and Technology (UST) reflects the changes that are taking place in our society, strengthens the value and practices of our new democracy and is in response to the new realities and opportunities that will ensure that Vision 2030 is realised. It also seeks to introduce a new specialised institutional type into the Namibian Higher Education landscape, that is the University of Science of Technology, which will be established through the renaming process.

The idea of establishing the new Institution was informed by the fact that the institutional type that integrates University and Technicon-type Programmes would be well placed to contribute to addressing range of goals which are central to the Government's human resource development strategy, in particular, enhanced articulation between career-focused and general academic programmes, thus promoting, and strengthening applied research and enhanced responsiveness to regional and national human resource skills and knowledge needs.

It is clear, however, that the successful introduction and establishment of this Institution would require careful planning in the development of an appropriate academic and organisational model. Such planning should result in a new institutional type, which would be innovative and enhance the institutional diversity of Higher Education in Namibia. This cannot simply be done through the repackaging of existing structures and programmes, hence the need for a new establishing Act.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, from the consulted stakeholders, the following main issues emerged:

- 1) Whether the name University for Science and Technology denotes that this is the only University that is mandated to provide Higher Education in Science and Technology;

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- 2) Whether the University of Science and Technology will reproduce or duplicate efforts of an existing or prospective University;
- 3) Whether the establishment of the University of Science and Technology is in the interest of Namibian Higher Education;
- 4) Whether there are realistic plans to achieve the stated aims and objectives;
- 5) Whether the University of Science and Technology is likely to attain and maintain standards set;
- 6) Whether the requisites resources are available or likely to be available; and
- 7) Whether the University of Science and Technology has the necessary capacity, skills and infrastructure such as scientific laboratories to specialise in sciences.

Honourable Speaker, these questions were thoroughly scrutinised and answered. It is important to note that the transformation process is not expected to happen overnight and although there might be shortfalls in certain respects, the entire transformation process is expected to take place over a period of five years as clearly reflected in the Cabinet directive of 12/12/2012, that is, the 12th of December 2012.

Honourable Members, having dealt with those matters, permit me to now take us through the Bill and explain its contents in brief.

Not all of these Sections of the proposed Bill will be discussed as some of them are very clear and do not require elaboration. The Preamble of the proposed Bill introduces as the Bill as providing for the establishment of the University of Science and Technology, its control and regulation and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

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Section 1 refers to definitions in the proposed Bill. This Section introduces a Chancellor to the University as a structure of members constituting the membership of the University should change. The Ceremonial Head was absent from the Polytechnic structure. Therefore, there was a need for the addition of a Chancellor who would be the Ceremonial Head of the University. The new structure will provide for the renaming of the position of the Rector to the Vice Chancellor and the renaming of the positions of the Vice Rectors to Deputy Vice Chancellors. The aforementioned conforms to the structures as applied in general at Universities throughout the world.

Section 2 provides for the establishment and the seat of the University. This Section will make provision for the future expansion of the University throughout the country.

Section 3 provides for the seal of the University. The seal of the University is regarded globally as the most visible expression of the mission and purpose of the University. Its primary purpose is to authenticate and certify University documents, including diplomas and certificates, thereby graphically symbolising official association with the University. The name and graphic identity of the University are important parts of building and presenting the image of the University, and validating and protecting the seals ensures that the value created by its image remains constant. The seal is a mark of guarantee and should be legally sanctioned, recognised and protected against misuse.

Section 5 provides of the aim of the University. The new aims strive to ensure alignment of the aims with the transformation of the Polytechnic into a University. The aims further primarily demonstrate the core functions of the University of Science and Technology and serve to distinguish the Institution type from a traditional University.

Section 7 provides for the Council of the University. In general, the composition of the Council is aimed at bringing the principal governance body of the Institution in line with the modern principles and practices at

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universities while ensuring that the body is composed of persons with the right attributes.

Input from a person nominated by the Private Business and Industrial Sector will do more to ensure that stakeholders in the Private Sector are allowed to give input and guidance at Council level. The engineering Council is but one of the many statutory professional bodies that the University will have to provide education and training for. It is, therefore, not prudent to have one specific profession serving on the Council and others not.

Honourable Speaker, the development of the programme offered by the University is directly influenced by the vision of the Government for the effective production of professionals in areas of national importance. For that reason, it will not be prudent to elevate any profession to a level of importance for an indefinite time period. The Minister responsible for Higher Education in Namibia will be well equipped at any point in time to determine the expertise that should be provided by nominating experts from key Industries.

The proposed Amendment also provides for the Minister to take cognisance of major changes to the economy and to appoint persons from Industries or Sectors that are major contributors to the Gross Domestic Product or that have importance in national development imperatives as reflected amongst other documents, for National Development Plans.

The Section furthermore makes provision for the representation of the employees of the Institution to have direct persons on the Council as they are a constituent part of the Institution. This is in line with the practice in Universities around the world.

In ensuring that Council members possess the necessary skills and expertise to contribute meaningfully to the development of the University, certain standards have been enumerated in the proposed Bill.

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Section 8 creates a Chancellor for the University. The Insertion of the Section is to provide for a Chancellor for the University and to describe his or her role as the Ceremonial Head of the University. This Section is in line with the *University of Namibia Act*.

Section 10 – this Section provides for the terms of office and vacating of office by members of the Council. The Section provides for the Rules and Guidelines all members of Council are expected to abide to. The Section will allow the Minister or any appointing authority to remove a member on recommendation of Council for a good and valid reason, thus ensuring that Council can regulate the effectiveness and expertise of its members when needed.

Furthermore, the Section will ensure that Members understand the importance of governing the Institution in accordance with the best practices and by safeguarding the interest of the Institution.

Section 13 establishes the position of the Vice Chancellor of the University and furthermore clarifies his/her role in delegating powers to another person and in relation to Council.

Section 26 provides for the conferment of degrees, diplomas and certificates. The Provision does away with the requirement of gaining the approval of the Minister for the conferment of degrees so as to bring the University in line with academic autonomy of other Universities around the world. The section furthermore provides flexibility in assessment and emphasises that qualifications are conferred on persons who have met the requirements of a curriculum of the programme.

Section 31 provides for subsidies and loans to the University. This insertion is in accordance with the *Higher Education Act, 2003* (Act 26 of 2003), particularly Sections 33 and 34 thereof. Funding for University must be done in accordance with the funding framework and as per the *Higher Education Act, 2003* (Act 26 of 2003).

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Section 39 provides for the repeal of the *Polytechnic Act*, 1994 (Act 53 of 1994). Although the 1994 Act is hereby repealed, it should be noted that the Polytechnic will be phased into University overtime, as I said earlier on, and will not be wound up.

Finally, it is my prayer that the Honourable Members of this august House commit themselves in ensuring that this urgent and important Bill is passed and becomes an Act of Parliament.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members of Parliament, I, therefore, submit, that the *University of Science and Technology Bill* [B.2 – 2015], for consideration and discussion by the National Assembly. Honourable Speaker, I thank you for your indulgence.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Honourable Minister. This is a very important undertaking. You have heard the Motivation by the Minister. Any further discussion? Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, I would like to thank the Honourable Minister of Education for bringing this very important information to the House. I think this was long overdue.

Comrade Speaker, listening from what the Honourable Minister read, this is one of the Bills that I think is a kind of standard that includes all the aspects are that have to be in a Bill of this nature. The Bill is very straightforward, it is not complicated. Therefore, I would like to Move that the House approve this Bill so that the University of Science can

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continue with the transformation of all the aspects that have been enumerated by the Honourable Minister. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: There is this speaker with a small s, who likes what you have said that we should expedite the process and let this Bill fly with the intention stated. Another teacher, the Honourable Minister of Defence. You have the Floor.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. As a retiring Member of Parliament, I take my responsibility very seriously with regard to Lawmaking. This Bill is very, very important to the Nation and I want to underline the importance of Science and Technology in development.

Africa is endowed with many natural resources, yet Africa is poor; Africa is underdeveloped – we are not even able to address simple things like malnutrition effectively. Therefore, the importance of Science and Technology – our failure to harness, mobilise and deploy knowledge is one of the consequences why Africa is underdeveloped. If we want to get out of the situation we find ourselves, we must develop a body of knowledgeable workers through investment in education, in research and in Science and Technology.

The Bill, however, appears just to be a bureaucratic Bill, saying nothing about the scope and the mission of the proposed new Institution. It is more about bureaucracy – you have to have a Vice Chancellor, you have to have a Chancellor, you have to have a Registrar, and it goes on and on. I hope that when this Institution transforms itself, it will not just transform the bureaucracy, but actually transforms its way of working and doing things so that it makes a difference to the lives of the Namibian people.

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HON ANGULA**

Yes, the Polytechnic of Namibia is located where it is. I do not know whether the Polytechnic of Namibia is thinking of finding another site where it can put up laboratories; where it can put up a science park, away from the population where it is located now. I know its space is so limited and I am not quite sure whether that space will allow them to actually do the things a normal University of Science and Technology does. I do not know. But I do support the move that we must establish an Institution dedicated to research in Science and Technology, so that we will be able to leverage the knowledge and apply to it our own natural endowment.

It is a shame to all of us that of all the mines operating in Namibia, none is owned by a Namibian citizen, even the Government has failed to put up a mine. What we are doing now is to rent out our resources to other people who pay us rent and take the wealth with them. That is very sad and that is because we do not have the necessary technical capabilities to operate a thing like a mine. It is sad. Therefore, I hope that the restructured Polytechnic of Namibia will take very seriously, what they claim they want to be, not just in name, but in substance.

As much as I know that the Minister wants this Bill to be passed before he retires, like myself, we should allow the Bill to be interrogated, to see whether it is meeting the requirements of what we want to achieve, as opposed to it being bulldozed into the House. It is my first time to hear of a Bill just being bulldozed into this House. Having been here for 25 years, a quarter of a century, which is a long time, it is my time to *tjaela*, period! *(Laughter)* Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. I certainly fully endorse your comment, including in particular, an appropriate homeland for this University with all the attributes that it should have that you underlined. Honourable, Namesake, Ben Ulenga.

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HON ULENGA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. The previous speaker with a small s, almost took everything from the tip of my tongue. I was actually going to say, lest this may look like a kangaroo House sort of thing and lest we be seen as paying lip service to a very important Bill like this, I would like to propose that I in particular sleep over this just for one night and talk more about it tomorrow. Therefore, I am asking for a postponement or adjournment until tomorrow.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. There are others who want to take the Floor now. Honourable Dingara.

HON DINGARA: Honourable Speaker, it is very true that this Bill is long overdue.

I remember when I was at the Union, NUNW was invited in 2007 to visit this University to be, which was the Polytechnic and still remained the Polytechnic for a very long time. When they shared with us that they visited the Institution, we were very satisfied and we thought that it was going to be transformed in 2007 already. I was very excited, to hear Dr Namwandi speaking, and that this Bill has finally arrived here.

There were times when I would ask students, even at the Secondary School level, where they would like to further their education, and the response would be – *if I pass well, I will go to UNAM and if I do not perform well, I will go to the Polytechnic.*

Even in the job market most employers prefer to employ people with Masters qualifications from UNAM than from the Polytechnic while the qualifications from the two Institutions are the same. It only disadvantages those who complete their studies at the Polytechnic. Therefore, the word *University* is needed.

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HON KAURA**

The Polytechnic purchased a tall building, close to the entrance of Wernhil Mall, for several millions of Dollars, however, when you look at the development taking place behind it, near my house (*laughter*) – at the Hospitality School, there are so many tall buildings that they could have acquired instead.

I think that we should not delay this Bill, it should be passed quickly so that those who are completing their studies at the end of this year will have the word *University* appearing on their certificates and diplomas.

I, therefore, wholeheartedly congratulate the Honourable Minister and also Dr Tjivikua, who has been in charge of this Institution and brought the Polytechnic from its humble beginnings to what it is today. He must be a proud man. I congratulate him and the entire Ministry.

I wholeheartedly support this Bill, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: There is a stranger in the House and I have every right to recognise his presence here (*applause*) Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Sometime back, the Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry tabled the *Growth at Home at Home, Namibia's Execution Strategy for Industrialisation* in this House. How do we industrialise if we have to import matches from somewhere else? We import paper from somewhere else, we do not have a paper factory in Namibia and we also have to import glass from somewhere.

The tabling of this Bill is, therefore, extremely timely. If we have to industrialise, we need the University of Science and Technology, they will go hand in hand. Without it, we can have these aspirations that cannot be implemented. We will continue importing from somewhere else.

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I, there feel that without any further discussion or delay, we must put this Bill through as quickly as possible and I support it wholeheartedly. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. The *University of Science and Technology Bill* [B.2 – 2015] is definitely a very important Bill and I know who proposed this name. The Bill has to be taken as it is now and the other things can be polished later.

The only thing I noticed when I just perused the Bill is that it is too administrative. There are no aims and objectives, even when you look at the Long Title it says: “*Establishing the University of Science and Technology to provide for its Constitution and objectives; to provide for the administration and control of its affairs and regulations, activities and provide for incidental matters.*”

Incidental matters can be provided for, but science is already there, we are not going to introduce or discover science, we must now just implement science. Therefore, I would like to make an appeal that we make sure that this University produces our own scientists and engineers, because if you look under Section 24, they mentioned that *the Council may establish such Academic Units, including faculties, schools and departments as it determines on the recommendation of the Senate.*

I expect these establishments, together with the one we have in Ongwediva to go beyond the ordinary and also start making mold frames. One cannot do anything, if you cannot turn raw material into final products. We can have a good name, but our raw material, like copper and corrugated iron sheets at Scorpion Zinc will continue to go out of the country. I want to

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see this University of Science producing people who can operate our own smelters so that we can melt and mix. As I said, we can even process lead in our own factory. I do not know whether it can be done in a factory, but we need a place where we can clean all the scrap metals that we have here – melt them to form either iron ore, or steel bars. It is this University that should help us realise such objectives.

Otherwise, I support the Bill and request that it reaches the Committee Stage tomorrow, while we continue to iron out other things, because it needs to be enriched. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. I am looking for Honourable Uutoni.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF SAFETY AND SECURITY: Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. I also want to support the Bill that is to establish the University of Science and Technology, but I have some few issues that I want to raise, and it is good that the current Rector of the Polytechnic is here.

My issue is with regard to part-time Lecturers. I think that there are problems with part-time Lecturers here and there. They do not have time for students as some of these part-time Lecturers have other businesses to attend to when the students want to consult with them. It is very common to find somebody who is a part-time Lecturer, but who at the same time, is an employee at a given Government Ministry. That person has a duty to fulfil at his or her permanent place of employment and when the students approach them they are tired, and do thus, not have time to engage the students. I want the University that is to be established to look into that very seriously. I know the reason why we used to have part-time Lecturers is because we did not have enough qualified people in Namibia. Maybe that was the reason, but we have to look into that again.

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You employ expatriates to come and teach at our University and you find that when they come here and stay for two or three years, they start establishing their own businesses on the side and as a result, they do not have time for the students. At the end of the day, you will not be able to produce quality students. These are some of the issues of concerns that the soon to be established University can address.

I have also observed that an Institution like this, which is to be established into the University of Science and Technology, does not have enough books and the students are told, at registration, to go and look for books elsewhere. The libraries do not have enough books and as a result, you will find students who have graduated selling books to others. They start making business out of this to the extent that some of the Lecturers even have their small libraries in their offices, and they tell the students that – *if you want this book and if you want to pass, come to my office*. They charge around N\$500 to N\$600 per book. I think we also need to look into that. I do not know why there are not enough books. Is the Budget from Government not enough? I really do not know, but if that is the situation, maybe the Members of Parliament must look into that so that we can approve more money for the University. I think that is very, very important.

Honourable Speaker, these were just some of the issues that I really wanted to raise as a matter of concern. With that said, I support the Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Firstly, I rise to support the Bill wholeheartedly.

I have been vocal in the past in my support for the Polytechnic's transfer

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into a fully-fledged University, because in the past, I mentioned that this is a global trend, many former Polytechnics in the UK are the ones that are Universities today. I attended some of them, therefore, I believe that my support for the staff and the leaders of the Polytechnic, cannot be doubted. It has been there and I still continue to support them. Be that as it may.

Let me go to the Bill, especially on Page 5 – *Objects of the University*, I assume it should be the *Objectives of the University*, it reads that – “*the objects of the University are:-*

(a) to contribute knowledge creation and advanced knowledge, through teaching, research and scientific investigation with an emphasis on applied research;

(b) to support and contribute to economic and social development through globally relevant, professional, technological and career-focused higher education, and effective community engagement, with an emphasis on industry involvement” (Intervention)

HON SPEAKER: Can you pull the red light closer to you?

HON KAZENAMBO: *(c) to drive, promote and facilitate technology development and technology transfer and innovation and diffusion. I am confining myself to those three points.*

Just like the Honourable Minister of Defence, I would not like to paraphrase him, and say that it is important to develop Industries, but it connects our University’s Aims and Objectives to enhance and develop this economy.

When one is saying that it appears that we have failed, and I am not saying

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that Government has failed, because it appears that there are those who are obsessed – if you mention *failure* you are admitting defeat. I mean it in an academic sense of a lack of something, not that Government has failed, *please*.

Comrade Speaker, these intentions and objectives are very, very good. We know that we live in Namibia and some of us live here in real terms. These objectives are not only applicable to the Polytechnic, they are also applicable to the University of Namibia, the IUM and other Institutions.

Let us critically investigate, monitor and evaluate how some of these Aims and Objectives that we put on paper, and bring to the august House, are practical in real terms and how are they impacting our society.

When Honourable Erastus Uutoni was talking, some people may think that he was just exaggerating, he was trying to score points or he was trying to *what, what*, but that is the reality out there and it is impacting negatively on our society, our students and our people. It is real from what you think is an exaggeration of Honourable Uutoni here. Many of our Institutions here are satellites – in the languages that I know better, we come here, we sit and we make Laws, the prime beneficiaries are not ourselves or our people. We have become a satellite economy for other people. We have become satellite Institutions for other people.

The Rector of the Polytechnic and this University is our home-grown son of the soil who is trying all his best to do what he is doing with his team, but it is incumbent upon us as the Government, through the mechanism of evaluation and monitoring. One wonders if there is a unit at the Ministry of Education. I am asking, do they have a unit at the Ministry of Education, which monitors? There is a Council and if it is the Council, who monitors and evaluates the Council? (*Interjections*)

HON MEMBER: The Public Accounts Committee.

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HO KAZENAMBO: Public Accounts at Parliament? Apparently, it is Public Accounts.

What I am trying to say here is that there is a Council, and what are the results in practical terms? Where are they reported? We see Reports from the University of Namibia, the Polytechnic of Namibia and other Institutions, but how effectively are they being monitored? What do I mean? Let me get to the point and call a spade a spade so that I can give others a chance.

My friend, there are foreigners in this country and I am not being xenophobic. Those who would like to say people are xenophobic, hold on your horses. There are foreigners here who have made these Institutions permanent green pastures for harvesting at the expense of this country. They sit in positions and nobody under studies them – no one! For the past 24/25 years, they have turned these Universities and Institutions into their business arms.

We are sleeping on duty and this is exactly what I am saying. I am not being emotional, for those who like to say I am emotional. However, why can I not be emotional, if I am being robbed? Let us monitor. People come here and nobody is under studying them. They even employ their brothers and sisters and they frustrate some of the Heads of these Institutions.

The University of Namibia is a typical example of them. We have pro-Vice Chancellors at the University of Namibia who are untouchable. They have been here for almost 20 years and nobody is under studying them, they use political connections of the Liberation Struggle. I am hitting below the belt and I will go below the belt here (*laughter*) They are untouchable, because they can bring their people here. Some of them are creating colleges and are, in the process, undermining the very Institution they are supposed to represent, because we do not monitor and evaluate them. I will repeat that and I am not saying it because I am protected by this. In fact, I am going to be worse, because I was accountable here, I

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am going to be worse, because I will be a free citizen as from next week.
(*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Katjavivi.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, I think the Honourable Member should confine himself to the subject matter. We cannot talk about people outside this House who cannot protect themselves, particularly when it is not necessary.

I fear that we are being over ambitious. The time we have is limited and I think we should devote it to the subject matter and to talk about of people outside the House is a little bit unnecessary, and particularly when you touching people who cannot defend themselves.

People who are working in our various national institutions are providing a service to this country and unless we are directed by those who supervise them and tell us that their services are not required, I think we should leave it to the best judgment of those who are in the position to evaluate their contribution. I so submit.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you.

HON KAZENAMBO: For the first time, let me say it, I have been observing it. I will totally disagree with my Senior here, with all due respect, I have not mentioned anybody's name. I have not, and I have said I will totally differ with him, because it has been going on for too long. I

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am speaking to the objectives of this Bill. I am a citizen of this country and I appreciate the service of these people, *muatje puratena*.

I have not diverted anywhere. Diplomacy cannot be at our expense. It cannot! It is perhaps for those who send their kids to foreign countries, our kids go to school here.

HON MEMBER: Who are those?

HON KAZENAMBO: I do not know. Please let us respect each other. Let us not try to cover anything. I have not targeted anybody.
(*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Stick to the subject matter (*intervention*)

HON KAZENAMBO: The objectives – I am saying that there are Institutions here – the University of Namibia is one of them and I know Honourable Katjavivi is a founder. I respect the services that he rendered with his colleagues, but there are people here. We receive complaints everyday about people at these Institutions who cannot develop Namibians. Why do we like hypocrisy?

Honourable Speaker, I am speaking to point (a) and (b) about *research and development* from this Institution engaging in the economic affairs and I am going to that, but I am saying that there are people there. If you do not know, just go there, even to Windhoek West here, there were some people who were arrested by the Police when they were caught taking

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computers from an Institution. Go, you will find many of these Business Schools of which some of them are not accredited – the Majority of those people who are there are working at these Institutions. I am not thumb-sucking. They are there! I am not exaggerating. If it does not affect you, please do not think that it does not affect the next person. It is a problem in this country.

We are making Laws and we defend the indefensible by speaking to the Gallery while our people are suffering. Our people are suffering. I can even go down to those who said that I was hitting below the belt with facts. Today there are people, even at the Namibia Business School there – perhaps let me go there. I have not mentioned anybody's name.
(*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: We are not against what you are saying, but continue with where you were (*intervention*)

HON KAZENAMBO: If I have to continue, I am speaking to the objectives of this Bill. The objective of this Bill should be to engage and I am happy and I congratulate the Polytechnic of Namibia that we are aiming to engage the communities; to develop and promote the research.

Comrade Speaker, research comes with money. I was listening to the Radio yesterday that the University of Stellenbosch in one of their laboratories at their research department, has managed to restore a penis of a person who has lost a penis. (*Interjections*) The statement here is not a joke, it is a serious one. This person lost his penis through traditional circumcision and they are saying that they are busy with research, and our Journalist was interviewing this researcher. These are efforts that are contributing to the development and the engagement of the society.

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Yesterday I was also reading a newspaper how a lady in the Omusati Region through the University of Namibia, at Ogongo Agricultural College is expecting good harvest from rice as opposed to *mahangu*. These are the things that other Institutions are doing through research and development. They should be empowered. It should not be a statement here. When these Comrades are coming to promote these activities that are contributing towards food security and others, these Institutions must be taken seriously. They can only be taken seriously if we evaluate – here I am not going to be apologetic – they are going to develop our communities; they are going to participate in our land if Namibians who know the cultures of these people, who know our food shortage, who understand our social fabric as much as they appreciate the contributions from our expatriates and foreigners who are providing service here, Namibians must take the lead in their country.

It has been 25 years into Independence and Namibians cannot take a backseat, and they are not seen taking a frontline role in academic Institutions like the University of Namibia and the Polytechnic of Namibia. It is only foreigners who are apparently providing services. I am not attacking them, but they cannot provide service forever *kauatjiri* (it is not true).

For how long are we going to talk about the lack of skills? It is 25 years after Independence and we still do not have skills. How many years does it take to produce an expert?

Honourable Speaker, in conclusion, while we are busy coming up with these Institutions, we must not only be concerned with the fact that I do not want to see the face of so and so, or how Kazenambo's voice sounds at this Institution or when his/her contract comes to an end, I have a brother lined up here – then a person must be pushed. No, that should not happen, we must seriously appreciate the contribution of these people, we must have Institutional memory and we must take the Namibian youth on board. We have so many young people and we are talking about the lack of skilled people here. We can call a conference of Namibian academics or

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intellectuals. Or even the young people who have graduated from the top Universities. There are either other under researchers or they have no space for researchers, let alone that they are not employed by any company – they are on the street. These are realities from which we have to collect evaluation data and say – *the University of Namibia and the Polytechnic of Namibia have produced this number of Quantity Surveyor per annum, and how many of them have been employed by the Ministry of Lands, how many of them have been deployed to Quantity Surveying Companies in Namibia? What assistance is Government giving to those Quantity Surveying Institutions? How many mines have taken geologists? How many Namibians are employing geologists?* Then we are talking business. However, while we are currently saying we need skilled labour, we are keeping this former Comrades that we do not want to refer to here; who are importing their brothers and sisters. They push our people by hook and crook and I will repeat this. There are (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kazenambo, is that why we are transforming the Polytechnic into the University of Science and Technology?

HON KAZENAMBO: Okay, Honourable Speaker, let me conclude now. In conclusion, the Aims and Objectives of this Institution must be inclusive of Namibian youth and experts in research. To stop the Job Amupandas of this world from making noise – sorry I withdraw that, because he is not here, he cannot protect himself.

However, for the Namibian youth who are frustrated and are on the streets, there is only one country where they can become effective and participate in research and development, and it is this country. Therefore, these Institutions must be linked to companies and these companies must be monitored to find out how many Namibian youth, Namibian academics

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and intellectuals they are employing at all management levels and how fair they are running these Institutions to avoid what Comrade Uutoni said that some of these Lecturers do not have time for students, which is the truth. Sometimes they do not even turn up for classes. You may find that they do not turn up across all Sectors. The students arrive at the classroom and the Lecturer is totally nowhere to be seen – they pack their bags and go. If you did not know, that is the truth. I support the Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Ankama.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I would like to add my voice to this very important document that was presented by my Good Colleague, the Honourable Minister of Education.

You did a very good thing, in actual fact, this is already overdue, therefore, you just did it at the right time so that when the new Parliament begins this will already be history, we should thus pass it on to the new Parliamentarians.

The need for the University of Technology is quite undebatable *per se*, because it speaks for itself. One would say that all Universities are Institutions of Higher Academia, it is thus essential that we are now passing this Bill to become an Act as soon as possible. If you look at the community needs, we should think of this Institution to respond to community needs – meaning that it should take our history into consideration. Most of the African history has already been researched by non-Africans, Africans only took over recently, but it is still going on a slow pace.

If we are to transform the Polytechnic into the University of Science and

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Technology, we should do so with an understanding that they will get on the board of research of our Science and Technology. Our ancestors had their kind of science and technologies. Should this be researched in a manner, it would be able to transform those skills into applied science. (*Interjections*) That is science. You do not have it and many of us do not have that craft, that science, but those who have it, will be able to make it. Applied science will enable us to do things in a manner that is acceptable, because it has been researched. I would, therefore, expect the University of Science and Technology to gear itself towards providing what I would call short courses to individuals in various communities, young people, and a number of graduates who did not make it to Grade 12 or have not done very well in their Grade 12. There maybe those who understand basic science or are good at science. If they are given a chance to get to the specifics, they will be able to come up with formulas or they will be able to come up with different modes of doing things using Science and Technology. (*Interjection*) I do, that is why I am here.

The practical application of science should be taught. I would also want us to look at the indigenous knowledge of doing things – moulding and maybe food science. It all goes along. These things should be computerised so that people will just access that information by a press of a button. We then have to look at career lines, because currently you will hear – *we need so many computer programmers*, tomorrow you will hear – *we need so many food scientists* and the next day you will hear about some other need. You just do not really know how many will fulfil our needs. You just think of hundred and ten perhaps, but where do we get all this information? I think what will help us is doing research in order to know exactly, in terms of science, what kind of careers we need.

In conclusion, I have a concern with the internship from the University of Science and Technology, currently the Polytechnic. Where do these people go for practice? I have seen quite a number of them who are unable to secure places for internship. It is a serious issue within this country that we should address.

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I think while we are now putting this motion, when we put the University of Science at work, we should also make sure that we are producing graduates. These graduates need experience. They should be able to be admitted in our various Institutions to practice and be able to graduate later. With this, I would like to support this Bill and ask for a speedy passing. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Minister of Trade and Industry.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving me the Floor. I also stand up to support the Bill.

I think the emphasis on Science and Technology at Tertiary Education level is a much needed emphasis that has to be pursued and I agree, therefore, with what the Honourable Minister of Defence and other speakers said who that this University is a very much needed Institution with all the institutional arrangements that are provided for in the Act. There is no problem with that.

I have one or two points that I need clarification on. The first one touches on the principle that the University is, by this Act, empowered to do normal business – own shares, take loans, provide security, be a juristic person and if that is so, if you are a normal actor in business, and if you are a juristic person that may be sued, can I just get clarity; how is that compatible with Section 39 where the University cannot be placed under judicial management? What would those that have invested in the University or whose shares they have bought be able to fall back on? I understand that the purpose is that, because it is established by an Act of Parliament it can only be drawn up by an Act of Parliament. That aspect I understand, but I just need clarity on how a business entity can, by Law,

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be freed from the possibility that you can actually be dragged to Court and declared insolvent. Maybe that is not what is meant, but I think I need clarity on that one.

The next point I have is under Section 31, the **Subsidies and Loans** to the University. I also understand that as a juristic person the University wants to be free, I hope the Honourable Minister can help me on that, if we say that; *the Minister, on such terms and conditions as the Minister with the consent of the Minister responsible for Finance may determine*. That *may* is important. Then it follows, *must out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for such purpose...* and then it goes on. If you follow that, the Minister has discretion whether he wants to or not, but he has no discretion in terms of – *he must give the money*, but he may or may not attach conditions to it. I think what is intended here is, in fact, that both must be *must*. If monies are given and if monies have to be given, there must be conditions that are agreed with the Minister of Finance. My understanding is that it should be both obligations. You must have conditions and you must get money to sustain the University.

The second point I have is under 31(a). It says with the heading; *must make monies available and grant subsidies*. Now, subsidies is only way how the University can be assisted with funding. I just need clarity whether it is the intention to only give subsidies, because there is a *must*. You must make monies available through subsidies. I think that is maybe not the intention. The intention would be to be flexible and use any way possible to provide monies to the University.

The other point I want to raise here is when it comes to how these monies and loans are given. We must remember that they are subject to the *State Finance Act*. I hope it is not the intention to create a certain set of Rules how public monies are to be dealt with. I think it must be subject to the *State Finance Act*, and that is why I come back to *it must be with the consent of the Minister of Finance*, because that Minister is the custodian of the public purse.

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The last comment is under Section 33, and that is under Offences and I just again need some clarity here. Section 33(a) says; *establishes or conducts an Institution, not being an Institution established by or under any law, under a name that includes the words 'University of Science and Technology.'* Does that mean those words must be in that sequence or is any of these words an offence? If I want to register a University of Science and Knowledge, is that an offence, because I used the words, University and Science or is it only an offence if I use the words in that sequence *'University of Science and Technology?'* If I read what is here, it is not saying that sentence or that name – it could, therefore, mean that any word used would then be an offence and I do not think that is the intention. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I did not quite get your point Minister.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: The last thing I wanted to know.

HON SPEAKER: I just wanted you to say a little more about the last point.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: I am saying that the intention is probably to protect the name - **University of Science and Technology**, and the offence should only be when you use that whole name instead of any of the words that are contained in that name, however, when I read that, it is not very clear.

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HON SPEAKER: I get it.

HON MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

The last clarity I need is again on an issue that can probably be solved by drafting. On a number of occasions, the University wants to be permitted, empowered or put an emphasis to agree with or consult with, and then they use the word *industry* or *industry association*, but that is a very loose term. Again does it limit the University to only talk to people that are Industries or are manufacturers or service providers also included in that? I think it is a clumsy way to say we want to be associated with the Private Sector in the productive field, when you use a specific word that has a specific meaning.

It is my to advice the Honourable Minister to go through the Act and see whether it actually meant to be narrowed only to Industry or whether this is meant to be wider and include service providers in the Industries, or as I said, other associations.

With that, I do support the Bill and I suggest that we can correct some of these things and bring about the intended purpose.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you Minister. Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would like to take the opportunity to also thank the Minister of Education for tabling this Bill, though, of course, belated as it is.

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Nevertheless, I think it is an important Bill and I want to first agree with the objects of the new University, specifically that it is not only going to address issues relating to Technology and Industry, but also aiming at economic and social development.

I am also happy that the academic freedom is actually underlined as part of the objects of the University so that we would not have to experience the negative practices that we have experienced at the University of Namibia, where academic freedom has been sacrificed for political expediency by limiting academics not to be fully participants in the political arena of this country, as it happened to me, personally. Being prohibited from becoming a President of a Political Party, because that was a total unique thing that never happens at any other University in this world. It is only at the University of Namibia. Therefore, the emphasis on the objects of academic freedom need to be underlined.

Next is Section 31, that of **Subsidies and Loans to the University of Science and Technology.** (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Minister Home Affairs.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Honourable Speaker, I would like to provide information.

HON SPEAKER: Proceed.

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HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:

Politicians have an objective to spread the gospel of their Political Parties. That is aim Number 1. Academic Institutions are aiming at providing something else. Therefore, we should not confuse and hide behind academic freedom when we want to smuggle other things under it.

The example given by the Honourable Member is incorrect. That is all I wanted to say. It is incorrect, because he is confusing academic freedom with something else, unless he offers us a real example of interference. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Maamberua, make sure you make it interesting for the Speaker.

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes. At the University of Namibia, I was teaching Accounting, Auditing and Public Finance. What I did in my private life as the President of SWANU had nothing to do with the University of Namibia. After all, the Chancellor of the University of Namibia then was the President of the SWAPO Party.

HON MEMBER: He was the President of the Republic of Namibia.

HON MAAMBERUA: I am talking about SWAPO, I am not talking about the Republic. The Chancellor of the University is the one who awards degrees to students. An academic does not award degrees, we only teach. The one who awards, who can perhaps decide, if they so wish, whether to award on the basis of political affiliation or not that would be

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the Chancellor. (*Interjections*) Can I proceed please?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON MAAMBERUA: Anyway, I have won the case at UNAM. Therefore, they have no legal standing on that score.

HON KAZENAMBO: He smuggled the case.

HON MAAMBERUA: I smuggled the case? I would like to agree with the Provision in Section 31 that the Minister of Education must grant money so appropriated to the University of Science and Technology. I think that is important, because once money has been appropriated, the Minister has no choice, but to grant or to extend that money to that particular Institution. The experience in the past was that the Ministers of Education would intercept money already appropriated by this august House and divert that money to other Institutions. Hence, I think this Provision is very important and I fully agree with it and it should be the case.

Honourable Minister of Education, in the same token, in order to smoothen the relationship between our High Institutions of Learning, there was what was called the Funding Formula. Would you be able to say something about where do we stand with the Funding Formula, because that would have gone a long way in addressing the inconsistencies and perhaps favouritism between Institutions of Higher Learning in terms of funding? I hope the Minister would be able to provide that in due course.

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Now that we are creating a very important Institution, the University of Science and Technology, given the location where they are, as a way of enhancing the capacity of that Institution, I would want to call upon Government, to actually give that Institution free land to be able to expand and to be able to meet these objects as outlined in the Act. I think that should be something that we should do as a Government. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: That is what I call appropriate homeland.

HON MAAMBERUA: My last point, Honourable Speaker, I think we only have 15 years to reach 2030. We are establishing a very important Institution of this kind and we also have a few other Institutions of Higher Learning, I would want to propose that we should make our education free, from pre-primary school up to tertiary level. Otherwise, we shall never obtain the objectives of Vision 2030. Without free education up to tertiary level, we are not going to attain the Vision 2030 objectives. Therefore, as we consider this Bill, we should have at the back of our minds, that come next month's Budget tabling, we should all support free education to be introduced up to tertiary level. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I so submit and I support the Bill.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Dr Kawana.

HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I rise to join my Colleagues who have spoken before me in support of this very important Bill.

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Honourable Speaker, in most cases the hallmark of African Universities is characterised by outdated equipment, ill-paid staff and crumbling infrastructure. I hope Namibia will not fall into this category. A transformation from one type of Institution to another, in my view, requires thorough preparation. It will require Lecturers who are qualified to teach Science and Technology and it requires up to date science equipment. It requires coordination with the Industry such as the Mining and the Agricultural Sectors. It requires sufficiently qualified students in the field of Science and Mathematics. I hope and trust that all these important factors will be considered before the transformation of this Institution.

Comrade Minister, I have read Clause 37 of this Bill – **Transfer of Staff** and I do not know how it is going to work in terms of this transformation, because according to this Clause, the staff will be transferred lock, stock, and barrel and I wonder whether these people are scientists, or as it has been said, it is just an administrative transformation without real transformation of this Institution to teach Science and Technology as we know it. I think this particular aspect will have to be attended to before the transformation. That is the way I look at it.

We want to see this Institution producing qualified Namibian scientists who will be absorbed by the market once they graduate. Let us use Science and Technology to conquer poverty in our country, because as it has been said, this country is endowed with abundant natural resources, which we can use to conquer poverty, unemployment and ignorance. Otherwise, with these few remarks, Honourable Speaker, I support the Bill and I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

Honourable Speaker, thank you very much. Let me join the other Comrades in congratulating the Minister of Education for the timely, table this Bill.

My contribution will be more inquisitive – asking questions for clarity. I did not have time to read the Bill, I just read it here. I beg your pardon for my ignorance, because of not having had time to read it.

My first point is on Page 3 under Definitions – *Minister means the Minister responsible for higher education*. At the moment, we do not have a Minister of Higher Education, we only have Minister of Education. The definition is a bit skew already. (*Interjections*) Well, in terms of the definition that is the clarity I need. We have a Minister of Education and not Minister of Tertiary or Higher Education, because the Bill itself would help us understand that definition so that it is not only today's definition, but a long lasting one.

The second point is on Page 5, under *The Objects of University* – 5(a) I understand all the knowledge and I understand the applied research. My question is on 5(e) and that is about the preservation and promotion of the traditional and constitutional principles of the institutional autonomy and academic freedom in the conduct of its internal and external affairs. My question is; it is well said on paper – *do not interfere with this is internal affairs*, but you need the resources to conduct external affairs, even if you say – *do not interfere with the external affairs, but provide me with the resources to do my thing*, but ***do not interfere***. Can we be clear with on this statement in order to avoid name calling, in-fighting, squabbling, etcetera? For, if the resources are required, especially from this House, this House would require you to account. Do not come and say – *it is the same House that said it is my autonomy to conduct my external affairs, do not ask me, I am not accountable to anybody*.

Honourable Maamberua, let us be consistent. I want to add the issue of internship to the objectives here. This is perhaps irrelevant, because the

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Institution is in transformation to something else, but is there any room for internship so that the Science and Technology being acquired here is relevant in real life – is there any relevance to internship?

Honourable Kaura is still here and I am happy. He reminded us of the Industrial Policy, the framework. To achieve industrialisation, we are talking of acquiring technology, and we need Science and Technology in terms of the role of this new Institution with a new mandate as it transforms, to help us realise industrialisation, however, this is not part of the objectives. Will it be fair to demand from them and say – *look we need scientists to build our Industries when it is not part of their objects?*

Entrepreneurship – we cannot talk of industrialisation without entrepreneurship, but it is not part of the objectives. Do we perhaps have any other vehicle to address this? We may want to create a vehicle that we expect to achieve this or that, but yet, it is not stated anywhere in their objectives. Would it be fair to expect from that Institution to do that?

The next one is on the same page; ***Council of University*** – 7(2) refers to, *subject to Subsection (3) the Council (intervention)*

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Honourable Minister, under 5(b) on Page 5, how do you understand (b)? What does it say? He mentioned that it does not say anything about industrialisation? Could you read (b)? What does it say?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you very much. I will read that one this is why I asked. I want the

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objectives to be clear. I only want the objects or objectives to be clear. I read (b) and I do not see it there. That is something else, but that is for the Minister to assist me, if what I asked is exactly what is meant in (b), then I want it to be clear. I do not want it to be ambiguous. That is really what I want to hear. I read (b). Thank you.

At 7(2) about the *Council of University* – *subject to Subsection (3), the Council consist of* – on the next page there is (a), (b), (c), it goes up to (g), and this is like the composition of the Council. My question is on Page 7 where it says; *a member of the academic staff or staff may not be appointed as a member of the Council in terms of Subsection 2(c) or (f)*. 2(c) refers to these six members and (f) refers to one member of the Senate appointed by the Senate – that they should not be members. I just want there to be some sort of synergy where these Subsections talk to one another.

A Senate member could be a Professor who is, or could certainly be a member of the academic staff, however, here it says that person should not be a member of the Council, but yet we are still listing them here that staff members may be members of the Senate. I just need to understand that Section (6) does not speak to the composition listed on Page 6, because they disqualify them from being members of the Council.

On Page 6, 7(5), it says that – *if a nomination is not received by the Minister within the period requested, the Minister may appoint such person as the Minister thinks fit, subject to the conditions stated in Subsection 2(c), and a person so appointed holds office as if he or she had been nominated as required by Subsection (4)*. If that is the case, under which Section or Clause in terms of the Act, will such a person then be appointed? That is my question.

Subsection 7 itself says that – *except for a foreigner who is a member of the Council by virtue of his or her office, a foreigner who is not a permanent resident in Namibia may not be appointed or elected as member of the Council if there is a qualifying and capable Namibian*

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citizen. The question is – a typical example is that of a Vice or Deputy Vice Chancellor who is a non-Namibian, by virtue of him or her holding that office it will entitle him or her to be a Council member or a Senate member, but here we are saying – *if there is a qualifying and capable Namibian citizen*, who may not even be a Deputy Chancellor – I just do not understand this. Maybe my *Namlish* is failing me. The person is not a permanent resident, but by virtue of him or her being a Deputy Chancellor, he/she is being disqualified from being a Council or a Senate member, but somebody else must be. I need some clarification of that requirement there. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: On a Point of Information. In fact, Trade Unionists like Comrade Ilonga must come into these things seriously.

That is exactly my problem and that is the hypocrisy that we are having. It is contradiction *par excellence*. You have people here who are Namibians, Come on, are you telling me that over 25 years we do not have qualified Namibians? We honestly have Pro-Vice-Chancellors some of whom are non Namibians. The Law here says – *if there are no Namibians who qualify*. They are there, in numbers, however, because of bureaucracy, we do not want to say these things because you will be seen to be politically incorrect. They are there violating our Laws and they are frustrating our people who are at the Institutions. They are there!

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Tweya.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I think the Minister is capable enough to answer that. I raised my *Namlish* that is failing me in terms of that clarity. Thank you very much.

Honourable Speaker, I am on Page 13. Under the **Students Representative Council**, Clause 23(4) specifically talks to that – *the Vice-Chancellor may suspend, as prescribed in the statutes, and the Council may dissolve the Students' Representative Council, if the Vice-Chancellor or the Council thinks it fit in the best interest of the University*. I deliberately underline the so-called autonomy *internal* and *external*, and I am now coming here where the Vice-Chancellor or the Council now wants to exercise – I do not know what it is called – that they may dissolve a democratically elected body of the students, because they think *fit* that this is not the right way. I am talking about the so-called democracy, but also about the consistency in terms of the way we do things so that there is harmony in the way we legislate for orderly governance. The students' autonomy is being eroded here, but the others must not be touched as it is stated on Page 5 under Clause 5(e). This is a question for clarity, Comrade Speaker.

I proceed and I am on Page 17. This is just a consistency on the Fines or Offences – *N\$20,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding five years* – is there any way perhaps to relook at this N\$20,000 and five years? I am not sure what formula was used. They just do not tally nicely. N\$20,000 is a little bit too low compared to five years or both, but those are years *vis a vis* the money, maybe five years or N\$100,000, or something like that. I do not know what formula was used.

Comrade Speaker, Clause 36, under **Saving and Transitional Provision**, I understand the transitional provision because it is transformational from the old to this new one, but this saving, where does this saving exactly fit – to save what? Because the content here is about a transition, it is not about saving, it is just a heading that says **Saving and Transitional Provision**.

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Comrade Speaker, my question there is; since the content is about the transitional provisional and not about saving, what is to be saved?

Honourable Speaker, finally, I have four general questions. As much as I have given my unconditional support, because of the timely tabling of this Bill, the first one is; the functions of the current Polytechnic if the current Institution (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Let us listen to one speaker at a time.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: If the current Institution is transformed to where we want it to be as the University of Science and Technology, which I support hundred percent, what would happen to the current functions that the Polytechnic is fulfilling to produce, where we need electricians, ordinary mechanics, apart from the Vocational Training Centres – is there a provision for the functions of the Polytechnic or will we think about it after 2030. That is the first general question. Where will the young Namibians now go for their needs that the Polytechnic was fulfilling?

The second general question – Comrade Speaker, I am aware that we do have an institutional body called Council for Higher Education and I have not seen the role of that Institution in this Bill. Has it got nothing to do with the University or what will happen to that Institution *vis a vis* the relationship. Where does it fall? If we talk of the funding formula that that Institution, the Council for Higher Education may have prescribed, will that still be relevant for this University or it is a defunct? For example, if that Institution says 70% goes to salaries and only the 30% goes to teaching, learning, research, equipment etcetera, but the Institution says – *look we are teachers and therefore we deserve an X amount of salary increase*. Ninety percent of the Budget goes into salaries. Only

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10% remain for the rest. How are we going to handle that?

Comrade Speaker, the third general question is about the role of this new University *vis a vis* the Private Sector, because we are talking of Science and Technology in terms of the equipment. This University will not buy all its equipment, they will have to rely on a partnership with the Private Sector. Honourable Kawana gave the example of Mines here, but we have other factories as well. What is the relationship of this Institution to fully execute its objectives in terms of applied science, to promote science industrialisation, etcetera?

Comrade Speaker, finally, as a general question, what is the role of this Institution in the socioeconomic development of Namibia so that the Institution is indeed relevant for now and in the future. I rest my case Comrade Speaker.

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

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Taking into cognisance the importance of this Bill and the very important, very lively discussion we have had, I think that in the absence of any further contribution to this Bill, if I would like to adjourn the Debate until tomorrow so that it gives the Members of Parliament some time to look at it in details, to enable it advance to the Committee Stage tomorrow, after we have had our interventions.

May I thus adjourn the Debate until tomorrow, in the absence of other contributions, if there is no objection? Thank you. .

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HON SPEAKER: Thank you. If indeed there are no other Honourable Members who wish to take the Floor now, I shall yield to the request of the Honourable Member to adjourn further consideration of this Bill until tomorrow. We start at 14:30. What else is there?

The Secretary will read the First Order.

**RESUMPTION OF THE DEBATE ON SECOND READING -
NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP (SECOND)
SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill* [B.3 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: Is this the First Order?

SECRETARY: Yes.

HON SPEAKER: When this Debate was adjourned on Wednesday, 11 March 2015, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration that the Bill be read a Second Time and Honourable Professor Katjavivi adjourned the Debate for further consultation. I give him the Floor now.

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HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, I had the honour to revisit the subject before this House as agreed upon last week. My task was to conduct further consultations on the matter in order to find an amicable solution in view of the different interpretations that are being advanced by various stakeholders.

It should be taken into account that the consultations I conducted are of a limited nature, carried out within obvious time constraints. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, there is a widespread view that the Bill should cater for the first, second and third generations of descendants of those who were or who would have been Namibian citizens. The bone of contention, however, is how to do this in a legally acceptable manner.

As I indicated here, there appears to be different interpretations of our National Constitution in this regard. Some proponents are arguing that to cater for the second and third generation, we need a Constitutional Amendment, whereas others are of the view that we can cater for up to the third generation without necessarily amending the Constitution. I am of the opinion that there is nothing to prevent our Government or our Parliament, from seeking legal counsel in the future, that will interpret the Constitution on this matter and help guide us on the way forward. Obviously, this cannot be done now due to pressure of time and I think that is where I would leave the matter as far as the Bill before us is concerned, for this House to deal with it as you deem necessary.

However, the Government should revisit this issue in due course, as I indicated earlier, once we have been able to establish some clarity on the constitutional issues at stake with the aim of doing justice to the victims of genocide and colonialism. This, I believe would be in line with the spirit that prevailed at the time of the attainment of our country's Independence.

I remember that at that time, all those who were displaced from this

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country had the wish and the hope of finding their way back to the country of their ancestors.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I thank you for this opportunity. I may not have been able to narrow the gaps that exist on this particular issue, but at least this is what I can offer at this particular time and I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Honourable Katjavivi. I take the silence, as I see it, as a concurrence with what we have just heard from the Chief Whip. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Firstly, let me thank Professor Katjavivi for all the concerted efforts that he made in saying what he has said. As a seasoned Diplomat, he is trying to craft an amicable way of resolving this and that is highly appreciated.

Comrade Speaker, having appreciated that, this is a very straightforward matter – a very, very, very straightforward matter. As a straightforward matter, what Professor Katjavivi is suggesting can be agreed to by anyone, including myself who is speaking here.

I do not doubt, and I have never doubted even a single day, the commitment of my Government, the commitment of my Party to the issues of nation building. I have never doubted it and I still believe in it, but having that on the backdrop of my mind, again, for me there is no single confusion and ambiguity in dealing with what is presented before us here. On the contents of the Bill as it stands and the content of the Constitution, and I will repeat, on the content of the Bill and the content of

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the Constitution, it is up to us to decide which one comes first and which one prevails over the other. In my understanding, it is the Constitution on the issue of Citizenship and on the issue of Fundamental Human Rights, the Bill of Rights and again, on the issue of equality and fairness.

HON MEMBER: But do you have the Bill with you?

HON KAZENAMBO: I tore the copy of the Bill up, but I still have the other one (*laughter*) I tore up the other one and then I smuggled it again, now I have both because the Debate is continuing.

The two documents – there is no argument here. They are reconcilable on certain points and contradictory on certain points, and what is contradictory is the ambiguity; nothing else. The problem is very, very simple and it requires common sense, not argument please. This only entails two words, and there is no way in this Bill, unless we confine ourselves to jargons – the bone of contention is the limitation on descendants. That is the argument. Who is the descendant? That is where the crux of the interpretation is. If we are not careful with the interpretation of the word *descent*, this Bill is violating this Constitution. I am repeating that – if we are not careful, this Bill is violating the Constitution on three accounts, because this Bill only talks about generations.

I risk repeating myself – if we are not careful, this Bill is violating the Constitution, because it violates the Fundamental Ancestral Right. That is the principle issue, because the Bill says – the descendants stop at my father and my grandmother, and I am talking about myself because this is applicable to me. My father's mother happened to come from Okakarara

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and my mother's mother happened to come from Epukiro, from Otjunda around Gobabis. Poor me and my mother fall in the same category. My mother was not of the same age as my father and she was a daughter of a descendant. The painful part of it is that my mother is no more, I am speaking on her behalf here. If we would arrive at Hosea Kutako International Airport, her mother would enter Namibia because she was from Otjunda and, therefore, she was a descendant. My father would arrive at Hosea Kutako International Airport, enter Namibia and go to Okakarara because his mother was from Okakarara. However, my mother and I would be left at the border because we are not descendants.

In the Constitution here, descendants does not pronounce generations. In the Bill, we are talking about the first and second generations. Which is which? What is what? (*Interjection*) That is why I am saying common sense states that you cannot stop – *kona ku puraura ondana ko ina* – you cannot separate a calf from its mother. You cannot tell Kazenambo and Uazuva, my biological mother that – *Uazuva do not worry with your mother she is a descendant of this country* and *Kazenambo, do not worry with your father whose biological mother is from Okakarara, you must find your way*. It violates our Fundamental Human Rights, our Ancestral Rights and it totally discriminates against us, because for most of us, our parents have been citizens of this country before the Constitution was written, that is, before 1990. That is where the bone of contention is. The regulation of the whole thing is not a problem, it is up to the Minister. It is incumbent upon the Government – I do not know – it is up to whatever the Law guides and not the Minister *per se*.

However, the bone of contention is that the word *descendant* does not state from which generation up to which generation. If my father inherited his descendance from his mother, I have inherited my descendance from him and my child will inherit his/her descendance from me and these Right goes on and on. I do not know in which part of the world are the Rights of people discriminatory. It is just like this Kazenambo, I could have equally been called Mokganedi, Mokhatu or Makgone, because I was happily born

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in Botswana, but Kazenambo was imposed on me, I did not choose to be called Kazenambo. However, one Kazenambo will enter Namibia as a Namibia while the other Kazenambo will be told – *wait a moment you are not a Namibian*. Therefore, you are taking my inheritance away from me. There is no argument. Botswana is not confused, those who were born in Botswana have citizenship of that country. If we can move now, we can even drive now. There are Batswanas of Namibian origin, if they want to go home they can go home anytime. (*Interjections*) Yes, they can allow them, if they are in possession of their documents. There are citizens who they recognise as having arrived there as refugees.

In conclusion, why I have a serious problem, this very Constitution speaks to the Rights of children – I may not be underage, but I am in charge of a child of a person who came from here. On our Rights as children, it says that – *a Parliament cannot pass a Law that will make us stateless*. Read it on the Rights of children. I am saying that this Bill is making Uazuva, who is my mother – may her soul rest in peace – and me, Kazenambo, who is standing here, to be stateless.

Therefore, I appeal and ask for your indulgence, while you are seeking the interpretation of this Bill, just be aware that there are people of Namibian origin who are in Botswana, Gam and Windhoek, who are stateless. Since they are stateless they cannot get jobs, they cannot get scholarships and being stateless, they can also not get passports. They are stateless! They are stateless, because they are refusing to accept their identity to be outcast. (*Interjections*) I am making them stateless (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I cannot hear you, is it a Point of Order?

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HON KAZENAMBO: He is saying that we are refusing. They are stateless and they have been stateless.

Comrade Katali maybe takes that as a joke, because he is saying we are refusing to pass the Bill and that is why I tore it up. They are stateless because of political expediency and they are stateless, because those who do not understand their background, are joking with their status.

HON SPEAKER: Point of Order, Minister.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD

WELFARE: Comrade Speaker, my Brother there is talking as if when our people came from Botswana, none of them were issued with citizenship, but there are those who qualified and were issued citizenship. Those children were not issued with citizenship is because of the two different Constitutions of Namibia and Botswana. When I was at the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration, I went to the High Commissioner of Botswana in order get help from them to get the list of these children to Botswana so that they could be issued with Namibia Citizenship when they reached the age of 21 they.

There were those who qualified and were issued with Namibian Citizenship and it was only for the children who were below the age of 21 that we needed to bring about an amendment so that they could qualify or could be exempted from all those requirements and be issued with Namibia Citizenship. Concerning the generations, I do not have the paper now, but I learned when I was at Home Affairs on the third generation and other issues regarding that Sub Article in the Constitution is that it was not brought there to cater for a specific group that would come return to

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Namibia, but to protect Namibia from those who were here, like those Germans who left the country.

I, however, thought that, if the Constitution made provision or was just left open to receive any generation, then even the great-great grandparents of Honourable Lucks would come and claim that they were also born here and want Namibian Citizenship. I, therefore think, that was something in the Constitution to protect the country. That is why the Ministry came up with this special Amendment to consider our people there as we did, because we also did it for the stateless people or foreign nationals who came to Namibia many years ago. We exempted them, for a certain period

of time, from all the requirements and they were issued with Namibian citizenship. I do not think it is a problem. However, let us for now, just approve the Bill and see how it works. That is my opinion.

We will not solve this problem by continuing talking. This Amendment is brought to exempt these people from the Constitution. Since we are Sovereign States, we cannot give Botswana orders, but we need to help our people here in the country. They are not so many. I visited these two places several times, that is, Gam and Tsumkwe, and I am of the opinion that this is the solution. It is just exempt them from some requirements, so that these people can obtain their citizenship and then we close the chapter. I thank you, Comrade Speaker.

HON KAZENAMBO: She spoke on Point of Information and she repeated what I have said. I have acknowledged Government, and I have done this and that, but we can still talk and talk.

What I was saying is that our Ancestral Right cannot be corrupted by the catalysts of this world like she is trying to do (*interjection*) Yes, she was

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saying that they are stateless, because we are delaying the Bill. That is a joke. For him it is a joke, but for us, we are feeling it every day. All of us have Rights to understand and interpret one another. If you think it is a joke to you, to me, it is serious.

I am saying that the issue of descendants – and this is the bone of contention here – cannot be applicable to my father and not be applicable to me and my children. It is not done anywhere. Why should it be a case here? This is where the violation comes. If it collapses, we say – descendant as it is applicable in this Bill (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister of Home Affairs.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Honourable Katjavivi attempted to give us a way out. We reversed the gear and are now at the point where we started off. I do not know how we are going to make progress.

Honourable Kazenambo Kazenambo had the Floor. He articulated his point of view. He went to the extent of tearing up the Bill and now we are probably expecting him to tear up the second one that he got (*laughter*)

Comrade Speaker, we are not making progress. Whichever direction you give me, I am ready so that we conclude the matter or decide whichever way to go. Can we make progress please?

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HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. It is my Right to tear the Bill if it is violating my Human Rights. I am not going to beg it from anybody, just like nobody here was begging anybody.

HON SPEAKER: No, you have the Floor.

HON KAZENAMBO: Yes. And it is my Right to speak in this House, even if it is ten times. We made progress, and we are going to make progress, and this progress cannot be at the expense of our Fundamental Human Rights. Unfortunately, not!

If we are not making progress, we have Parliamentary procedures. We can vote. The Bill can be passed here. This is not the end of it. We can vote here and we will go out and challenge it in Court as citizens. Yes! Government has machinery to repress and oppress us with punitive Laws like these. I can even tear it up. It violates my Fundamental Human Rights. It does not violate your Fundamental Rights and the Rights of your children. That is the truth!

HON SPEAKER: That brings us to the end of this sitting as scheduled for today. The House stands adjourned until tomorrow, at 14:30.

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

I know Honourable Mbumba had wanted to make a contribution, but the clock says otherwise. (*Interjection*) We could have consulted on that earlier and extend the time, but we have not done so. We will come back tomorrow afternoon, at which stage, this time I would have consulted the people that I must consult from my office and come back and say something. Do pray to all your gods that I will get wise advice to come and inform you as to the way forward.

However, for now, I do not have that wisdom. We stand adjourned until tomorrow, at 14:30.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 17:50 UNTIL 2015.03.18 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: We commence with the Business of the House. Do you have all the papers with you, the Order Paper and the accompanying colourful papers? With that awareness, we start the Business as scheduled for today and it starts as follows:-

Any Petitions? Minister of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, Do you have problems?

**HON MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**: No, problems.

HON SPEAKER: Are there no Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Honourable Tjongarero.

**TABLING: REPORT ON THE
TRADITIONAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS' BILL**

HON TJONGARERO: Honourable Speaker, on 9 July 2014, the *Traditional Health Practitioners Bill* was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resources, Social and Community

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Development, to take it to the Regions for further consultations and to report back to this Assembly.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, due to the preparations for the National Elections last year and other official commitments upon the Members, the Committee has not been able to carry out its mandate.

Therefore, with the consent of the Minister of Health and Social Services it has been agreed that the Bill be reintroduced during the next Session of the Sixth Parliament. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please table the Report.
Honourable Mwaningange.

**TABLING: REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT
ON TRANSNATIONAL CRIME AND GLOBAL SECURITY**

HON MWANINGANGE: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table, the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security on the International Summit on Transnational Crime and Global Security Forum held in Brussels, Belgium, from the 16th to the 20th of October 2013.

**TABLING: REPORT ON INSPECTION
VISITS TO THE NAMIBIAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS**

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HON KUUGONGELWA-AMADHILA**

HON MWANINGANGE: Honourable Speaker, I lay upon the Table, the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security on the Inspection visit to the Namibia Diplomatic Missions to the Republic of Malaysia and South Africa.

**TABLING: REPORT ON THE WORKSHOP
ON HUMAN RIGHTS LANDSCAPE IN NAMIBIA**

HON MWANINGANGE: Honourable Speaker, I lastly, lay upon the Table, the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security on the Workshop on Human Rights Landscape in Namibia, held in Gobabis, Omaheke Region on the 1st of March 2014. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: What else do you wish to say? *(Laughter)*
Honourable Member, please table the Report.

Any further Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Paper? Minister of Finance?

TABLING: REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

HON MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I once again lay upon the Table, Reports on the Accounts of Statutory Bodies by the Auditor-General in fulfilment of the requirements of the Statute and I hear my Colleague here already

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expressing his apprehension about the timeliness of these Reports. Yesterday, Parliament noted the need to highlight the untimeliness of many of the Reports that I have had to table, unfortunately; because it is required for me to do that, although many of these bodies do not resort under the Ministry of Finance.

I have noted on numerous occasions, as the Auditor-General has, in the Report that he issues for the tabling in this House that, many of these bodies do not meet the Statutory timelines that are set for the finalisation of the Reports and their tabling in Parliament.

I must, of course, emphasise that, while the Statute requires that the Minister table these Reports in Parliament, it is still the responsibility of the Oversight Ministerial Bodies to ensure that the requirements of the Statutes are met by the appropriate Statutory Bodies. For today I have six Auditor-General's Reports to table in respect of the:-

- (i) Namibia Development Corporation for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2010;
- (ii) Namibia Development Corporation for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2011;
- (iii) Municipality of Omaruru for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2012;
- (iv) Regional Council of the Khomas Region for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2013;
- (v) Trust Fund for Regional Development and Equity Provisions for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2013; and
- (vi) Namibia Press Agency for the Financial Year ended 31 March 2014.

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**NOTICE OF MOTIONS
HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

In fact, the last Report is the only one that is tabled within the Statutory required timeframe.

I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister, please table the Reports. Any further Reports and Papers? None. Notice of Questions? Notice of Motions? Chief Whip.

MOTION ON BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice that the Proceedings on the Business on the Order Paper be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Will the Honourable Member table the Motion? Any other Notice of Motions? Any further discussions?

I think there is a Minister who wishes to make a Statement. We say that only when we have received a notification that a Minister wishes to make a Statement; and that Minister who has so informed us earlier is now no show. Cabinet Members being what they are, he is understandably, otherwise engaged on matters of the Nation.

We proceed with Notice of a Motion by the Minister of Veterans Affairs,

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who is a veteran himself. I will give you the Floor, I was just motivating you. I have not called you yet, I am just talking about you.

Now, being a Veteran himself, does the Minister Move that the Bill be now introduced.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objections? Agreed to. Will the Honourable Minister, please, table the Bill?

The Secretary will now read the Bill a First Time.

**FIRST READING – VETERANS
AMENDMENT BILL [B.4 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *Veterans Amendment Bill* [B.4 - 2015].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be read a Second Time?

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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HON SPEAKER: Any objection? None. Any secondment? Agreed to.
I give the Floor to the Minister.

**SECOND READING – VETERANS
AMENDMENT BILL [B.4 – 2015]**

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Thank you very much,
Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, I have a short Statement to make in addition to this Amendment, it is very short indeed, and that is to substitute Section 13 of Act 3 of 2013, so that the following Section is substituted for Section 13 of the *Veterans Amendment Act, 2013* (Act 3 of 2013). The House is expected to do the following:-

That this Act is called the *Veterans Amendment Act, 2013* (Act 3 of 2013) and comes into operation on the date of its publication in the Gazette.

That is how short it is and I have the understanding from the Chief Whip that all the three stages will be dealt with today. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any further discussion? None.

HON MEMBER: D' accord!

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HON SPEAKER: With all the contributions made by your Colleagues, I now call upon the Honourable Minister to reply.

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. It is for me to thank the Colleagues, wholeheartedly, for their overwhelming support for this short Amendment. (*Applause*)

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

The Secretary will now read the Bill for a Second Time.

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AMENDMENT BILL [B.4 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *Veterans Amendment Bill* [B.4 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: These wise people are telling me that that would have been a good thing, if we had some consultations, I would have told you, otherwise we have commenced the usual way, so we will stick to that and we will dispose of matters rather rapidly.

The Secretary will read the First Order.

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**SECOND READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON KAURA**

**RESUMPTION OF THE DEBATE ON SECOND READING -
NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP (SECOND)
SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of the Debate on Second Reading –
Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill [B.3 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: When the Debate was adjourned on Tuesday, 17 March 2015, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration that the Bill be read a Second Time.

Any further discussions? Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Honourable Speaker, I would like to propose that we go through with this Bill, the *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill* and complete it, because if we do not do that, there are people now that are prepared to come into Namibia and we will deny them the Right to come in, if we do not pass this Bill.

We do know that there are problems, for example, if a person comes into the country with a two-year old baby, that child would not qualify as a Namibian citizen. The mother and father will qualify, but the child will not qualify. This Bill makes Provision for period of ten years, it will thus lapse within ten years, therefore, by the time it lapses the child would be twelve years old and that would be a problem for the incoming Parliament to look at that special aspect. If we do not pass this Bill, we will deny the people who qualify to come in now, the Right to come in.

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My proposal is, therefore, that we must pass this Bill and then it can be revisited again to deal with, especially the third generation that is going to come with their parents.

I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Any other contributions? Any other views to the contrary? None.

All I will do is to ask Honourable Kaura to repeat what he has just said, because some people have come late and they want to find out what is going on. I do not want to speak for you, but there is a reaction to what you have just proposed. Yes.

HON KAURA: Honourable Speaker, there are people in Botswana right now, who qualify under this Bill and would like to come to Namibia. Citizenship would be conferred on them during the coming period of ten years, but they may be having children who are perhaps two years old and fall under the category of the third generation, and would not qualify under this Bill.

They will be able to go to school up to the age of 18, however, they cannot go to the University, because they are not yet 21 years old and cannot denounce their citizenship in Botswana to become Namibian citizens. That is the catch, which is the problem.

What I am saying is this; we cannot deny the parents who want to come in now the Right to come to their motherland. We should allow them to come in, but that particular problem of the children they will come with who will not qualify should be dealt with during the next ten years by the next incoming Parliaments. However, to deny those people who qualify

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to come in now, the Right to come in, will be an injustice to them. Therefore, let us pass this Bill so that those who want to come in can come in and the issue of the children of the third generation can be dealt with later.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Let us be clear with issues here and let us not try to mix up things.

This Bill addresses the citizenship status of the people who are returning. All the people who are in Botswana, who will be in Botswana for generations to come and people who are currently living here in Namibia who are affected, including myself.

If I can show you my thing, what is this thing called? My citizenship document, I am registered as a citizen by registration. I am not a citizen of this country by registration. It is wrong, it gives me a false identity. It violates my cultural identity. I am a citizen of this country by descent. I am not a citizen of this country by registration, so we are not addressing an *Immigration Bill*.

We are talking about the citizenship of people who are here, who are negatively affected and who are generationally linked. If we address the issue of citizenship, it is either citizenship by birth or descent. There is nothing that stands in the way of the people who are in Botswana and want to return to Namibia, because others have already returned, they are in Gam, but they are not receiving scholarships and they have now been here for the past ten years. They are already here. They do not receive scholarships, they are not recruited in the Army – those who are here! We are not talking about Immigration issues.

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Anyway, the majority of those who are returning are the third and fourth generations, and they are also not covered by this Bill. How are you going to allow them to come into the country? We can drive or send a car to Botswana tomorrow. Those who qualify under descent will not even be more than 500 if there are any, because if you are talking about the generation that qualifies under this Bill, it would be people of the same age like my father, that is, 90 something years. The majority of people will be those falling into my category. How will they fit in here? They do not qualify, so let us not mix things.

Amend the Constitution. Just remove or drop the term *generation*, because it violates Ancestral Rights. I do not want to repeat what I have said already.

The suggestion of Honourable Kaura is not helping the situation, because people are already here and they are changing their identities like I have changed mine. I am now a citizen of this country by registration, while I should be a citizen of this country by descent.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Mbumba?

HON MBUMBA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I do not usually like to speak, because when there are so many people speaking, it is better to learn to listen, and I have learnt to listen.

In my own heart of hearts, I do not think that there is anybody here in this Chamber or in this country who wants to deny Namibian people who were forced out of this country in a war situation and find themselves in other countries, the Right to return. In terms of them coming back, we have a duty to facilitate their return.

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This is not a question of trying to discriminate a group of people who have more Rights than even some of us to be here, if I may say that. However, we are caught between the Draft Bill which is talking about something. On the core issue of the Constitution – I do not think we have the immediate power to change a phrase or a word in the Constitution. Therefore, the idea of Professor Katjavivi is allowing us to choose between these two issues:

- 1) Drop this Draft Bill and submit this central issue to legal experts, including experts who are not even our own experts – Constitutional Experts. We can get them wherever we can. We should deal with that.
- 2) The other option is, my Fellow Senior New Yorker, Comrade Kaura's proposal – that position will not prevent us from approving the Bill if there are benefits to be had from this Bill. Approving this Bill will not touch the issue of the Constitution. The Constitution can be addressed, but we cannot address it right here without any legal advice – without anything.

If we can agree on what to choose, then we can make progress. We have only tomorrow, my Friends. This Parliament is at its 11th second to get out. Therefore, let us choose and make progress. That is my appeal, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I also wish to express myself once again.

In my understanding, the choice is not only between the Bill and the Constitution, but also, and that is if we want to make progress, between

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the Bill as it is and the Amendment of the Bill. We can choose to keep the Bill as it is or we can choose to amend the Bill.

In other words, the Bill has two important Clauses; those of date restrictions, one being the ten years and the other being the 1915 cut-off date. If we were to make progress, we can remove the ten years completely altogether, because that is not prohibited by the Constitution, it is just an arbitrary figure that was put there. That one can be removed. We can remove the 1915, again it is arbitrary, it is not provided for in the Constitution, it is not prescribed anywhere, and then we have a clean Bill that is allowing people of the various generations that we want to cover. The problem is solved. Let us just remove these two things from the Bill and then we can approve the Bill, everybody will be covered and our objective will be achieved.

HON KAZENAMBO: And the legal expert will advise.

HON MAAMBERUA: And we can then later talk about the Constitution and so on. If we choose to remove these two Clauses from the Bill then we are still going to operate within our Constitutional Provisions. Let us, therefore, remove these two Clauses from the Bill, please. That is my submission.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, I think we are now trying to come closer to finding a solution to this problem. I am not sure whether

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by removing, as Honourable Maamberua was saying, we will address the issues that caused this uneasiness among us namely, those two Clauses only.

We are not doing it for ourselves. We are not in the race of winning. It is not a question of this group will win against that group. It is a question of compromise. We must try to accommodate the views and feelings of our neighbours.

Honourable Speaker, I think it is an issue that we really need to examine closely. If we want to solve the problem now, let us remove these two Clauses and then move on to what the Secretary-General has just said that it is in the best interest of all of us to have a legal opinion on this Chapter in our Constitution. If we do that, obviously, who is the loser? Who is going to be a loser? Who is going to be the winner? The only thing is that we have solved the problem amicably. That is one, Honourable Speaker.

I think if we really try to swallow our pride of saying – *I will stick to what I have said* – personally I have moved from the position that I was advocating when we started. I tried to reach some kind of a middle way to agree, and I hope that in that spirit, the other Colleagues will also see it fit that we solve this problem now. It is not us or you who would have to put it in there, but the legal experts. We were given this document with what was believed to be best for us and have failed to agree on the basis of what we think will address our objectives.

Honourable Speaker, I hope that we move to that point – that we agree to remove that and that will also accommodate what Honourable Kaura has said that there are people waiting to come from Botswana. They will immediately be accommodated and as fellow Namibians, they will come in and help us solve some of these problems. (*Intervention*)

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HON SPEAKER: Point of Order. Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker. I would like to ask the Honourable Member a small question.

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON MINISTER OF GENDER EQUALITY AND CHILD WELFARE: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Colleague, I feel bad when you say people from Botswana. It is also touching us in our hearts.

We have relatives who went to Zambia, Angola, etcetera. I, therefore, see this Bill as a National issue. It is affecting all those who were affected during the war. How do you only view it from the Botswana perspective, leaving all those who went to Zambia and other countries? When are those coming back? When are we going to create their own Bill, if we are separating this Bill and not make it a Bill that covers everyone, Nationally? When are we going to accommodate them? When are we going to make another Bill for them? I am not going to be part of it, if you are looking at only one side and not accommodating everybody.

There are people who went to South Africa when we returned from exile and they may also want to come back. I will not be a part of it if we are only concentrating on Botswana. I want us to address a National issue that involves everyone and not only people from Botswana. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

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HON SPEAKER: Thank you

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Minister, you got it and I think you are saying it at the right time because if you look at the situation that we have in Namibia – we have Namibians who were *cut* in the middle by the Berlin Conference. Look at the Kwanyamas – not only that they speak the same language, they are brothers and sisters, but cut in the middle, and the decision was taken in Berlin. One would say some are Angolans and some are Namibians. Take the example of Zambezi, look at Zambezi – what are you taking the Floor for? (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Point of Order. What point are you rising on?

HON MWANINGANGE: Point of Correction. Honourable Tjihuiko, I hear you always saying, Kwanyama. I think you do not know the African people across boundaries. When you talk about that border from the Kavango River to Kunene River, there are Ovambandja, Ovanghumbi, Ovavale, Ovahimba, Gciriku, we have some Mbukushus up to Zambezi. You are always repeating Nyembas and Kwanyamas, there are many others. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, I wish I could have more time to mention all, but I was trying to move based on what the Honourable Minister has just said, to move away from the concept of Botswana. That is why I was actually saying Honourable Minister you are right, it is not only the people from Botswana, we have colleagues everywhere. Even if we mentioned what you have just said, somebody would still rise and say

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– *what about those in Cameroon or what about the Namas?* That is an example. Thank you, you have helped me there. That is why I support the idea of us moving to remove the ten years, because it will accommodate everybody. It will accommodate those who feel they want to come back. It will not hurt anybody and it will not be discriminatory in any form.

Honourable Speaker, I want to support that idea, and before I take my seat, I need to be guided, Honourable Kawana is here – Article 4 of the Constitution (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Just a small question. For example, here at 2(b), if we remove 1915, what do we replace it with? Is it with 1990 or what?

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Speaker, we are touching on the critical area, we are not sitting in the Chamber and start writing or rewriting the Amendments, so anything that is going to come in will have to be seriously considered by legal experts, like Honourable Dr Kawana said. All what I am saying on that issue is; let us take the obstacle and the consequences that will come will be dealt with by the legal experts.

I wanted to ask you, and I do not know whether I have got the Right to ask the Attorney-General to provide advice, however, let me just throw it in. Honourable Attorney-General, in our Constitution, Article 4(a) reads as follows: “*Those born in Namibia before the date of Independence whose fathers or mothers would have been Namibian citizens at the time of the birth of such persons, if this Constitution had been in force at that*

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Time.” Now, what does the Constitution say here? Those who were born before Independence and those whose mothers and fathers could have been Namibian citizens, the people that we are talking about did not go and find themselves where they are now, they went there because of being persecuted. They could have been born here.

What does the Constitution tell us? If somebody can just explain that. The I look at it, it covers those who were born outside the country not out of their own free will, but due to circumstances beyond their control. That is why I thought that we do not need to change the Constitution, we only need to amend the Bill that was put on the Table.

Honourable Speaker, I Move, with due respect; let us try to compromise and the best way I think to go about it is supported by the Constitution that I am referring to. Let us just remove these two Clauses and leave it to the experts to fine-tune the proposal and then we are through. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Hausiku.

HON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Honourable Members, well, I am not a competent person to speak on this issue, but I thought that we are losing a lot of time in addressing these issues systematically. However, perhaps it is important to emphasise that the issue that Comrade Kazenambo and many others have raised, legitimately so, have been discussed through Newspapers articles many times.

During those times, I thought that these colleagues being Namibians and sometimes people from the same Party, why can they not sit together and just exchange views on what should be done. We have read articles on

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these issues. The pressing need we have now is, as Honourable Kaura said; we have got people in Botswana, South Africa, Angola and elsewhere who want to come back now and those people who have been repatriated since 1991 from Botswana who are now in Gam, the young people who have achieved the age required for them to renounce the citizenship of Botswana and to acquire the citizenship of Namibia.

Of course, these people also have their own interests and they would like to come and I think this is why the Honourable Minister, through the Cabinet, decided to bring this Bill. I recall this issue was discussed in detail at Cabinet. We had different opinions, but in the final analysis, we thought that we should assist the situation and for the sake of those people who are lining up to come, to allow this Bill to come to Parliament, and be passed.

Now whether Comrade Kawana explains here, I am afraid that nobody will agree with him, specifically from those who want to differ with him. I was happy when somebody mentioned, I think it is through the proposal by Comrade Katjavivi, that we must try to separate these issues. We deal with the Bill as it is, it addresses the issue of the people who are lining up and then we also agree that the Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, through Cabinet, gets a team that will not come from our selves, an independent legal team that will study the Provision of the Constitution as questioned and as it is now in the Constitution and give us a legal opinion and indeed, after we have been given an opinion, whether it will mean looking at the Constitution's Amendment or introducing a Law that will amend the one that we have, then we can move on at that stage.

In my view, logic tells me that we will have two phases in addressing this problem. The first phase is the Bill and the second phase is the opinion on the Provision in the Constitution as it is now. I am supporting these two phased proposals, because I have seen the Comrades sitting around one table, but when they leave that table everyone has their own opinion and they are all qualified lawyers. They are all qualified lawyers, but yet

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when you read their opinions, they differ significantly. I thought that an independent team will deal with this issue.

I just want to conclude by saying that in issues like these, we should not always want to prevail or our own opinion to prevail, it is good to get a compromise and to solve problems that are affecting people who want to use this Bill, and then for us to go on and get a very independent opinion on our Constitution, specifically on this issue.

Comrade Speaker, what I am saying is, let us assist the Minister to go ahead with this Bill, but let us also agree that from now on we should have an independent opinion from independent lawyers on this Provision. I think that by so doing, we would have properly assisted those people who are lining up.

I was lucky enough to have been sent to Botswana in 1991. From Gaborone, we came to Maun, to Shakawe by car, to Kgarikguvisa here and I was sent to talk to the people – the Batswana people of Namibian origin. I talked to them with a Deputy Minister from Botswana and we did our job. At the end, there were people who agreed to come back, I am about those ones from Botswana. I am well known there. People know me personally, because I was eating *shushwa* with them that fine meat.

Of course, they came with their children who were not at that time, at the appropriate age to renounce the citizenship of Botswana in order to get the Namibian citizenship, but I think this Bill will assist them to do so. We will definitely be assisted to arrive at what we want to get – a very independent opinion on our Constitution.

Comrade Speaker, I move that, with just one day ahead of us to deal with the schedule on our discussions, let us allow this one to go through. My Younger Brother, Honourable Kazenambo, will agree that we will insist on the independent opinion and go ahead with the other case. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

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HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Comrade Attorney-General, Dr Kawana.

HON MINISTER OF PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, it was really not my intention to take part in the Debate, but my Good Friend, Honourable Tjihuiko, asked a question and I feel obliged to respond. However, before I do so, allow me Honourable Speaker, to give the background of this Bill.

As the Title states – *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill* - as it was motivated by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, my Senior Colleague here - she alluded to the background of the very first Bill, which became an Act of Parliament in 1991 and lapsed after five years. Cabinet established a Committee of three and that was in 1991 – Dr Tjiriange, Advocate Rukoro, Hartmut Ruppel, the then Attorney-General, all three lawyers by tribe. They studied the implications. They advised Cabinet that Citizenship by Descent does not go beyond the second generation. Cabinet accepted that interpretation of the three lawyers by tribe, if I may put it that way. Dr Tjiriange, Advocate Rukoro, Mr Ruppel in his capacity as the Attorney-General, Honourable Tjiriange in his capacity as the Minister of Justice and Advocate Rukoro in his capacity as Deputy Minister of Justice. That first Bill was then drafted in 1991. It was tabled here on the basis of that interpretation and it was passed.

If you go to the Hansard you will see what Honourable Rukoro repeatedly said here in the Chamber, that the cut-off point for Citizenship by Descent is the first generation. Here! In fact, if I wanted to take part in the Debate I could have retrieved the Hansard so that I could even state the date and the time when Honourable Rukoro was standing here motivating that Bill. I kindly request the Honourable Members who are interested, to check the

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Hansard about what Advocate Rukoro said here. On that basis that Law was passed at the limitation of five years. I just wanted to give this background.

Like my Senior Colleagues, including the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister said, some of the concerns that have been expressed here are really legitimate. I have an example of the second and subsequent generations who cannot qualify as per the interpretation of Honourable Dr Tjiriange, Advocate Rukoro and Mr Hartmut Ruppel then. I will give you an example. I worked under the command of Commander Katjipuka in PLAN. He was one of the finest Commanders, but when he came here, he was told – *no, you cannot qualify as citizen by descent*. He even sacrificed for the Independence of this country in the battle – he died in action.

That is why I understand, and I agree with the proposals of my Senior Colleague, Honourable Kaura, to say – let us separate these two issues, perhaps with an Amendment. You see, referring this to lawyers will not assist the situation, in my view. In terms of the Constitution, the Attorney-General has a Constitutional mandate and freedom to refer this issue for interpretation by the Supreme Court and that will be really final. Whatever the lawyers interpret, will not be the final word. Whoever that man, that woman, that Comrade, that Senior Citizen who will be the Attorney-General on the 21st of March – we may then ask that this issue be referred to this Attorney-General in order for him/her to request the Supreme Court for interpretation. In my opinion that will really be the most workable solution.

If the Supreme Court interprets exactly what Honourable Dr Tjiriange, Advocate Rukoro and Mr Hartmut Ruppel interpreted, then there is nothing which will prevent the Government to propose Constitutional Amendment in order to rectify this situation.

Once that Constitutional Amendment is done, the situation of my Young Brother, Honourable Kazenambo, will be rectified and say – *bring that*

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certificate of citizenship by registration, from now on, you are a citizen by descent. That is how this issue can be solved, in my view. However, in the meantime, as my Senior Colleague has said, there are those who want to come back, let us not prevent our citizens from coming back, while in the meantime, taking this issue further in order to address this legitimate concern. That would be my proposal. I also wanted to clarify the misunderstanding here in terms of the Law. Those who left Namibia in 1989 are not covered by this Law wherever they are, because they were born in Namibia.

Now, to answer the question of Honourable Tjihuiko – the Constitution states that those who were born in Namibia before the coming into operation of this Constitution, are Namibians by birth, had that Constitution come into operation then. Those who came here after the coming into operation of this Constitution, live in Namibia, and have children, those children are Namibians by descent. That is all what the Constitution says.

I want to make a clarification here for those who left Namibia in 1989, if they were born here, they are not covered by this Amendment, they are not covered by this Law, because by virtue of Article 4(2), they are Namibian citizens by birth. Their children are Namibian citizens by descent. If people in these two categories come today, they can be granted citizenship. Comrade Speaker, I just wanted to clarify that issue. I so submit.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. I am looking for some other views. Any further contributions from the House on this? Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Sorry, Honourable Speaker, I just wanted to be clear before we move on. There were some ideas that were thrown around –

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good ideas, in fact. If we are now moving forward, are we moving forward on the basis of the Bill as it is, or is there any move from the other side to accommodate views expressed by others? I want to be clear, otherwise it may cause confusion.

HON SPEAKER: No, not in the Speaker's mind. We will continue to consider the matter as it stands. If after we have listened to the Attorney-General, there has been some understanding that either clarifies the issues raised during the Debate, or has further opened other vistas for disagreement, we would only know that if we continue to listen to whomever wants to speak. That is the thinking of the Speaker.

Nothing has been settled yet, but it was important that the Attorney-General went back to history. I was a Member of Cabinet at that time and I agree with and recall what those two personalities, he mentioned, brought to Cabinet and what was decided by Cabinet on that occasion. The Floor continues to be open for further ideas. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: In my language they say *Tji ya rasa tjinene ipohora omainya* – if it licks too much, it removes the hair from the calf and I would say that as a prelude.

In my view, I am closer to satisfaction – very closer. On the basis of what the Attorney-General has just explained, following up on the suggestion by Honourable Mbumba as well as what Comrade Deputy Prime Minister said.

When Comrade Peter Katjavivi spoke, I was not here. I think we are almost there, and we are almost there, if the issue of descent as contained

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in the Constitution currently will be addressed. He said that he will not go into detail, he based his explanation on the opinion of others, he did not give his at the moment. We pray that maybe he will become the Attorney-General so that he can continue or the other ones, either Honourable Shifeta or Honourable Peya Mushelenga. It is the prerogative of the President, I know, but they are ambitious and they are lawyers. I think they are not sleeping these nights they are waiting for the call (*laughter*). I am free because I am out.

Anyway, I think we are very close, as long as the issue of descent can be clarified by the competent person who comes, if that can be noted somewhere here. How? I do not know, but that will bring us closer to addressing the issue, if that is to be the spirit and the understanding. Therefore, the issue of ten years falls here, because it is linked to the issue of the citizenship status. The ten years are not helpful, they do not address the issue. To be honest, the ten years do not present the people who want to come with the opportunity to come, because this is not an amnesty, nobody is getting an amnesty here. The is that if the prescribed ten-year period expires Namibians may no longer be allowed to come back and that is the concern. However, if the ten years falls away then the Bill must go through, because then the issue of the citizenship status either by registration or descent, which is currently affecting these people negatively will have been resolved, but as long as it is here, I do not know what compromise can we reach and what the purpose of ten years in the Bill is. Maybe we will go there when we reach the Committee Stage, but it may force us to stand here and repeat what should have been covered.

Since we have that understanding, the ten years must just fall away and the Bill must go through to facilitate the return of the people who would like to come and when the Immigration Officers are dealing with them, we hope that Government will expedite its explanation no matter whether these people are registering as citizenship by registration or not, however, if it is citizenship by registration, it would be a temporary measure. If it is a permanent measure, then it can only be so after the Supreme Court has pronounced itself.

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With that understanding, I think the Bill can go through.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. That is the spirit. We want the outcome that will enable all of us as Namibians to live with at the end of the day. Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would also want to subscribe to that understanding in the sense that if in the resolution of Parliament – and I do not know how that is normally captured – it is going to be clearly stated that the constitutional interpretation regarding the Citizenship by Descent is going to be referred or is being referred to the Attorney-General to seek the Supreme Court interpretation as per our Constitution, then I think that is really in order.

Thus, we agree to approve the Bill, of course, with that request being made that there is no need for the ten-year timeframe, so that without the ten years we can approve the Bill and refer the constitutional interpretation regarding Citizenship by Descent to the Supreme Court for interpretation. Then I think we are done.

HON SPEAKER: Is that the consensus of the House? Any objection by anyone? Any other views? None.

With that understanding, I will ask the Minister, the Mover of the Motion to reply.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Thank you, Comrade Speaker. Comrade Speaker, I would like to thank

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all those who participated in the Debate on this very important Bill on the *(Second) Conferment of Citizenship Bill*.

Comrade Speaker, before I reply to specific issues raised, I would like to appreciate the fact that we have now come to the understanding that the Constitutional Amendment responsibility does not lie with a Line Minister tabling a Bill. That is very important and I tried to articulate that position the first time this Bill was deliberated upon.

It does not necessarily depend on the legal knowledge of the Line Minister concerned or not. That is a separate mandate altogether and this Bill, inasmuch as it hinges on the Constitutional stipulation, just for the record, this Honourable House and the Line Minister concerned is not mandated to undertake to amend the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia.

Secondly, I would like to say that, inasmuch as we get so much affected and so much involved at individual level, let us not forget that Namibia is one and all of us belong to it, and we need each other. I repeat, all of us belong to it and we need each other. I know the issue of Namibians having suffered under colonial rule. At times, it is taken as if it is a singular occupation or ownership of one single individual or one single group. We may feel that way, but let us remember that those who took up arms to liberate this country were not doing so for their own sake, for their own families or for their own groups. They took up arms to liberate this country for everybody – all of us as Namibians.

When we talk, we should also listen to ourselves. We should listen to ourselves and not hurt each other unnecessarily for the sake of advocating what we think hurt us more than others. We are all hurt. I now want to recall a statement that was made a long time ago in this Parliament by none other than the current Prime Minister and President Elect. He cautioned Honourable Kaura and a few others here, Comrade Nahas Angula and maybe a few others. Honourable Speaker, he said – “*we are*

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all on one ship at sea and if it sinks all of us will drown.” We should continue to remember that.

Having said that, Honourable Speaker, let me now touch on some of the issues that were raised here. I would have appreciated the presence of Honourable Kazenambo Kazenambo and Honourable Tjiuiko. I would have appreciated their presence here, but I have no power to call them here. I do not know whether some of the issues that were raised are still relevant now that we understand the Bill differently, but nevertheless, I will read them just to reflect and recollect where we started off from.

Someone raised a concern why the affected groups, wherever they are in this world, should have their citizenship conferred by the Minister. It was argued that they are automatically Namibians and, therefore, they do not need a Minister to confer citizenship upon them. They argued that it is apparently constitutionally incorrect.

My response is; if that is so, why are they not closing the borders, settle wherever they are and get their citizenship however they want to get it? Of course, that is not possible, that is why we are doing what we are doing. It is for the purpose of alleviating that problem. We do not want people to be declared illegal immigrants or to be arrested at the borders, we want to do it legally and lawfully. That is why the Bill.

Article 4(9) of the Constitution empowers Parliament to make Laws that are consistent with the Constitution, regulating the acquisition and loss of Namibian citizenship. At the time of drafting the Namibian Constitution, the fathers and mothers of the Constitution already anticipated that there were going to be people wanting to acquire Namibian citizenship. Therefore, despite the articulation of the Constitution, Parliament should be empowered to facilitate that such is done and if somebody for whatever reason feels he/she does not any longer want to be a Namibian citizen, that person can do so. I have signed several letters of people renouncing their Namibian citizenship, and they were doing so under the Law.

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The other point raised was the reference to 1915 – that the Bill should cover people who left Namibia from 1611 under slavery and semi-slavery conditions. Therefore, the year 1915 should be removed so that it can be left open for all descendants to apply.

Honourable Speaker, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration has been having a project of establishing a national registry so that every citizen of our country who came before us is entered into that registry. The importance of that registry is that, from here on, my child and my child's child will always have a reference point that my grandmother was a Namibian citizen. He/she can go to the records at the Ministry Home Affairs and Immigration and trace their descendants.

When we talk about 1611, how many generations have gone between then and now? How do we, as a system, identify and convince ourselves that this person claiming descentance from those years is truly telling us the truth? How do we assure ourselves that that is truly the case? I thought we argued the case here, because we want to help the system. We have learnt that there are Namibians in Togo, in Cameroon, in Tanzania, but if you just say they should come here and tell us how Namibian they are, what evidence will they produce? There are those who speak some of the languages while others do not even speak one of the languages, how else will they produce evidence? Will we just accept them by virtue of them claiming to be Namibians? *(Intervention)*

HON MEMBER: By DNA.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Well, DNA – while we are not even in a position to deal with simple matters of crime and what not, that are currently confronting us involving DNA? How about thousands of people, who may come from somewhere

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claiming one way or the other that their ancestors came from Namibia? We came up with the *cut-off point of 1915* to make it a little bit easier for one to relate, because we are talking about third, fourth and probably fifth generations, not ten or one hundred in between, that becomes impossible.

On the time period of ten years; Comrade Speaker, the Honourable Attorney-General has gone into the historical development of the Law that lapsed and the Law we are currently deliberating upon. The Law that lapsed had a period of five years, because in the views of the crafters of the first Law was that, inasmuch as we know for sure that there are people of Namibian origin elsewhere, there are no Stateless people sitting somewhere. We are talking about citizens of other countries, some of whom – I should not even say all – feel they have an origin somewhere and they can go and claim that.

However, for a system to have a Law running concurrently with the Constitution and other Laws of the country and for other people sitting elsewhere, may also be seen by others as provocative. In our view, the five years or ten years is taken as a project so that those who really feel like coming back to Namibia must trace the origin of their parents. Why do they need hundred years to think? Why do they not take the opportunity as granted? They must come here, register, their children are born here and their children's children will now claim citizenship by either birth or descent. Why should they continue to live outside? Just because the Law is made wide open for them to decide whenever they want to. They are also disadvantaging their own children. The longer they continue to live where they are and giving birth to those children the more they are disadvantaging them. The sooner they come here and give birth here, the children can easily claim citizenship by birth because they are born here.

There was also an issue raised on those who come with a *two-year old* under this new Law, that that child will have to wait until he/she is 21 years old. No, everybody who comes with their parents will be registered as citizens. They will become citizens. There will be nobody waiting for

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ten or fifteen or whatever years. This Law is meant to clear the backlog that has been in existence. I do not know how the Learned Colleagues here – not in Law, but in other fields – could not see what is in black and white. They were reading something else and I was wondering where this misconception was coming from.

Comrade Speaker, on these *ten years*, let us just take the Law as a project, we mobilise whoever wants to come back home and when they are back they can make use of the opportunity so that we can clear up everything. We are in the process of designing a special certificate for this project so that whoever comes does not have to wait for two, three or whatever years to become a citizen. They will all get their citizenship immediately as soon as they are registered.

Why should they not get Citizenship by Descent? I do not want to get into this argument, it has been clarified by the Attorney-General and I think we have all agreed on the way forward on that.

The other point is *Renunciation*: Renunciation is when the normal registration process that requires ten years has to take place. This is the ten years that we are trying to avoid – the period of staying in Namibia for ten years. We are trying to avoid that, because this is a special group and we are dealing with it as a special project. Therefore, nobody will need the ten years to renounce. Immediately they are here they get their certificates.

Delegation of Powers: Section 4 of the Bill provides that *the Minister may delegate powers* – that was also an issue – *in terms of the Act to any staff members*. How can the power to confer citizenship be delegated to a person of a rank lower than a Minister? This should not be done. The delegation of powers is a general Provision that you will find in many legislations, because at times, the Minister himself or herself is inundated with something else and the person specifically designated by the Minister to deal with that can do so, under the power of the Minister. The Provision normally says the Minister is not divested of his/her power to

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do so. It is not strange, that it is a Provision in this Law and it is a general Provision in many of our Laws.

Comrade Speaker, I think I have addressed the major queries that were raised and since we have all agreed that the Bill should pass, I brought with me the Amendment to Paragraph 2(1) which I am going to table during the Committee Stage. I so submit, Comrade Speaker and I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Any further consideration? Questions or comments? Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Allow me to also thank the Minister of Home Affairs (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: That was a reply.

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes, I just want to seek a small clarification?

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON MAAMBERUA: I felt I should thank her first before I seek the clarification and also thank you for allowing me to take the Floor. I

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understand that we do not permit dual citizenship in Namibia. If within these ten years, in terms of the Bill, if that is not going to be amended, a person coming from, say Botswana, where a citizen of Botswana can only renounce citizenship if a person is above the age of 21 – this is the only time that you can renounce the Botswana Citizenship – if say next year, a child comes with his/her parents at the age of five, by that time that person is already a citizen of Botswana by birth, how would we, in terms of this Bill grant that child from Botswana who is five years old that automatic citizenship within the scope of this Bill before that person has been able to renounce his/her citizenship in Botswana within the context of the fact that we do not allow or permit dual citizenship? Is that going to be possible?

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Comrade Speaker, the question by the Honourable Member is relevant. In the case of the children coming with their parents, it is true that they will be citizens of Botswana by birth and they are coming with their parents who are taking up citizenship by registration.

We, here, will not prevent the children from acquiring citizenship of Namibia on account of their parents here, but in Botswana that is their Law and we have no control over the Laws in Botswana. However, when these people come here, they would, obviously, have renounced their citizenship in Botswana.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, Honourable Maamberua.

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HON MAAMBERUA: I am really sorry but I think that is an important point to clarify, because if Namibia does not allow dual citizenship and the child who is applying has come with his/her parents at the age of five, the Home Affairs Officials are aware that that child is a citizen of Botswana, how are we going to grant that person Namibian citizenship under these Provisions, unless we relax our Rule that dual citizenship in this particular instance, will be allowed?

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Citizenship by birth is a Right that many countries have difficulties abrogating. Even here in our Constitution if somebody was born here, you cannot say – *you are born here*. Even if they renounce it, it will not be to deny that they were ever born in Botswana or in Angola or wherever. That is precisely why we have come up with this Law. It is to try and address this special situation.

Namibians, wherever they go they can take up citizenship of other countries, but coming back here you can never deny them that Right of birth, the Right of having been born here. It is a Right not acquired out of free will, but somebody found himself/herself in that situation. The Law that I have brought here is meant to address that situation and it is either we want to take it or we want to assume something else. That will not take us anywhere.

HON SPEAKER: I think I am pleased with the answer to the question of Honourable Maamberua. Any other questions? It was actually a reply to some clarification that Honourable Maamberua sought, but not to open the discussion. This was a reply after a lengthy consideration of the Motion, and if we are done with it, can I proceed and do my part?

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I now put the question that the Bill be read a Second Time. Any objection? Agreed to.

The Secretary will read the Bill a Second Time.

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SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill [B.3 – 2015].*

HON SPEAKER: The Secretary will read the Second Order.

**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON SECOND
READING - UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY BILL [B.2 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *University of Science and Technology Bill [B.2 – 2015].*

HON SPEAKER: When the Debate was adjourned on Tuesday, 17 March 2015, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by the Honourable Minister of Education that the Bill be read a Second Time.

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Honourable Ndjoze-Ojo adjourned the Debate and I full-heartedly give you the Floor.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker, for the opportunity, but I want to thank you so much for yesterday, when you said you needed some wisdom from above to deal with the Bill we have just agreed on.

I think it is very important that our Leaders acknowledge that sometimes the power is not in our hands to resolve issues. I am very glad that we have completed that task.

HON KAZENAMBO: Amen!

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: I rise to support this Bill and I am speaking on the premise as somebody who has spent 20 years of my 59 years as a Lecturer at the University. I just turned 59 today, it is my birthday. *(Applause)*

HON SPEAKER: Congratulations.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Getting old, but looking good, it is all by the Grace of God.

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HON SPEAKER: Good.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: I retired from the University as an Associate Professor and I am very interested in the development of academia in Namibia and that is why I am speaking to this Bill from that premise.

I want to get on to the Bill right away and I am speaking to it page by page, if you could allow me, Honourable Speaker. I am going to Page 2 and I want to talk to the Long Title of the Bill, especially in view of the last Amendment we have just done on the Constitution, the Bill should clearly stipulate all the activities that it intends to do in the Long Title, because if it is not captured in the Long Title, it is very difficult as it were bringing in other things that were not part of the Bill as it was raised. However, that does not mean that it should be a whole page or whatever.

What I wish to add is to say that I also have had the privilege of serving as a Deputy Minister of Education from 2005 to 2010, under my able Minister, Nangolo Mbumba. Therefore, this is an area I have had discussions with the Rector of the Polytechnic before. Therefore, I am very delighted that it has reached this stage and I wish to congratulate the Minister of Education for having brought this Bill to this House.

However, to the Long Title needs a broadened scope. I remember when I was almost head hunted to come back to the University of Namibia in 1996, this Honourable House had just promulgated an Act on August 4, that established the University of Namibia in 1992. What we did with that Act was to say that Namibia needed the first one and only National University. That status quo has remained like that. Twenty-five years on, looking at the education landscape, we would have noticed that there is need to focus on science. Therefore, maybe, we need a University of Science and Technology, because the other University was for Education Service and Development, almost from scratch.

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Therefore, on that understanding, I wish to state that any university that we should establish, should have a very unique niche for itself and I did not see it come through very well in the Long Title of the Bill. Although, if you go on to the objects that I am going to refer to, it is in fact there, but I think that the scientific claim that this University is putting on the cards must be captured clearly in its Title. There is a need to broaden the scope of the Bill. There is a need to explicate its unique academic niche, especially its scientific claim as a University of Science and Technology.

It is going to be the University, it is not going to be the second National University again, to replicate and duplicate and do some other things, it has to come with a very strong scientific basis. I want an infusion of that kind of ideas into this Bill.

I also want to take back, because these kinds of ideas are coming up, for example, when you go to the definition, I am going to talk to one point on each which my suggestions would be based, if they may be acceptable.

But I also want to take us a little bit back that, when we established the University of Namibia in 1992, we also, two years after thereafter established the Polytechnic of Namibia by an Act of Parliament of 1994. And what we did with that establishment was to actually transform costs. It was a centre in the University of Namibia then that was to be developed and transformed into the Polytechnic of Namibia. The Polytechnic of Namibia was given a different mandate in terms of – now that we have a University that will be very theoretical in approach and producing University Degrees and so on – we maybe need courses to be developed. However, we must concentrate on these other courses that a University necessarily or traditionally does not offer and what Polytechnics traditionally were meant to offer – very practical, hands-on kind of training and that is why I am looking forward to a transformation that takes the evolutionary processes into consideration as they transform.

The implication of that is that, if you had different admission requirement and procedures which are also set in this Bill for a Polytechnic National

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Diploma Course in Police and Development and then you transform it into a University, the same requirements of entry applies and because we were doing a National Diploma in Police Training, for example, the kind of Lecturers you were employing were fit to teach those courses. However, when you transform to a University of Science and Technology, we would need to employ people who will actually take you one stage up.

I am going back to the Bill again, and I am looking at Page 3, at the definitions. I have two points, I am looking at definition number 1(a) and I wish to make a suggest. My suggestion could be taken or not taken, but I would like to suggest that the second line that reads – “*all those persons employed by the University whose conditions of employment include the obligation to undertake **teaching**...*” I would have preferred **lecturing**. There is a difference between teaching and lecturing and when you are at the University you lecture and that is why we call the people who work at the University in academic fields, Lecturers. Lecturing is not necessarily teaching. You assume that the people have a basic knowledge and you just want to find out what they know and what it is you can add. Teaching has got to do with teaching from scratch. If somebody does not know how to read you teach them how to read. Therefore, because of the niche, the fact that we are raising this Institution to a higher level, I think they should concentrate on lecturing rather than teaching, if they could take that.

However, I also look at – “*including assessment...*” and they say *teaching development*, I wanted to suggest that those two concepts should be separated. You can say *teaching improvement*. You see, although you are a Lecturer, you have to improve on your deductive methods of teaching and the improvement here is meant is for the staff, to improve themselves on how to lecture better. Then you need staff development, which will take those Lecturers you have recruited years ago, to take part in staff development so that they are empowered to teach new courses. Those are my three suggestions there.

Then I go down to campus. Maybe you can just substitute and I also want to suggest that in the definitions – *Minister means the Minister responsible*

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*for higher education, the word **higher** is removed and it reads – Minister means the Minister responsible for education.*

I move to Page 4. Page 4, Number 5, *Status and Proprietary Capacity of University* (interjections) General, *ondina oFloor* (I still have the Floor), thank you. (Intervention)

HON SPEAKER: You know it is raining and Namibians are getting excited.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Everybody is excited. Thank you. That Number 5, *Status and Proprietary Capacity of University*: I just want to look at Number 1 that says – “*the University is a juristic person...*” It is true, but you did not say that in your Statement at the objects. Is it only when the case comes when you say – *no, I am answerable for my own suing and suing back*, are you going to run back to the Government, and if you are owning it up, my suggestion is that you state in your object that UST, which is the University of Science and Technology is a juristic person not only in the Bill, but also at the objects at the beginning.

Page 5 is where I have quite a number of suggestions, because that is where the objects of the university are. Objects of University are actually the scope of what the University intends to do and also what the University’s uniqueness would be. I would, therefore, like to suggest that this Section needs to be strengthened to provide for its unique trade as a *new kid on the bloc*, that is an American expression. If we have the first, and one and only National University and now you want to come with the University of Science and Technology, you are new and you have to propose new things in your objects so that we buy into the new niche that would be created by this very beautiful upcoming University we are looking forward to.

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5(a) says – “*to contribute to knowledge creation...*” That is wonderful and I wish to suggest that after that, add *and application* because, knowledge creation without applying it to situations of Namibia will not help us very much, and with knowledge creation in this concept, I am assuming it is the creation of scientific knowledge and that must be applied. That is when you look at Mines and Energy, Fisheries and Marine Resources and then apply this creation of knowledge. I think the word *application* is very important – “*and to advance knowledge through teaching, research and scientific investigation, with...*” and you say “*with an emphasis on applied research,*” which is quite good. I have preferred with ***particular***, instead of ***an emphasis*** put ***particular emphasis on applied research***, because that is your strength that you are coming on board with. (*Interjection*) Thank you. That is a prediction and I say Amen to that.

I want to move on. (b) is very strong and nice, I like it, but I think we should collapse (c) and (d). I want to suggest why it should be collapsed. The first one says; *the University of Science and Technology will be to drive, promote and facilitate technology development and technology transfer, and innovation and infusion*. And the (d) says – *to engage in national and international partnerships and cooperation with other Universities, Organisations and Institutions*. I want to suggest that you start with (d), because it is your engagement that will help you to drive what you want to drive.

Basically (c) should read something like – *to engage in national and international partnerships and cooperation with other stakeholders or Universities, Organisations and Institution* and thereto, to drive, to promote, to facilitate, because once you engage yourself with all the other stakeholders, they will give you the knowledge on how to drive your agenda. The last one (e) is okay. It is fine. I think it is very good.

I move on to the ***Constitution of University***, that is the Title there, and I labelled it ***Constitution of the University*** when you read it, it is like; is it the Constitution of the University or it is the fact that the University is constituted? It is very important, because when you constitute, you create.

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I am trying to say that that Number 6 should not read; *the University consists of*, but it should read that *the University is constituted as*. It is very important, because it is like when you go to a congregation you say – *I constitute this as a congregation of the University of Science and Technology*. What you are actually doing is, within that context, you are creating a new thing that will then be dissolved at the end of it. Therefore, I feel that it should not *consist of*, but it should be *constituted as*, the Chancellor, the Council, the Vice Chancellor and I do not think that there should be *Deputy Vice-Chancellors as may be determined...* just put *Deputy Vice-Chancellors* and get rid of the rest of the sentence. Why should that one be qualified?

I want to talk to (f), which is very important to me, because you have to put something like; *the academic, the administrative and other staff of the University*. You have to add the words **administrative** because the University is assumed to be an Academic Institution, but you also have administrative staff and they are governed by different rules. The academic staff may go on leave while the administrative staff remains at the University. Therefore, you cannot talk holistically as just the academic and the other staff, it has to be the academic, the **administrative** and other staff, which is the support staff, the cleaners and other people. However, the administrative staff must be there, because this document is about administrative staff of the University, in fact.

Thank you so much for your attention, I am about to finish. I move to Page 6. Page 6 has (a) to (g). There are lots of things. It is about the number of people who will serve on the Council – how many people are will be there. I remember that a long time ago, we were had different views on how we wanted to limit the number of people in the Board or something, and I was wondering how was this number arrived at? Was it arbitrarily decided that there will not be more than nine people, at least six, or did you sit and say – *the stakeholders of this University must be one, one, one, two here and three there and two from Government* as you have stated? I want to remind us that this is going to be a Public National

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University. It will belong to the Government and will be funded by the Government.

I am just wondering what is the ratio of Government representation, especially when you look at (iv)? It says – “*at least three and not more than six persons nominated for appointment by each such Institution...*” Let us say there are different Institutions, I am wondering why is it three and not two and why is it six and not four? Those are the things that the Ministry will think about and look at. However, what I am trying to say is that there should be a balance, because if you have a University that is owned by the Government as is represented in a Council by many more people than the ones who will necessarily support the Government agenda at that University and yet the Government is expected to fund it, you should look at the balance, there must be a nice balancing act.

Then I will look at the last point which is Number 5. *If a nomination is not received by the Minister within a period requested, the Minister may appoint such person as the Minister thinks fit, subject to the conditions stated in Subsection 2(c), and a person so appointed holds office as if he or she has been nominated as required by Subsection 4.* We are saying there are some Institution that will be required to nominate and if they nominated Mr X and Mr X does not come to the Minister in time to be appointed, then the Minister says – *you are late, I have appointed so and so or Mrs Y,*” and Mrs Y will act as if she was nominated. I think that is very uncalled for, because the University of Science and Technology must ensure that a nominated person is reporting in good time so that the Minister appoints that person that they have nominated, because nomination is to look for a cloud – people who will support the nomination so that it will not leave the Minister alone to appoint three different people, because three different people did not turn up and eventually those three people would perhaps, be serving the interests of the Minister.

Number 7 (*intervention*)

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HON SPEAKER: Another teacher.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

Prior to this one there is a Section that says – *notices are served where the nominating organisations within a specified period of time should submit their nominations*. Now this one is saying – *if by that time, for whatever reasons*.

Sometimes some people will do it deliberately. *If by that reasonable time as stipulated, no nomination has been received by the Minister, then the Minister should do as the Subsection is saying*. For me it looks like a standard, there are many Laws that have this wording.

HON SPEAKER: Dr Ojo.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you for that input. That is standard, it has a little bit of connotation, but you know it is a suggestion, it could either be taken or it could be left out.

However, you do not want too many nominations that are not turning up. I am just looking at the other side of the story, but one would ideally think that having been nominated, they would actually turn up and be appointed by the Minister. You do not want to leave a loophole in a Law for other things to happen.

But, because it is a new University, we can also infuse some new ideas, because I have had people who were nominated and never turned up for Boards Meetings and you still left them open like that, because there was no other Provision like this, but this could also bring about accusations

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that the Minister is appointing his or her own people into this Council, It does, however, not matter, I think they could look at it critically and balance the act.

Let me go to Number 7 on Page 7. I think it is just English that word should be *except* not *expect* and it is alright. However, that sentence says – *expect a foreigner who is a member of the Council by virtue of...* whatever, it he continues, *...in Namibia may not be appointed or elected as a member of the Council*. I thought it should just end there, you could put a full stop there. What you are actually saying is that you do not want foreigners to be members of the Council and those are the issues that were raised on the Floor of the House.

Then it goes on to say that – *if there is a qualifying and capable Namibian citizen*, then they will not. You see, if you put that kind of qualification, and with my experience of having worked at the University for 20 years, there will always be no qualifying Namibians. Why would you want to put it there? Basically you should just say – *except for a foreigner who is a member of the Council by virtue of his or her office*, let us say he is Dean of the Faculty or whatever; *a foreigner who is not a permanent resident in Namibia may not be appointed or elected as a member of the Council*. Full stop.

Then you can actually say if you want to add something; *a qualifying and capable Namibian citizen shall qualify to be appointed as a Member of the Council*. (Intervention)

HON SPEAKER: Teacher Kazenambo.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you.

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HON KAZENAMBO: Dr, can I ask you a question?

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Yes, sure.

HON KAZENAMBO: Dr, are you saying that having worked at the University of Namibia for 20 years there would always be no qualified Namibian? Did I hear you correctly? What do you imply, because this is really a problem. It is a concern to many of us?

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you. I have actually been a Lecturer 20 years. Ten years outside the country and ten years at the University of Namibia, before I was called. Therefore, my experience has been working with the Founding Vice-Chancellor of the University who is Honourable Professor Peter Katjavivi and he actually insisted I should come home. It was a good move for me to come and contribute here.

What we did at the University of Namibia, and we should talk a little bit about the University of Namibia when you are establishing the University of Science and Technology because they are going to be our two National Universities. We employed Professors, and first of all, Honourable Professor Peter Katjavivi invited all Namibians who were teaching at foreign Universities to come home and that is how I came.

My interview was done, telephonically, I was brought in and my first job was to set up a Centre for External Studies at the University of Namibia that developed a BA Degree in English to teach teachers who could not go to school, but needed to upgrade their qualifications. That is what I came to do. When I got there, I met Professor Dodds who is an English gentleman who was running that Centre. We had very renowned

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Professors at the Faculty and what we did is, we gave them three-year contracts and said, because you are a Professor you must be understudied by a Namibian within the three years. Meanwhile you have a Staff Development Programme. What it meant is that, because most of the Namibians barely had first degrees, they did not have Masters and PhDs, if you want them to get to that level, you would put them on a Staff Development Programme where they were understudies to Professors. The contract of the Professor was linked to the success of the person who is understudying him.

If the Professor is doing very well in grooming a Namibian understudy to take over the office as Dean, he would get a grace period of three extra years, so basically, most of the good Professors would have six years on condition that a Namibian must take over that office. It was a very good strategy. When I became a Director of the Language Centre, I made the centre I ran 80% foreign, specifically British, and 20% Namibian. My mandate was – could you make sure that you turn the table around and make it 80% Namibian and 20% foreign? By the time I left it was like that.

There was a strategy to empower Namibians and I think the University of Science and Technology should do the same. You do not want people to sit in their jobs for too long. You want to tap on their experience and let them go and if they are to be staying, you tap on their experience to empower Namibians. I do not know whether it is answering your question or not, but we tried different ways and I am hoping that this good practice will prevail and the University of Science and Technology will follow that.

I am now moving to the last Page 13.

HON KAZENAMBO: *Hinaa mbazuu* (I did not understand).

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HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: *Meku zuvisa kombunda* (I will make you understand later). He did not understand, but I will explain later.

Page 13, Number 4, this ***thinks it fit!*** *If the Council thinks it fit in the best interests of the University.* Sometimes the Student Representative Council's also *thinks it fit in the best interest of the University.* Therefore, I do not know how you are going to balance the Act. We do not want to assume that it is always the Vice-Chancellor who is right. I do not know how you are going to rephrase that, but maybe what you could say is – *the Vice-Chancellor **can** suspend, as prescribed in the statutes, and... if the Vice-Chancellor or the Council thinks it fit in the best interests of the University.* The **may** – I think somebody raised that issue – is it a **may do** or **can do**? Which is the best? Is it **can do** or is it **may do**?

Let us go to Page 16. I am about to finish. Thank you so much, Honourable Speaker, I think it is because yesterday we prayed, people are quite patient today. I want to speak to Page 16, which is very important to me and it is about ***Subsidies and Loans to University.*** Let us look at 31, it says – “*The Minister, on such terms and conditions as the Minister with the consent of the Minister responsible for Finance may determine, must out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for such purposes.*” I want to say **moneys** is not an English word, money has no plural. It is very collegial, I do not want it in this kind of very credible document. We can talk about funds not moneys. It should be funds. The University is going to be a National University of Science and Technology and it is going to be funded by the Government of the Republic of Namibia through the Minister of Finance.

Therefore, you provide funds, and let me explain why it should not be money or subsidies. When funds are allocated to the University, they can be allocated in different phases. They could be allocated to the University because the University has a project to build some new lecture halls so it would be for infrastructure. Sometimes it could be allocated, because there are subsidies and the subsidy means that you are sponsoring, let us say, ten students to do a course that you think is critical for the country

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and you give the money to the University to train those ten people. That is subsidy, but it is still funding. You can also give funds to the University as bursaries, as loans that they will pay back. The new thing was that they must pay back the money, those were loans and if you take a loan you must pay back. There are also funds that are allocated as scholarship. That is why funds is very inclusive. The Ministry will then decide how to do that.

Grants: Public Institutions are funded by the State. Funds are allocated according to the MTEF or funding formula, and I did not see any funding formula being mentioned, because we worked so hard to get the funding formula in place. The funding formula must be infused in this Section, because what the funding formula says is that, if the University of Science and Technology admits 50 students and the University of Namibia admits 30, because you have a funding formula that says for 30 children you spend this much, you cannot spend the same amount of money. Therefore, it is a determining factor as to how much an Institution will receive, because they are applying the funding formula. I think it is very important, that would take out the way of saying – *this University is getting more than I do, and I have the same number of students*. I think we are on the same page with the Minister. As I explained, funds are better because they can be bursaries, subsidies, scholarships, etcetera and the Ministry of Education can see how they want to label that.

Let me go to offences on the same page. I have only one point there and I took it from 33(a). That point came from the Minister of Trade and Industry when he spoke yesterday and I just want to resolve that issue by suggesting that at the end of the word **Technology**, put the three words ***in that sequence***. ***In that sequence*** will help to clarify whether it is University of Science and Technology or Science and Technology alone or whatever.

Let me go to Page 17. *The N\$20,000.00*, increase the *N\$20,000.00* to *N\$200,000.00* to be commensurate to the five years in prison to prohibit such offences, otherwise through these offences, people will make enough

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N\$20,000.00s to give you and continue to do the job of fraudulent activities. I am, just saying, with five years of imprisonment and N\$20,000.00, people will use your name and provide courses or do whatever they want and give you the N\$20,000.00 fine, which is easy to pay and continue committing the same offence. Therefore, up the money so that it will be commensurate to the years of imprisonment, then people will be deterred from committing such an offence.

Savings and Transitional Provisions: My comment on that is that, the content of this Section is so to say on transitional provisions and there is no mention of the savings provisions, if there is, maybe it is hidden. Therefore, I am saying, infuse some elements of savings provisions. You know what the savings provision does, is problematic. Let us say, you give money to the University for infrastructure, to build an office – they get N\$100,000.00 from the Government. Actually through their own understanding and organisation they get the money and eventually, the N\$100,000.00 you gave them or part of it, will not be used to build the classroom and they save it. That becomes part of the savings of the Institution. We, in the Ministry of Education had a problem allocating more funds to an Institution that has savings, because we are taking the money from the Minister of Finance who in turn takes a loan to raise the money and you end up saving it. Thus the savings provision is a very important element that must be explicated in detail so that you will not have problems.

I am now on the last page, Page 18. I like the part on Page 18, Number 4. This is where Act 33 that established the University is being mentioned and we are getting the assurance that things will not be moved quickly and fast. In view of this Act of 1994 that transformed cost into the Polytechnic and established the Polytechnic of Namibia, we must be cautious as to the gradual processes of transformation. What I basically mean by that is, if you are issuing certificates just because we approve of this Bill, does not mean that the people who registered for the certificate will get a degree from the University of Science and Technology, they will still get a certificate, because the entry requirements for the certificate are different

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from the entry requirements for the degree. That is captured nicely because they are saying – *no, we are going to keep it*, but when you go down to the other level, at Number 5is says – *Any person who at the date of commencement of this Act was registered or provisionally registered as a student of the Polytechnic of Namibia is, with effect from that date, so registered or professionally registered with the University*. It is true that they will become University students, but the courses they are doing are not the University of Science and Technology courses, that is my assumption. Thus, they should be phasing out gradually so that they will get their certificates and diplomas. Meanwhile the new courses that are coming up will be the ones that will then be conferred as degrees.

Transfer of Staff – Number 37. I have this to say on the transfer of staff, that is, 37(1); Science and Technology transition may require updates and upgrades of not only courses, but also of staff in line with its new status and trajectory, as the long awaited University of Science and Technology. What I am actually saying here is – the upgrade I talked about – all the people who are at the Polytechnic of Namibia now as we adopt this Act, are not necessarily suitable to continue as such. How do you transfer all of them from the Polytechnic to be staff of the University? I think there should be some sieving mechanisms so that they will be aligned to your whole new trajectory.

In conclusion; my conclusion has two points and I will read it slowly, because I have spoken for a long time. It is extremely important to take into cognisance the input to enhance, strengthen and refine this Bill. People have spoken before me had good ideas. I have also spoken and it is very important that these ideas are taken into cognisance to refine this Bill so that we pass it quickly.

However, I am trying to urge that the trajectory of UST, which is the University of Science and Technology, should be anchored on its humble beginnings as cost, then a centre of UNAM. Its evolution should inform its transformation. What do I mean by that? When you go through the evolutionary processes, you are building, you are picking and you are

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picking those ones who could not make 25 points and you build them up and the University will say – *my entry requirement is 25 points and you had 23*, so you would take those students on board and teach them to become something after that. What happens to that gap? Therefore, when you do it, that evolutionary process of change should be taken into consideration so that you do not drop these people.

We do not have another Polytechnic at the moment and we are not going to create another Polytechnic immediately. Create something that will continue to help those people who need help so that they will be able to access the University of Science and Technology. I thank you for your kind attention.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, for a substantive contribution. Honourable Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Like Honourable Dr Becky Ndjoze-Ojo who spent 20 years of association with a University as an academic, I too spent close to 20 years associated with a University as a student culminating in five University Degrees in various fields.

It is also important to mention that, at one stage I served as a member of the University Senate under the Chairmanship of Honourable Professor Katjavivi. (*Interjections*) I have been around. And I participated in the drafting and adopting of the University Statutes. I am, therefore, an authority to speak on the subject matter.

I am going to address some general principles and several Provisions in the Bill. One thing I would want to talk about is under Section 7 of the *University of Science and Technology Bill* that deals with the Constitution

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of the University Council. I see the composition made provision for one representative of the Student Representative Council. If you have a general view at various components of the University; you have the Senate representation, you have the setting of administrative staff, you have management and so on. However, the idea is to have as much as a broad representation as possible, because it is a policy making body. If I recall my good Neighbour here with whom I served in the Student Representative Council, when I was in the Senate, he was in the Council and we used to have two representatives of the students for the Council. I think it will just be fair to expand the representation of students from one to two. This should also apply to representation in the Senate, so that we have two representatives for students both for the Council as well as for the Senate.

I am addressing myself on the same Provision of Section 7, on the very issue that Honourable Dr Becky Ndjoze-Ojo also touched on, which is the representation in Council, under Subsection (6), but I beg to differ. Firstly, why the university is called University, it is because it is universal. Knowledge is shared. That is why you have moderators of examinations that are from outside the country called external examiners. It is for that reason that many the Universities worldwide have a practice of having people from other countries to serve on their Councils. It is for knowledge sharing.

Honourable Professor Katjavivi here would attest to this that we had a representation on the University Council of renowned international academics who served on the University Council and enriched the development of the University. Those of you that were associated with UNIN would recall Professor Adebayo Adedeji who was chairing the Senate of Union in Zambia. I would, therefore, really want us to carefully look at the Provision that we have put here that is going to deprive the University of the required knowledge. You cannot localise or nationalise the knowledge of the University. Therefore, it is important to have representation from the worldwide academic community in the University Council. That is why it is called University.

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I would also want to look at the Provision of Section 13. I am particularly raising this for the purpose of uniformity, looking at what the practice is of the University of Namibia, but not only uniformity, but also continuity. I see the Term of Office of Vice-Chancellor here is put at five years. The term of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (*intervention*)

HON KAZENAMBO: Point of Information to my Honourable Brother.

HON SPEAKER: *Compañero*.

HON KAZENAMBO: My Educated Brother, the concern from the local boys and girls is that we do really appreciate that Universities must not localise, they must not nationalise, but the concern is that we have got graduates and doctors from renowned Universities, who are from the University of – name it, from across the globe, who are working at these Institutions.

I heard my Honourable Sister here talking about a Development Programme, but it looks like it ends at just development. When it comes to leadership and full participation, we are not seeing it. This is what the concern is. Otherwise, we know how Universities work – many of the people sitting here, some of them are associate professors, some of them are visiting professors and what not, but the visiting ones should not be visiting permanently. That is the concern.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Mushelenga, continue.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, but I think we are talking about different things.

HON KAZENAMBO: Oh, is that the case?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Yes. I am talking about representation in the Council. In the table that I provided, for example, Dr Chiviya who was serving in the University Council, was a Vice-Chancellor of the Copperbelt University in Zambia. His membership to the University Council does not take away anyone's job, because there is already provision for that.

I will go back, I was talking about the Terms of Office. Firstly, I know at the University of Namibia the Term of Office is six years, but I do not know why we want the University of Science and Technology to have five years. If both are Government Institutions of Higher Learning, why do we not maintain uniformity?

Secondly, I do not see Terms of Office for the Deputy Vice-Chancellor implying that they are perhaps supposed to be permanently employed, but the practice for a University is also that Deputy Vice-Chancellors are put on contract. For example, at the University of Namibia, we had a Deputy Vice-Chancellor for five years and Vice-Chancellor for six years, meaning that their terms will not be expiring at the same time for the purpose of continuity. Maybe it is another thing that the Minister would want to look at.

Looking at the Composition of Senate on Section 15(2)(e), perhaps it is just to add, where it says – *Heads of Academic Departments and/or Centres*, because you have Academic Centres in the Universities like the Language Centres, and so on, whose Heads such as Directors of Centres

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or Director of some other Academic Bureaus also deal with academic issues inasmuch as the Deans and Heads of Departments, who are also supposed to be members of the Senate. However, if you leave the wording as it currently is, you exclude those Heads of Academic Centres or University. Academic Centres would also then include the Librarian, for example. (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: May I ask Honourable Mushelenga a question?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Accepted.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: On Section 7(7) on the issue of the Council of University; I listened to your argument that the University can acquire knowledge from somebody who is not Namibian for enrichment. The only thing that I always argue about in this House is that, no matter how skilful a person who is an expatriate is his or her aims and objectives are more of the nest than the egg. The way we allow these people to become managers (*Intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Please lift up your microphone closer to you.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: I am saying any person who comes here – in simple bush language as a layman – always protects his/her employment. That is what I mean by saying a person is always the nest and not the egg, therefore, push the egg off so that they cannot hatch. That is why we always need to be careful not to let this person become a manager. This person must have somebody to report to as opposed to you who is supposed to have his or her skills, reporting to him/her. That is the question. Not necessarily that we must not have a technical advisor, but when it comes to decision-making, they must not take decisions. That is where the bone of contention lies.

For example, before Gaddafi was killed, whether you were a scientist under his administration at the time, you will never be made a head. We were enriched by that man. You will always work under a Libyan and you will report to him/her. He/she would then also be in a position to talk to you in a meeting. If you make a person a superior, how are you to talk to them or even analyse their expertise?

I think those are the issues we need to work out. We can have them as advisors, but not as heads. They must always have an understudy, however, after 25 of understudies should bear fruitful results. Those are the issues I think we need to look at, Comrade. It is not necessarily that we do not want to tap on the experience of expatriates (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I think the point is taken, Comrade.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Honourable Speaker, with due respect to the Honourable Members, I think they are really speaking of things I did not mention. I thus, want people to listen carefully to what I am saying so that they do not take what I am saying out of context and things get misinterpreted. (*Interjections*)

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I was addressing myself on the Council, I am not talking about management issues. I am not talking about management issues, and a Council of a University is not the same as other Institutions that we are speaking of. A University operates differently.

I gave an example those persons that I know of, who served on the University Council are usually people who are, for example, serving as Vice-Chancellors of other Universities, who are purposely brought here to exchange knowledge. They do not come here for employment purposes, they are not employed they are Council members. They come here to share University experiences, therefore, they sit in a Council meeting and they go. This is what I am talking about.

HON MEMBER: Knowledge is universal.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: I am responding and I am not done. They are sharing experiences with what the Universities are rendering. Let us not confuse these things with expatriates who are coming to the University to be employed. These are two different issues.

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON KAZENAMBO: That is still a different thing.

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HON SPEAKER: Honourable Ndjoze-Ojo.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I actually spoke at length and I did not want to intervene, but it is just that the Honourable Member just mentioned that we were looking at Page 7, Number 7. That statement is saying – maybe I should read it, because that is what the statement is saying. The statement is not denying foreigners to be Members of the Council. It is not saying that.

If you are a foreigner and you are a Dean of the Faculty of Science and, because this University is going to tap on foreigners for Deans of Faculty of Science because they are looking for the best Scientists, they could be members of the Council. That is what that statement says. They say; *expect for a foreigner who is a member of the Council by virtue of his or her office*, which could be the Dean or the Professor. Therefore, those people are going to be part of the Council.

Then they say; *a foreigner who is not a permanent resident in Namibia may not be appointed or elected as a member of the Council*. What it means is that (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: I want Honourable Mushelenga to reclaim his opportunity because I have (*intervention*)

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: That is the information that is in here. In that statement it is just saying, there will be many Deans who are foreigners and they will still be members of the Council. The kind of Council member you are talking about is like when we had a Pro-Vice-Chancellor Academic Affairs and Research, Professor Keto Mshigeni. He was a

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Founding Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University. When he left, because we wanted to tap on his scientific provost, we kept him on the Council of the University (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Could I return the Floor to Honourable Mushelenga?

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Yes, sure.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. The Learned Doctor also misunderstood my point.

I am talking about what you will call in a company, non-executive directors. Suppose in a University, we have all the Pro-Vice-Chancellors and all the Deans who are Namibians, will you not need Non-Executive Council members who come and share their experiences? That is the point I am raising, which is currently prohibited here. Yes, is the point I am raising. I am not talking about employees of the University, like the Professor Mshigeni, the example that the Doctor gave.

Honourable Speaker, I was going to talk about the (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: You will have the Floor when we come back tomorrow.

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HON P MUSHELENGA**

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Honourable
Speaker I was (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: You will have the Floor tomorrow.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: But
Honourable Speaker, there was a Motion to extend the time.

HON SPEAKER: We have reached that point. What are you saying?
You extended time? Have you have extended the time?

HON MEMBER: Yes.

HON SPEAKER: We have apparently extended the time. Continue
Honourable Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Yes,
Honourable Speaker. Thank you.

I want to address myself to the issue of the University Statutes, I lost what
page it was. It is Section 35, but before I go there, let me go to Section 31
that deals with Subsidies and Loans to the University.

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I have not seen Provisions in this Act about other incomes to the University and I think the general trend is that Institutions like the University, just like we have done with the *University of Namibia Act*, we should provide for incomes (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Let us listen to Honourable Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: For income to the University to be at least exempted from tax. That is now when students are paying fees or when someone gives a donation to the University. This income should be exempted from tax – if only we can include it in the Bill, I know it is included in the *University of Namibia Act*, so that the University is not treated like any other Corporate Institution that receives income and pays tax and so on.

Then we go to the issue of statutes, Section 35: The current Provision in this Section that just says that when a statute is proposed by Council, it would become valid when Council has consulted with Senate. I would want this Provision to go further than that. Firstly, University Statutes deal mostly with academic issues. These are the issues where matters like conferment of degrees, examinations and all other things are dealt with.

The Council is not an Academic Institution, it is a Policy-making Institution. The practice has been that statutes are approved by Council, but also by Senate. They cannot be just consultation, but Senate must approve statutes, because statutes deal with academic issues and Senate is the one that is an academic policy-making body. Council has just various people, not all of them are academics, except for those who are there by virtue of their positions like the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy-Vice Chancellors. Therefore, I would really want the Minister to consider that statutes become only valid after approval by Senate also, not just that

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Council consult with the Senate, but approval by the Senate is also important.

Honourable Dr Becky Ndjoze-Ojo mentioned something about Section 4, the issue of the juristic persons. I think in the current reading, it is fine from a legal perspective, because with the objectives, we do not necessarily need to think about a juristic person. The current reading must be fine.

The issue of Section 6(d), I also think it is fine the way it is, that there is cross referencing and. You know, in Law there is what they call pre-emptory and directory Provisions. *May* is a directory Provision, which gives the Council a leeway to either appoint or not appoint. I think it is fine the way it is reading currently.

With these few words, Honourable Speaker, I put my case to rest.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Ulenga, who is also my name sake.

HON ULENGA: Honourable Speaker, after the last two speakers on the subject on the Table, I think I will have to preface my contribution with the following.

First of all, I think we should all – not necessarily sing – but wish Honourable Dr Becky Ndjoze-Ojo a very Happy Birthday. Honourable Dr Ojo, is a lovely person and a very Good Sister of mine, but today I must say, in addition to that, you really spoke English as it is *spoke*.

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HON MEMBER: Spoken.

HON ULENGA: Not spoken, as it is spoke (*laughter*) the Queen's language. I sat here listening to her and I was wondering whether I should stand up and speak, because clearly I cannot fit her shoes on to my small feet. After her, the Honourable Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs also spoke, yes, very well definitely. It just shows that some of the products of UNAM at least (*interjection*)

HON MEMBER: All!

HON ULENGA: No, I cannot say all. (*Interjections*) Sorry?

HON MEMBER: What about the ones who are sitting here?

HON ULENGA: Yes, that is right, that is why I am saying, at least, some of the products, I am including all those Members who are here in that *some*.

Honourable Speaker, I have never seen the inside of a University except for, perhaps, a demonstration or two (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: You had at Robin Island.

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HON MEMBER: You were at Robin University. (*Laughter*)

HON ULENGA: Honourable Speaker, having said that (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: You speak well, you write well.

HON ULENGA: I was looking at this document and I also saw the Minister's hurried tones and places yesterday, when he made the introduction and I thought the Minister is trying to pass this Bill under the radar. It looks like the document is not that well put together and the language seems to be quite awful. It does not look like it fits into what it should be, a document introducing the enactment of the University.

Just as an example, Honourable Dr Ndjoze-Ojo pointed out at that possible ambiguity between *Constitution* and **constitution**. Sometimes the mere capitalisation of the first letter helps things, but here I see, on Page 13, it is not clear what constitution we are talking about here. On Page 13, where you were talking about the Student Representative Council under 23(1)(b) *if the constitution of such body is approved by the Council*, an Amendment of the constitution, the constitution of such body, is it the bringing together or is it the document?

HON MEMBER: The document.

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HON ULENGA: It is not clear, at least, it should be capital. If it is capital then there is no doubt. We are talking about the document, we are not talking about constituting. I have seen, on several occasions, similar kind of ambiguities, like it is not very clear what it is meant.

There was another one, on this very same Section 23(1)(a); *the Council must recognise such body as the Students' Representative Council of the University – if a body is established by the students of the University*; is it if *a* body or if *the* body? I am not so sure.

Anyhow, Honourable Speaker, I want to move on and go to my written notes. Like I said, I am not really that qualified to speak on this Bill with all due respect. I know that I represent people here, but those who speak from a qualified position have spoken.

HON SPEAKER: You are a self educated intellectual, my name sake.

HON ULENGA: Modern societies need people with scientific and technological qualifications at the highest levels as well as a general public that has a broad understanding of the contents and methods of Science and Technology, coupled with an insight into the role as social forces that shape the future.

Many people have spoken yesterday about these kind of force as a possible social force that may shape the future of our country. It is that importance that everybody who spoke, is attaching to the creation of this University. I think it is at that level and in that context that everybody should be supporting, and I am supporting also the Bill on the Table.

Science and Technology are major cultural products of human history and all citizens, independent of their occupational needs, should be acquainted

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with these as elements of human culture. I understand that Namibians can at least claim the invention of the match, unlike what my Brother Honourable Kazenambo said yesterday. Of course, the Namibians have invented the match. Other cultures have refined the use and the shape of the match, but that tool, by which you make fire, by the use of frictioning two pieces of wood together, that is the match. Is it not? And it originates from here.

I understand that, at least 200,000 years ago, according to those who dig underneath the ground and establish the origin of these things, that kind of instrument has been used here on the Namibian soil.

HON MEMBER: Where?

HON ULENGA: Go and Google. We have invented the match. We must just take the tradition a bit further and come onto the bandwagon and invent new tools.

Honourable Speaker, what I just read here was not my own creation. I actually quoted from a noted Swedish scholar, Dr Svein Sjøberg, of the University of Oslo. Why do we need a University of Science and Technology? I am told, this is very important, and I need to say it. Some people there have approached me and called me.

Honourable Speaker, one thing that we are suffering from in Namibia, is the lack of science teachers at Secondary School level, even at primary school level. We need to train science teachers, people who can go out there and teach, but teach science and mathematics.

Unfortunately, nowadays there are two very negative perceptions that are attached to science and mathematics. Number 1: They are unfashionable.

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Number 2: People believe these subjects to be difficult. None of the two is correct, but we need to create a culture, we need to enhance a culture that denies these kinds of perceptions. Science just needs hard work, concentration, none of which, unfortunately, is any attribute to the youth culture of today. However, if we can make our young, upcoming Namibians to work very hard and to concentrate their thoughts on one particular thing, we will be able to train good scientists and mathematicians, and also good teachers in Science and Technology. Therefore, the need of teachers is spoken about. We cannot rely on other foreign Universities to train these teachers for us. Therefore, we need to have Namibians trained here in Namibia.

I have been listening to many Namibians talking, especially Namibians of today. There is this, whether it is *quasi-science* or is it *pseudo-science* or is it *anti-science*, the contradiction of science. The approach that – *science alone does not explain anything*. We should remember that even God Himself will need scientists (*interjections*) no, I am making a clear statement of fact, I know what I am talking about.

HON SPEAKER: Yes, but I am listening to your exact explanation. Yes?

HON ULENGA: God himself will need scientists to clarify Him and His work to mankind more fully.

HON SPEAKER: Say it again (*laughter*)

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HON ULENGA**

HON ULENGA: Let me say these simple words. We need science and science teachers to explain to us the work of God. In that sense, God needs scientists to teach, not just His word (*intervention*)

HON MEMBER: Why do you not just stop there?

HON ULENGA: Oh, must I just stop there? Right. There are those (*intervention*)

HON MEMBER: God needs scientists?

HON ULENGA: God needs scientists to do His work.

HON MEMBER: That is very difficult information you are providing.

HON ULENGA: We need to become more scientific in our world view and even in our philosophical approach to what exists and to what goes on around us. That is what I mean when I said God Himself will need these kinds of people.

Unfortunately, in today's world, the role models that we have around us are in making music, making money, even in fighting – I understand there is a good boxing match coming up – and none in Science and Technology.

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HON ULENGA**

Therefore, it is very important, Honourable Minister of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture, I heard the rumour that you are going to continue to be the next Minister of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture.

HON MEMBER: Are you the President?

HON ULENGA: I heard the rumour. I would not be relying on rumours if I was the President.

It is not just a University that we need to set up, we need to change the mindset and even the cultural approach of our people, to see the importance of scientific knowledge, of school and of specifically learning science and thinking science in our schools and education. That trend I have spoken about.

I hear, Honourable Speaker, the decline of the hijacking of Institutions of Learning for friends, families, colleagues, people and comrades. People are saying these Institution that we are setting up, should at least be what we are claiming it to be. It must not be an excuse, it must not be paying lip service to Education and to Science and Technology, where you set up a University and say on the one hand – *yes, we have set up all these Institutions*, and on the other hand somebody comes in, invite all their friends here at the back, like Honourable Kazenambo was saying yesterday, they have them lined up here at the back and then start putting in these people, not on the basis of what they can contribute to our scientific knowledge and to our Education System, but on the basis of family, *chommies* and friends.

Is Honourable Dr Peya Mushelenga still here? Honourable Mushelenga mentioned and talked a bit about the funding of the Institutions.

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HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

Honourable Speaker, I understand from all those who are coming from these Institutions that, clearly, what Government has been doing in terms of funding Institutions of Learning, so far, has simply just not been anywhere near enough. Some people fear that this was going to happen again, that we set up an Institution that we call the University of Science and Technology, put N\$2 million aside for its funding and leave it there. It will be a fish outside the water, it will die a natural death. There is a need, not just to set up these Institutions, but to fund them sufficiently.

There is a question of involving qualified Namibians in these Institutions of Learning, including the University of Science and Technology. I agree with what the Honourable Kazenambo had to say about this issue. However, I think it is important to remember, balancing. While on the one hand you need to involve those qualified Namibians, like somebody else was saying, a University goes beyond that, and select wherever it can, especially also in foreign countries those who can do this job best. That is why it is called a University.

While we need to look at Namibians who are sufficiently and appropriately qualified, we also need to make sure that we can take all kinds of skills and knowledge that we have all over the world and bring them here, to make sure that Namibians benefit from these skills and knowledge. Honourable Speaker, I rest my case. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Professor Katjavivi.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members, I thank you for this opportunity you granted me to make a contribution towards the discussion on the *University of Science and Technology Bill*.

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HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

I would like to outline a few hints that I feel will be vital for us to smoothly and efficiently transform the Polytechnic of Namibia into a fully fledged University of Science and Technology.

These issues include staff development and by staff development, we are talking about capacity building both for the teaching staff as well as the support staff; funding improved facilities, space for infrastructural expansion, regional expansion and national and international networking.

With respect to national and international networking, Honourable Speaker, the Institution is encouraged to further develop collaborative linkages and networking with sister Institutions within the country and internationally so as to share experiences, exchange of teaching staff and students on sandwich programmes as well as share research projects of regional and international significance.

Honourable Speaker, on staff development, we are talking about, the Institution needs more Post Graduate staff, holders of PhDs to Masters Degrees, particularly, for its teaching staff. Staff development should be seen as an instrument for advancing Post Graduate Training, and the Institution is encouraged to have a well developed programme for this purpose. The Institution is commended for having already identified this deficit and, in fact, we are aware that they are trying to address it by encouraging as many of its current staff to enrol for Post Graduate studies at the level of Masters and Doctorates.

However, more needs to be done in terms of international exposure of the staff. I have taken note of the fact that the Rector and his team have embarked on this kind of initiatives. All what is left for me is to wish Rector and his team well, as they embark upon this important National Institution. The transformation of an Institution is never easy, but I am absolutely confident that they have the will and determination, and above all, they have the support of our Government to make this important project a success.

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

With these few words, Honourable Speaker, I welcome the Bill and I fully support it. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. That was my list, it is exhausted now. What remains for me to do, is to inform you that the House shall now rise and I shall be waiting for you here before 14:30 tomorrow. That is the Law at the moment.

HOUSE ADJOURNS AT 18:15 UNTIL 2015.03.19 AT 14:30

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
WINDHOEK
19 MARCH 2015**

The Assembly met pursuant to the adjournment.

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

HON SPEAKER: I am waiting for the Honourable Members to conclude their consultations. If you are done indicate to me that you are done.

Any Petitions? Reports of Standing or Select Committees? Other Reports and Papers? Notice of Questions? Notice of Motions? Chief Whip.

MOTION ON BUSINESS OF ASSEMBLY

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, I Move without Notice that the Proceedings of the Business on the Order Paper be, in terms of Rule 90(c) of the Standing Rules and Orders, not interrupted if still under consideration at 17:45. I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: 17:45. That is quarter to six?

NOTICE OF MOTION

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Yes, Honourable Speaker. I also have another Notice of Motion.

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON KATALI**

I give Notice that today, the 19th of March 2015, I shall Move an unopposed Motion that this Assembly, after the disposal of all Orders of the Day, bid farewell to the outgoing Speaker of the National Assembly, as well as all outgoing Members of this House in a manner befitting their contribution to this country and its people. I so Move, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Member, please table the Motions. By the way, I am not going anywhere. (*Laughter*)

I was told, one of the Ministers is going to make a Ministerial Statement. Yes, Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Thank you. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members.

The Honourable Members, you remember that the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Economics, Natural Resources and Public Administration organised a Renewable Energy Conference, which was held on the 14th to the 15th of April 2014, at the National Assembly Chamber.

The Conference discussed and made the following 12 recommendations to be implemented by the Ministry of Mines and Energy. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, allow me to read the recommendations followed by the status of each of the recommendations:

- 1) The Ministry of Mines and Energy to draft a Renewable Energy and

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON KATALI**

Energy Efficiency Policy and an Associated Renewable Energy Law as a matter of urgency.

The Status: The process of drafting a Renewable Energy Policy started back in 2013, where consultants sponsored by the Commonwealth are working with the Electricity Control Board.

The first draft was already presented and discussed at a Stakeholders' Workshop in February this year. The Ministry of Mines and Energy, the ECB, Nampower and the Namibia Energy Institute are planning another two-day retreat by the end of this month to finalise the draft before it is presented to the wide stakeholder community in Namibia.

- 2) The Ministry of Mines and Energy avails Net Metering for Domestic Solar Photovoltaic Installation across all electricity distribution and supply entities in the country, except if these do already offer a reasonable Feed-in Tariffs for such systems and that appropriate legislation and regulation is finalised as a matter of urgency.

The Response: The Net Metering Rules and Regulations have been developed and approved by the Minister and are now at the stage of promulgation. Previously, only Erongo Region had Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariffs.

- 3) Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariffs must be finalised as a matter of priority by the Electricity Control Board.

The Response: The Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariffs Rules are at an advanced stage now awaiting promulgation spearheaded by the Electricity Control Board. An interim Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariffs Programme is currently under way in which 70 Megawatts is reserved for Solar Photovoltaic, Biomass as well as Wind Projects for less than 5 Megawatts per Project.

The ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of a grid-connected 4.5 Megawatts Photovoltaic Power Plant took place at

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
HON KATALI**

Omburu late 2014, and construction is now in progress.

- 4) The Ministry of Mines and Energy introduces the necessary financial mechanisms to allow all domestic residents to be fitted with a solar water heater.

The Response: The Solar Revolving Fund has been operational since 1996, and finances the purchase and installation of Domestic Solar Water Heaters, Photovoltaic Home Systems and Solar Water Pumping Systems to the cost of between N\$6,000.00 and N\$35,000.00 per Project. An opportunity exists to already install Solar Water Heaters on the houses to be constructed under the Mass Housing Project.

NHE needs to be instructed to include a Solar Water Heater on each of the houses constructed under the programme. The Environmental Investment Fund, the Small-Medium Enterprise, Green Soft Loans Scheme is in place, which caters for larger systems up to N\$100,000.00. Nampower is soon to introduce a Demand-Side Management Campaign on Solar Water Heaters where it will subsidise 20 million Solar Water Heaters.

- 5) The Ministry of Mines and Energy develops National Energy Efficiency Standards and that the Government takes the lead in implementing these in all Government Institutions and Public buildings.

The Status: The Namibia Energy Efficiency Programme in Building Projects, funded by the GEF and managed by the NEI, saw the founding of the Green Building Council of Namibia in 2013. The Green Building Council of Namibia is an independent non-profit organisation that will implement the Voluntary Green Star-rating Tool for buildings a best practice standard of measurement for Green Buildings. A technical Committee on Renewable Energy has been established under the Namibian Standards Institute.

The Committee is registering and testing new products, as well as the

registration and accreditation of Solar Energy Service Providers.

- 6) The Ministry of Mines and Energy puts forward Explicit National Renewable Energy Target as well as Energy Efficiency Target focusing on both the country's Transport Sector, which is the single largest user of Liquid Fuels as well as on technologies requiring electricity for their operations.

The Status: Explicit National Renewable Energy Targets as well as Energy Efficiency Targets are yet to be determined and announced. This will also be included in the Renewable Energy Policy that is being developed.

- 7) The Ministry of Mines and Energy lay down the relevant criteria for the definition and measurement of the productive use of energy in general and electricity in particular, and that relevant activities and measures are formulated to reduce Namibia's energy intensity and promote the uptake and focus on the productive use of sustainable energy and energy efficient technologies for the sustainable development of the country.

The Response: There is a policy instrument for Solar Water Heating on Public Buildings and several training and demonstrations initiatives in Solar Energy are run on a yearly basis, for example, the training of technicians, energy shop owners and Solar Energy System Installers.

- 8) The Ministry of Education to ensure that sustainable energy is included in school curricula to emphasise the importance of sustainable energy for future generations.

The Status: The Vocational Training Centre has been involved in both theoretical and practical training on Solar Water Heating. The NTA initiated a formulation of credit system for both Solar Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Applications for Vocational Training Centres level, courses and a technical working group to develop the unit standards.

- 9) The Ministry of Regional and Local Government Housing and Rural Development to ensure that all Government Housing Programmes includes energy efficiency and Renewable Energy Applications at the planning phase.

The Response: A distinct opportunity exists in the National Housing Enterprise implementing the Mass Housing Project through an extension of the Cabinet directive that is already in existence on Solar Water Heating in Public Buildings to also be extended to the Government Housing Programmes.

- 10) Namibia's considerable vulnerability to a changing climate is recognised in both policy development and the revision of National Policies and that vulnerable Sectors, that specifically include the country's Water, Agriculture and Energy Sectors must take explicit action to mitigate against such impacts and change legislations, regulations and processes to allow the Nation to better adapt to such external factors.

The Response: A Second Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Workshop that took place on the 11th of March, this year, addressing the issues of water, energy and environment is for that purpose. Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, developing countries have agreed to prepare and implement NAMA in the context of sustainable development supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity building aimed at achieving a deviation in emission relative to businesses as usual emission as it would be outlined in their intended nationally determined contributions.

The draft NAMA presented at the consultation meeting shall help Namibia to deploy Renewably Energy skills and enable Namibia to achieve rural electrification in a sustainable manner.

- 11) The Ministry of Mines and Energy to draft an Implementation Strategy and Action Plan for Socioeconomic and Environmental Impact of

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**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS
HON AMATHILA**

Renewable Energy. This is to be announced when the plan is developed.

12 Comrade Speaker, the Ministry of Mines and Energy in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry to carry out an assessment on the viability and requirements of initiating local Solar Water Heater Assembly or Manufacturing Plants. This must be included under the Ministry of Trade and Industry's promotion of local value addition priorities.

The Status: This will be announced once the assessment by the relevant Ministry has been initiated.

I thank you, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister for the information. Any other Ministerial Statements? None. Any other interventions other than what I have on the Order Paper?

Today is Thursday, you are free to put questions. If there are no questions, Honourable Amathila.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

HON AMATHILA: Comrade Speaker, Honourable Colleagues in the House, I may break the Rules by taking the route that I am going to take now. Firstly, when I came here this afternoon, I saw movement of people, some hugging each other, kissing each other and patting each other on the shoulders.

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**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS
HON AMATHILA**

HON SPEAKER: Well, according to our Rules, that is allowed.
(Laughter)

HON AMATHILA: I just realised that I missed out on the day's activities. It looks like something has happened which will touch the lives and the lifespan of this House in such a way that Colleagues whom I used to know very well have been given quite a lot of responsibilities. I would like to take this opportunity to say congratulations when the day happens. Our country needs you all to carry the burden of developing our country to the best of our abilities.

Comrade Speaker, the reason why I am rising is actually in response to the Minister of Mines and Energy. In his reply I like to thank him very much and I like to do this on behalf of the Committee on Economics.

HON SPEAKER: Would it not be proper if you that under the Motion by the Chief Whip. I do not know whether you were here, but there is a Motion by the Chief Whip.

HON AMATHILA: That is why I am trying to say that, I am maybe violating the Rules, but I wanted to react to his Statement.

HON SPEAKER: There will be an opportunity. Some persons among those who will not return are slated to listen – you can sit down in the meantime – to one or two things that the House, through the Chief Whip, had intimated to say about them. You hinted that the Minister concern, about whom you spoke, may be subject to verification, be among those who maybe included in that.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: VETERANS
AMENDMENT BILL
HON DR IYAMBO**

There, I reckon, as my friend used to say, that there would be an opportunity to respond to what you were trying to respond, but there will be an opportunity. We will have a moment to go to one or two things, including what you had wanted to say. Why do we not just defer that for now and we proceed with the Order Paper, as long as we do not forget what had triggered you to rise.

We will have an opportunity, I am looking at the programme that I have in front of me and we are not going to lose much time. I am directing you to defer what you had wanted to say until that opportunity, which would include all of us.

The Secretary will read the First Order of the Day.

**COMMITTEE STAGE: VETERANS
AMENDMENT BILL [B.4 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Committee Stage – *Veterans Amendment Bill* [B.4 – 2015].

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

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE: VETERANS
AMENDMENT BILL**

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

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
The Whole House Committee is called to order. The Whole House Committee has to consider the *Veterans Amendment Bill* [B.4 – 2015].

Clauses 1 and 2 put. Agreed to.

Title put. Any discussion? Agreed to.

I shall report the Bill without Amendments. We are just waiting for the Speaker.

Honourable Speaker the Committee has gone through the *Veterans Amendment Bill* [B.4 – 2015] as set forth in the accompanying documents and agreed to it without Amendments.

Bill reported with Amendments.

ASSEMBLY RESUMES

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**THIRD READING - VETERANS
AMENDMENT BILL
HON DR IYAMBO**

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be now read a Third Time?

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: I Move so, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objections? Agreed to. Any further discussion? Minister of Defence.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you for working on our behalf. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: I join you in that. Does the Honourable Minister wish to reply?

HON MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS: Those Colleagues who are not coming to the next Parliament, we are trying to make a special arrangement for them so that they can get attended to, simply because during the registration, people were busy with legislative issues, when people were registering they were busy somewhere else, but now the time has come that some are going to their villages. After this you now have a golden opportunity to go the Ministry, the Board is assembled there and I am sure, those of you who qualify, once you submit your application it will be attended to as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE – NAMIBIAN
CITIZENSHIP (SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

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

THIRD READING – VETERANS AMENDMENT BILL [B.4. – 2015]

SECRETARY: *Veterans Amendment Bill* [B.4 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: The Secretary will read the Second Order.

**COMMITTEE STAGE - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
SECOND SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Committee Stage - *Namibian Citizenship Second Special Conferment Bill* [B.3 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

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**COMMITTEE STAGE – NAMIBIAN
CITIZENSHIP (SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON MAAMBERUA**

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

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
The Committee has to consider the *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill* [B.3 – 2015].

Clause 1 put. Agreed to.

I put Clause 2. Any discussion? I recognise the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:
Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I Move that in Clause 2(1) substitute *five years* with *ten years*.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Kindly table the Amendment. Any discussions on the Amendment? I recognise Honourable Maamberua.

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

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HON MAAMBERUA**

Regarding this Clause 2(1), I wish to recall that yesterday, during the discussions of this matter, we arrived at some amicable understanding regarding the way forward, specifically on this Clause. It was to be ascertained as to whether the choice was between the constitutional interpretation and the Bill or the Bill and those Clauses within the Bill.

When I took the Floor, and I was the last to speak before the Minister replied, the Speaker ascertained from the House as to whether what I have submitted that the choice was between the removal of the ten years and keeping then the rest of the Bill as is, plus the ascertainment that we needed to send for interpretation, through the Attorney-General, to request the Attorney-General to ask for the legal interpretation of that Citizenship by Descent as provided for in the Constitution and that was to be one of the issues in that respect.

The Speaker then asked the House whether that was understanding of the House. He also asked whether there was any objection and there was none. That is, if I have to repeat, to just make sure that we were saying that we are sending for interpretation, the Citizenship by Descent through the Attorney-General to the Supreme Court. That is a separate matter, but that was the understanding yesterday, and that we remove the ten years from the Bill and the Bill would be passed without the ten years. That was what was asked by the Speaker as to whether there was any objection and there was no objection. That is how it was ascertained. Therefore *(intervention)*

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Can we listen please?

HON MAAMBERUA: Therefore, I am surprised to see that the ten years Clause is still being brought into the discussion. I think we have to follow

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HON KAZENAMBO**

the street of yesterday and the conclusion as reached by the House. Otherwise, I think we are going to start the discussion all over again. Can we please be as honest as we agreed yesterday and keep the ten years out of the Bill? Thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Did you look at the Amendment as advanced by the Minister? It is five to ten years. It is not ten years. Are you objecting to the Amendment.

HON MAAMBERUA: It is not only my objection. That was the understanding of the House yesterday, that we remove this five or ten years completely from the Bill and we risk everything else. Otherwise, you can look at the record.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Honourable Minister, would you like to respond? Any other discussion before the Minister responds? Yes, Honourable Kazenambo?

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. On the Amendment of this Clause as it is here, Honourable Speaker, unless this august House rescinds its position of yesterday –we were here we have the record, there was a consensus reached yesterday and the Speaker hit the gavel there.

We do not need to shake our heads, we do not need to be what towards each other, we are here in a lawful, respectable august House with records, recorded in the HANSARD and a televised record. We can bring those

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HON KAZENAMBO**

tapes. In fact, I maintained a position before that we are applying a Parliamentary exercise, which is guided by Procedures, Law and Rules.

I said this House can be divided by a vote, which is a normal procedure. Those who are for this evil and notorious Clause to go as it is – we can procedurally do it and those who are going for this Clause can continue. We reached consensus after Professor Katjavivi has proposed a way forward and after the Secretary-General Honourable Mbumba moved a proposal, and after many people spoke. We said these ten years is a notorious, punitive measure. It is notorious and barbaric as it is. We said it must be dropped and removed. Yes! (*Interjections*) It may not be barbaric to you.

People were trying to say that we should not be involved. It was agreed upon, consensus was reached here on two principles that this barbaric ten years, notorious Clause will be dropped. It was agreed as such. Look at your records. If this notorious, evil and satanic Clause is removed – it is satanic as it takes away my Rights. It is satanic as it violates the history of this country. There is no word for it – satanic and evil. We can divide this House and those who are in the majority who are going for a satanic evil spirit, they can prevail (*laughter*) We are going to challenge it in Court, but for me this Clause is satanic and evil. There are no two ways to it. It disgraces my human dignity and it leaves us stateless.

let us look at the records of this House, it was agreed yesterday consensually and the Speaker hit he gavel that the incoming Attorney-General will seek the advice and wisdom of the Court on the issue of descendance and we agreed that the ten years were going to be dropped. Now it is brought here. If we are violating yesterday's spirit and agreement, let us agree on it and move forward, we divide the House and let this notorious thing be passed. *Ongwae tjituso okuriheka kouzemba wetu hapo?* (Why should we beg for our Rights)

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CITIZENSHIP (SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON ULENGA / HON KAZENAMBO**

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Any other discussion on the Amendment as moved, before the Minister responds? I recognise Honourable Ulenga.

HON ULENGA: Thank you, Honourable Deputy Speaker. Before we go forward, I am rising to make sure that I understand the English that is here. The word *substitute* – am I dealing with the right copy of the Amendment? In Clause 2(1) *substitutes five years with ten years*. The word *substitute* does not mean replace.

In my understanding, it is going to be five years and not ten years. Do I understand this correctly? So the ten years is out.

HON MEMBERS: No!

HON ULENGA: My understanding is that we bring in five. I am going to look at this again. Thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Any other discussions? Again?

HON KAZENAMBO: Yes, it will be again and again. Honourable Speaker, before we proceed. (*Intervention*)

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CITIZENSHIP (SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON T MUSHELENGA**

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Chairperson of the Whole House Committee.

HON KAZENAMBO: Chairperson of the Whole House, thank you for reminding me. Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, in my intervention I asked and referred to yesterday's discussions and consensus during Parliament proceedings.

What are the procedures in an event when a Member is referring to a consensus reached yesterday in another Session? What are the procedures, because I am bringing yesterday's consensus before we proceed.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I recognise, Honourable Teopolina Mushelenga.

HON T MUSHELENGA: Thank you, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I just want to say what I think was my understanding from the discussions of yesterday. My understanding yesterday was that the Minister will move the Amendment as she did today and then the consultation with the Attorney-General for the incoming Parliament to approve, was in connection with the Amendment to the Constitution, which Parliament can do to be able to take away all those Clauses that we think are impediments or disturbing the process of helping the members of Namibian society who are outside this country and are descendants of parents, grandparents or great grandparents who were born in Namibia. Then the Constitution can be amended. That was my understanding. However, if there is a different understanding, then maybe I did not listening properly, but that is how I understood the discussion

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HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

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

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I recognise Professor Katjavivi.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I am of the view that we should not engage in guessing what was said and what was not said. In view of the time constraint facing this House, I propose that perhaps the best way is to skip this item while we are looking at the record to make sure what the record is saying. After we have been able to establish that, we can revert back to the issue.

I think the record will guide us on what was precisely stated and then we will take that as a basis for making progress. I am saying that we should skip the Amendment and continue while the clerks are checking the record and I do not think it will take long. They can do that as rapidly as possible and then we can revert back to that particular item and we can make progress. Thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: With due respect, Honourable Professor, I was also in the House. I do not think that there was anything clear that was recorded apart from the inferences to be drawn as it was proposed here. I do not think it was a clear-cut consensus that was recorded. It is probably on the basis of inferences and the interpretation of what was said.

On that note, I would like to give Dr Ndjoze-Ojo the Floor and I will

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HON DR NDJOZE-OJO**

come to you once again, before I finally give the Floor to the Minister.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Thank you, Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I actually stood yesterday to thank the prevailing spirit of yesterday, because of the kind of consensus we reached concerning this issue. I just do not know why we are removing the crust from the sore.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Come again.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Do you want me to repeat?

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Yes.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: I actually stood up to commend the Speaker who prayed before we went into this Session, because it was a very heated Session and lot of proposals were made, especially from Honourable Nangolo Mbumba and Professor Peter Katjavivi concerning this issue.

I thought that was the consensus reached that no Amendments will be made until we have resolved this. Meanwhile the people who are in Gam will continue to be helped until that is done. I think we should stand by

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HON MAAMBERUA**

that consensus and we should not remove the crust from the sore to start inviting flies to it. Thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Can you sit down please? Your statement was clear and it was taken. I want other people who want to take the Floor. I am still going to give you the Floor.

HON MAAMBERUA: I just want to clarify what I said.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Okay, clarify what you said.

HON MAAMBERUA: I was the last speaker and I followed Honourable Nangolo Mbumba who proposed that we needed to make a choice between the Constitution and the Bill as it was proposed. When I stood up, following him, I made it clear that the choice is not only between the constitutional interpretation and the Bill, but the choice – these were my words – is between the proposed Bill as is and the proposed Bill amended without the ten years. Yes, and then, since I was the last speaker the Speaker asked the Floor. (*Interjections*) What is your problem? (*Intervention*)

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HON MAAMBERUA**

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Just proceed, do not worry. I have given you the Floor. Just proceed.

HON MAAMBERUA: No, no, I think he is becoming a nuisance now.

HON MEMBER: You interventions are too much!

HON MAAMBERUA: In Parliament you intervene until things are solved. There is nothing like too much here.

Then the Speaker asked whether that was the spirit and the understanding of the House? Any objection? Meaning what I had just concluded (*interjection*) Exactly, because I was the last speaker. And there was no objection. Therefore, that is the interpretation, Honourable Chairperson.

Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, that was the interpretation and that is what we all understood here. I was the last speaker before the Minister could answer. There is no other interpretation apart from the last one, please.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I

take note of that. I will give the chance to the others express themselves on their interpretation of this as well, because we are now caught up in the interpretation of what happened yesterday.

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HON KAURA**

I am going to give people a chance and thereafter I will divide the House.
Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, during the discussions so many points were raised and I do recall that, yes, Honourable Maamberua mentioned that the ten years must be removed and many other proposals.

However, in the end, I do not remember any decision which was taken on the issue of five years that must be removed completely. I do not recall that. Given the fact that we are fortunate that the Honourable Minister is going to continue in her position, as was confirmed today on television by the President to be in two days time. Whatever problems that might arise can be addressed, and she would address them competently. Therefore, we should not be stuck on the ten years to be removed. Let us help the people who want to come in, to come in.

Honourable Maamberua is going to be in this Parliament again, and if you want to revisit the ten years, you can bring it then, but let us pass the Bill and get it done with.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Thank you for that understanding. I will give the Floor once more to Honourable Kazenambo.

Can the Honourable Members, particularly those people who did not take the Floor, press the button so that I can give you a chance to say something? I will give Honourable Kazenambo a last chance. Thereafter, I will divide the House.

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CITIZENSHIP (SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON KAZENAMBO**

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you. It may be dreamt about that I have my personal issues. I have read it in the newspaper that I have apparently clashed with my Senior Minister, Honourable Iivula-Ithana here.

Let me swear to God in Heaven, *Mukuru Keyuru*, in my heart of hearts, I have no personal issue with my Sister here. I clashed on issues with her, I have also clashed with *Meme* Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah there. These are the two people I have clashed with directly, in my career.

In the heart of hearts of this boy standing here, as much as – and I have repeated it elsewhere – as much as I have clashed with her, for those who do not know, we have plotted with her for our life and death. *(Interjection)* Yes! We were humiliated with her for our principles, unless if memories are short. We differ in principle and I am not differing with her as a person, please.

That was just a remark, coming back to this issue, as we are making Laws in this country and we are proceeding the journey of nation building, let us please be consistent and honest. Yesterday, we took a decision here in this House. This House has records. Why can we not revert to the records for good governance and transparency? Why can we not refer to records of this House? They will speak for themselves.

There was consensus on two items based on two separate understandings yesterday. The Speaker was there. Yes, you can stop me, I will sit down and we can divide the House. I have already said my say and I maintain it. There was consensus yesterday on two items. One item is that the Amendment on the Constitution, because the Attorney-General cannot amend it as there is a Constitutional Provision, the incoming Attorney-General should refer the issue of descent to the incoming Government so that the Supreme Court can resolve it. It was an agreed consensus.

On the second item, I elaborated and I will repeat. I said the ten years whether you substitute five years or ten years, it does not help anything to the people who are coming, because this is not an immigration issue.

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HON ULENGA**

With or without it, it can still come, but the issue of ten years limits the affected parties. It violates the Bill of Rights. It violates the issue of statelessness. It makes people stateless. I said it here.

Therefore, the ten years does not serve any purpose, because it does not help people, even the people in Gam and those who are coming, because you cannot put a limit people; you cannot sit in this House and decide when the people in Botswana should come, whether tomorrow or another day and a consensus was reached that the ten years would be dropped. Those were the two items. Let us check the record or let us divide the House.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Last is Honourable Ulenga and then I will give the Honourable Minister the Floor to respond.

HON ULENGA: Honourable Deputy Speaker, honestly speaking, Colleagues, let us not talk as if there is no tomorrow. This is not the end of the world. Whatever we are discussing here we should remain hands on even if there is a change in administration, there is no change in Statehood. There is no change. There are not really such major changes and somebody just referred now to the question of even the particular Minister remaining as is.

However, I must just state here that my understanding yesterday also, for better or for worse, was the one that the Honourable Kazenambo is expressing. However, a minor issue, Honourable Deputy Speaker, is the issue that I raised a few minutes ago on the use of the word *substitute*; with all due respect the way it is used here is wrong, unless you decide to continue to using it as wrongly as it is used, I would suggest that we change the word or we change this sentence. The way this was put

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HON KAURA**

together, seems that you actually meant that you are going to put five years in the place of ten years. I just checked again. I am sure of what I am talking about, of course, with all due humility.

The proper proposition should have been *for*. It should read *substitute* five years *for* ten years and then it would mean you are going to put five years instead of ten years. (*Interjection*)

HON MEMBER: No!

HON ULENGA: On what grounds are you saying no, Honourable Member? (*Intervention*)

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Are you taking the Floor again, Honourable Kaura?

HON KAURA: I just want to ask a question. On the amendment to the *University of Science and Technology Bill*, even in this Bill, let me read it to you: In Clause 1 – *substitute the following sentences for the opening sentence*. The word substitute, which English is that one?

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Which one is that?

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

HON KAURA: This one here. It says substitute – Clause 9, substitute.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you. I will now give the Floor to the Honourable Minister to respond, no, no, I am not giving you Floor again.

HON ULENGA: But he just put a question to me.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Can you also help one another? I will give the Floor to the Honourable Minister to respond to what was advanced.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION:

Thank you, Honourable Chairperson of the Whole House Committee. I want to agree with Honourable Ndjoze-Ojo on what she said yesterday, that in as far that we somewhere lost the spirit of the House, we were able to reclaim it and we concluded the Deliberations on the Bill in a sober mood. That I want to underline.

It is unfortunate that my intervention as the Line Minister at the last concluding Session of this Bill was not listened to by some of the critics. They walked out and I said so. They walked out, they did not pay attention to what I was saying here. I am the Line Minister, I was, I am and I will be. (*Applause*)

Honourable Colleagues, Comrades, Comrade Kazenambo Kazenambo, indeed, my Comrade of a long time, I did not take it that he was

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HON IIVULA-ITHANA**

addressing me as a person. I know that he was addressing an issue and on that issue, the only question I had was that we should not own this project as a private project of certain people. We are talking about an issue in which all of us have an interest, all of us as Namibians. I said so, yesterday. Please stop privatising this Bill. It should not be privatised.

Having said so, Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I said this Bill is a project. It is a project with a limited period of time. It can only be limited. We cannot legislate for citizens of other countries, no! This Law cannot run concurrent with the Constitution. It must have a period within which we tell those who are affected that this project is now running and those who want to benefit from it can do so. We are not legislating for the stateless people sitting somewhere and this must be understood. We are not legislating for stateless people sitting somewhere else.

These people whom we are talking about are citizens of other countries and we can only assist them when they so approach us. We cannot go to other countries and start advocating – *come, we will give you this, come we will give you that*. The Law will now be open, if we conclude our Deliberations, it will be open. It would be known that there is a period of time given for those who feel they have a link to Namibia to bring forth their claim. We are saying that we will put the machineries of Government at our disposal and we deal with this project and finish it.

If it happens that there are other people again in the future, as it happened before – why not do that again? But having a Law on our statute running concurrently with all other Laws, just because we are suspecting or we feel that there are people out there who want to come here, I think diplomatically, although I am not a diplomat, may not sound well. I made that very clear yesterday.

We have all agreed, and that was my understanding, that the issue of descendance is constitutional and it is not my responsibility as the Line Minister and, therefore, based on what the Attorney-General has advised

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HON MAAMBERUA**

the House, that issue can be referred to the Supreme Court by the Attorney-General for interpretation.

Meanwhile the Law will start operating so that those who are affected can be assisted. That is the understanding that I got from the House and upon which we concluded the Debate yesterday. I would like us to proceed on that basis and to consider the Amendment.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Any discussion on this Amendment? Any objection? Agreed to.

HON MAAMBERUA: But I am objecting.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: I recognise the objection.

HON MAAMBERUA: Yes, it is an objection. I object to that interpretation. That was not the interpretation or the understanding of the House yesterday.

The understanding of the House was that the ten years will be removed and the constitutional interpretation would be forwarded to the Supreme Court through the Attorney-General. That was the understanding.

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HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Thank you. The House is divided. Can you please call everybody to come in. I am sure we have a quorum.

For – 37

Against – 3

Abstain – 8

Clause 2 as amended. Agreed to.

Clauses 3 to 6 put. Agreed to.

Title put. Agreed to.

I shall report the Bill with an Amendment.

Honourable Speaker, the Committee has gone through the *Namibian Citizenship (Second) Special Conferment Bill* [B.3 – 2015] as set forth in the accompanying documents and agreed to it with an Amendment.

Bill reported with an Amendment.

ASSEMBLY RESUMES

HON SPEAKER: Does the Honourable Minister Move that the Bill be now read a Third Time?

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**THIRD READING – NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP
(SECOND) SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL
HON IIVULA-ITHATA**

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: I so Move, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Who seconds? Any objections? Agreed to. Any further discussion? None. Does the Honourable Minister wish to reply.

HON MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me thank the Honourable Colleagues for paving the way for those persons outside this country who have a claim of returning to Namibia, to do so. I thank the spirit with which we concluded the Debate. Thank you.

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

The Secretary will read the Bill a Third Time.

**THIRD READING - NAMIBIAN CITIZENSHIP (SECOND)
SPECIAL CONFERMENT BILL [B.3 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *Namibian Citizenship Second Special Conferment Bill [B.3 – 2015].*

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**SECOND READING - UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BILL
HON DR NAMWANDI**

HON SPEAKER: The Secretary will read the Third Order.

**RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON
SECOND READING – UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY BILL [B.2 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Debate on Second Reading – *University of Science and Technology Bill* [B.2 – 2015].

HON SPEAKER: When the House adjourned on Wednesday, 18 March 2015, the question before the Assembly was a Motion by Honourable Minister of Education that the Bill be read a Second Time.

The Debate was concluded. Does the Honourable Minister wish to reply, Minister?

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. I will attempt to be very brief, but also to make sure that some of the more important concerns are addressed.

Comrade Katali, thank you very much for your support.

Comrade Nahas, I also thank you very much for your support, but I want to assure you, Honourable Members, that Section 5 of the Bill has taken care of the objectives of the University of Science and Technology.

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**SECOND READING - UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BILL
HON DR NAMWANDI**

I agree that the Bill was supposed to be allowed to be scrutinised and that was allowed. It was certainly not bulldozed.

Honourable Ulenga, I thank you very much for your support. It is a pity you are not here. I just want to say that this is certainly not a Kangaroo House and we are not here to pay lip service.

Honourable Dingara, thank you very much for your support and for telling us not to delay this Bill.

Uncle Kaura, I thank you very much for your support.

Honourable Ilonga, I thank you very much for your support as well, but I want to tell you that the functions and objectives of the University are clearly stipulated in Section 5. It is true that the University must produce scientists and engineers and it will do so. It will mould Namibians for the betterment of this Nation.

Honourable Erastus Uutoni, I thank you very much for your support, as well, and thank you very much for the information provided that part-time Lecturers at our Institutions of Higher Learning do not take their responsibilities seriously, especially our brothers and sisters from foreign countries. I believe we do not only mean the Polytechnic of Namibia alone, but other Institutions of Higher Learning as well. I am sure the Leaders of these Institutions will take note of this and will make sure that no stone is left unturned.

It is totally unacceptable that expatriates or professors are brought to this country and instead of doing what they have come to do, they start their own businesses. It is very unethical to me and it needs to stop. It is true that there are not enough books, we cannot deny that, but money is hard to come by. We cannot promise heaven and earth here, because the Ministry of Education does not produce money. Money is being appropriated here, we get what we get, and we use that to get more with the little that we receive. I agree with you that the Government ought to give more money,

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but you must also understand that it is not an easy task for the Ministry of Finance to provide more money to all the Ministries. It is tough as money is hard to come by.

Comrade Kazenambo, thank you very much for your support. I thank you for advising the Ministry of Education and the Institutions of Higher Education to ensure that there is a specialised unit to monitor the activities of the University.

We have the National Council of Higher Education and the Namibia Qualifications Authority, which are responsible for quality assurance. There is a National Qualification System, which will regulate the activities of Higher Education Institutions. Yes, we are aware that the Institutions of Higher Education are autonomous, but given the fact that they get money from the Government, it is important for the Government to know how the money is utilised.

We also do not want a situation whereby we interfere too much with the activities of autonomous Institutions. However, every year, we submit Audited Financial Statements and Annual Reports from those Institutions. The Ministry of Education can only intervene when things are going wrong, because the Ministry of Education has declared zero tolerance on unethical behaviour.

Comrade Kazenambo, I agree that Namibians must take the lead in Institutions of Higher Learning. However, as was mentioned by one of the Colleagues here, Universities are universal. Nowhere in the world will you find a University being run by nationals only. Cross breeding is very important in academia, but it does not mean that it has to be at the expense of the nationals. Yes, it is true, if we call a conference here, educated young people are unemployed, but I do not want us to blame foreigners. We must also blame ourselves. The fact that many foreigners are occupying senior positions is not because they are dictating to us, but we are allowing them to occupy senior positions in our Institutions, perhaps because of the lack of expertise. However, sometimes those who are

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leading Institutes of Higher Learning are depriving their fellow Namibians for fear of competition, because they know if they put a Namibian close to them, the Namibian may take over one day. That is totally unacceptable. We must empower our own people.

Comrade Schlettwein, thank you very much for your support. The University is empowered to do normal business, but I must tell you that we have looked at some of the comments you made and we made some Amendments here and there, in order to ensure that this Bill becomes an Act of Parliament. It is not more a Bill or Act of the Ministry of Education.

Honourable Maamberua, thank you very much. But I just wanted to make a correction on what the Honourable Member said that Ministers sometimes intercept money in order money meant for Institutions of Higher Learning. I do not know where the Honourable Member got this information from. I am yet to know how that works, because as far as we are concerned the money is appropriated here. Money has to go to those Institutions, but I understand, he is a politician and must have something to say.

We have a scientific formula in place now. I also want to tell you one thing. It is not true that when we implement that formula these Institutions of Higher Learning are going to be happy, because formula does not mean giving more money to the Institutions. It only means that we are going to do things scientifically so that nobody can blame anybody. Just like the way we introduced the electronic voting machines. There were people complaining about it and they ended up becoming victims, because the truth has revealed itself.

It is not true that we are going to give more money to the Institutions. We give what we can afford to give and that is what is going to happen with the future Minister of Finance. My Brother, I support what you said that the Government must give free land to our University of Science and Technology, but I have no power. I do not know. I am sure the next

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Minister will see what can be done, but it is not easy. It is not an easy thing, but the University seriously needs to expand.

I want to tell you one thing. Now that the Polytechnic of Namibia has grown, the prices of houses in the surrounding area will go up. People will not afford to buy those houses, they will be very expensive. We will be very happy if Government or someone can provide us with land. Maybe this could be one of the future campuses and we can have another campus outside town. It will be highly appreciated.

Doctor Kawana, thank you very much. It is true that the African Universities are characterised by poorly paid staff and so on, because money is very hard to come by. But they are not really poorly paid, they are getting what the Government can afford. But we will always do that if we can get more money to pay our staff and Professors.

I also want to say that trends are changing. Universities should not depend on Government's funding hundred percent. They must concentrate on joint research programmes, consultancies and so on. That is why they are Universities. Government cannot really meet all their needs. I believe that is very clear.

On the transfer of employees from the old Polytechnic to the new University – they are being transferred. I thought that is the right thing to do, because we cannot afford to establish a new University and create unemployment. We cannot only transfer scientists and professors, and leave the administrative staff behind. We cannot, because even if it is a University of Science and Technology, it is not only run by the scientists. It is run by academics and administrative staff. They thus have to move together. Nobody should be left behind or left in the cold.

Comrade Tweya, thank you very much for your support, however, I just want to tell you that when we talk about the Minister responsible for Higher Education, he/she may also be a Minister of Education, but thank God, I understand there are now two Ministries and we have not even

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amended because the statement was very, very clear. It is a Minister responsible for Higher Education whoever that is. Whether you are a Minister responsible for Higher Education or Education, as long you are the Minister responsible for Higher Education. That is what we meant.

I just want to say this; the University of Science and Technology will not be the only public University. There will be other Universities, including the University of Namibia. Therefore, it is not expected to do everything.

Comrade Tweya, if the nomination is not received by the Minister, the Minister will go ahead. I think this was also raised by Honourable Ndjoze-Ojo. What is actually meant here is; if the Minister writes to the appointing authorities and they do not respond within a certain period of time, then the Minister can go ahead and appoint anybody else and not necessarily that the person should report to the Minister. It is not the person, but the written documentation.

The role of the NCHE, in this University, is very clear, because it will fund the University through the Funding Framework and it will, of course also accredits the programmes.

Comrade Ndjoze-Ojo, I agree with you that the Long Title of the Bill should have a broader scope. It should also have a niche, but I was under the impression that it has niche that we have identified as Science and Technology. I also need to say that this Bill went through many hands. We had proper consultations and the stakeholders are very happy.

The Honourable Colleague also advised us to change the word *teaching* to *lecturing*. Let me say this, there are two, three traditional functions in a University; teaching, research and community service. This are just semantics, whether we say teaching or lecturing, it is the same thing. There is no need to amend. The good thing is that most of the things that have been said here are things that were repeated over and over by the rest of the Colleagues.

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I agree with Comrade Ndjoze-Ojo that the word *except* was misspelt. We have taken care of that.

On the replacement of *monies* with *funds*; I again think that that is perhaps just a matter of semantics.

We have to follow a gradual process to transform our Institution from a Polytechnic to a fully-fledged University. That is why we decided on five years, to gradually phase out those programmes.

Somebody asked; what will happen to the mandate of the Polytechnic of Namibia, because it is being transformed into a fully-fledged University? I sent my people, including the Rector of the Polytechnic of Namibia, to Washington DC to study the processes of colleges there. I sent some of my senior staff to Singapore, Germany, etcetera and we have a report. We are going to establish colleges to take over the functions of the Polytechnic of Namibia. The Polytechnic of Namibia will continue to function as a University and the other Institutions will take over those functions.

Comrade Mushelenga, thank you very much for assisting us with those explanations about the Council and that the University is a universal Institution. I also wanted to tell you, when you said it is important for the University to be exempted from tax, it is automatic that the students are exempted from paying VAT. I am not too sure about the bringing in of equipment, but that is something that can be worked on and this is Bill is just the beginning, perhaps one day we can make some Amendments here and there.

My Brother, *Honourable Ulenga* said the language of the Bill was not up to scratch, but I just want to tell you that there is a difference between normal English language and the legal language, for example, the word *consideration* in the legal language is different from the word *consideration* in the normal English language. This Bill has gone through the Law Reform and Development Commission as well as through the

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Cabinet Committee on Legislation (CCL). I must tell you that it was well polished.

Finally, my Uncle, *Honourable Katjavivi*, thank you very much for giving us hints to make sure that the University develops its staff, capacitate its staff and expand both nationally and internationally. We will take it very serious and I am sure the University Management will implement this wonderful advice.

With this said, I thank you very much, Honourable Speaker for the cordial opportunity. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very, much Honourable Minister. I now put the question that the Bill be read a Second Time.

The Secretary will read the Bill a Second Time.

**SECOND READING – UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY BILL [B.2 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *University of Science and Technology Bill [B.2 – 2015].*

HON SPEAKER: Do you think I was wrong? I was just reading your notes.

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Does the Honourable Minister of Education Move that the Assembly now goes into Committee?

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

HON SPEAKER: Any objection? Agreed to. Thank you. The Chairperson of the Whole House Committee will take the Chair.

ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
The Whole House Committee is called to order. The Committee has to consider the *University of Science and Technology Bill* [B.2 – 2015].

Clauses 1 to 3 put and agreed to.

I put Clause 4.

I recognise the Minister of Education.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, very much. I would like to advise the House to delete Sub-clause 3 and renumber the subsequent Sub-clause as “Sub-Clause 3.”

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HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Please table the Amendment. Any discussions on the Amendment? Any objections? Agreed to.

Clauses 5 and 6 put and agreed to.

I put Clause 7. Any discussions? Honourable Minister of Education.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much. **Clause 7**

(a) In Sub-Clause 2:-

- (i) Paragraph (c)(i) substitute the word “three” for the word “two.”
- (ii) Delete Paragraph (d) and renumber the subsequent paragraph as “d,” “e” and “f” accordingly;
- (iii) Substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (d):

“(d) one person from the alumni of the University elected by the alumni of the University as provided in the statutes and who is not a member of the Council by any provision of the section;”

- (iv) Paragraph (f), substitute the letter “(d)” for the letter “(e);”
- (b) In Sub-clause (6) substitute the letter “(d)” for Sub-clause “(f);”
- (c) Substitute the following Sub-clause (7):

“(7) Except for a foreigner who is a member of the Council by virtue of his or her office, a foreigner who is not a permanent resident of Namibia may not be appointed or elected as a member of the Council;” and

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(d) In Sub-Clause (8) substitute the letter “(e)” for the letter “(f).”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Please table the Amendment. Any discussions on the Amendments? Any objection? Agreed to.

I put Clause 8. Any discussion? Any objection? Agreed to.

I put Clause 9. Any discussion? Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: **Clause 9** – In Sub-clause (1), substitute the following sentence for the opening sentence:

“(1) The Council must elect from amongst its members referred to in Section 7(2)(c) and (e).”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Please table the Amendment.

I put Clause 10. Any discussions? Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: **Clause 10,**

(a) In Sub-clause (1) substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (a):

“(a) appointed in terms of section 7(2)(c), (d) and (e) holds office for a period of three years;”

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(b) Sub-Clause (2) –

(i) Substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (b):

“(b) in the case of a member referred to in section 7(2)(c) or (e), he or she becomes subject to the disqualification referred to in Subsection (6) of the Section;”

(ii) Paragraph (f) substitute the letter “(e)” for the letter “(f).”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Please table the Amendment. Any discussions on the Amendment? Any objection? Agreed to.

Clauses 11, 12, 13 put and agreed to.

I put Clause 14. Any discussions? Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Clause 14

(a) Substitute the following Sub-Clause for Sub-clause (2):-

“(2) The conditions of employment, privileges, powers and functions of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor are determined by the Council;” and

(b) Add the following Sub-clause after Sub-clause (2), the subsequent Sub-clause being renumbered Sub-clause 4 accordingly;

“(3) A Deputy Vice-Chancellor holds office for a period of five years and

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is eligible for re-appointment at the expiration of his or her period of office.”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Table the Amendment please. Any discussions on the Amendments advanced? Any objections? Agreed to.

Clause 15 to 22 put and Agreed to.

I put Clause 23. Any discussions? Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Clause 23

Substitute the following Sub-clauses for Sub-Clause 4:-

“(4) When authorised to do so by the resolution of the Council, the Vice-Chancellor may, as prescribed in the statutes, suspend the Students’ Representative Council if the Vice-Chancellor thinks it fit in the best interest of the University.

(5) The Council may dissolve the Students’ Representative Council if the Council thinks it fit in the best interest of the University.”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Please table the Amendments. Any discussions on the Amendment? Any objections? Agreed to.

Clauses 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 put and agreed to.

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HON DR NDJOZE-OJO**

I put Clause 31. Any discussions? Honourable Minister.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Clause 31

Substitute the following sentence for the opening sentence of Clause 31,

“The Minister, on such terms and conditions as the Minister with the consent of the Minister responsible for Finance, may determine and subject to the Provisions of the State Finance Act, 1991 (Act 31 of 1991), out of monies appropriated by Parliament for such purpose.”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Please table the Amendment. Any discussions on the Amendment? I recognise, Honourable Dr Ndjoze.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I think we agreed yesterday that we should not use the word *moneys*, but we should use *funds* instead, because that is what the Government provides. If we could just substitute that word, it is just not good for it to be in the Bill. Thank you.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

What is your response, Honourable Minister?

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HON DR NAMWWANDI / HON ANGULA**

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: No, I think for the sake of progress the word *moneys* is nothing serious. This is a standard found almost everywhere, if you look at all our Bills or Acts, that is what it says, unless we have to start something new – if we can really just be lenient on that one.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: Alright. Any further discussions? Maybe the legal drafters will in the future consider your proposal.

HON DR NDJOZE-OJO: I said in the future.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE: So agreed.

I put Clause 32, 33, 34. Any discussions? I recognise the Honourable Minister of Defence.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Clause 33(a) reads as follows: *A person who, without the authority of the University-*

(a) establishes or conducts an institution, not being an institution established by or under any law, under a name that includes the words “University of Science and Technology.”

In my opinion, this Clause runs counter to the Competition Commission Law.

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HON MUTORWA**

Namibia is a free country with a free economy and if somebody wants to establish a university dealing with Science and Technology, this person should be allowed to do so. After all the field of Science and Technology is wide. What if I set up an Institution just to concentrate on nanotechnology? Why should I get permission from another university to do so?

I think this is anti-competition and it runs counter to some of our Laws. Therefore, the University should not be given these powers to prescribe to any other citizens who are to put up a university dealing with technology. I think it is totally unfair.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Honourable Minister, before you respond, I recognise Honourable Mutorwa.

HON MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY:

On the same Clause, as if the Honourable Minister of Defence and I, are of the same mind, just an addition to what he said. If one reads Article 20 of the Namibian Constitution, that is now Article 20(4), it states the following:

All persons shall have the right, at their own expense, to establish and to maintain private schools, or colleges or other institutions of tertiary education provided: then the conditions are given that what they do in those institutions is not inferior and so forth.

The fundamental principle stated in that Constitutional Provision, the freedom to establish these Institutions is actually entailed here just in support of what Honourable Angula said.

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HON DR NAMWANDI**

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Can you respond to the unconstitutionality of this Provision?

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Comrade Chairperson of the Whole House Committee, I seriously applied my mind to Clause 33 and I slept over it with my Colleagues. I think the first mistake we made is that, this is a duplication from the Act of the Polytechnic of Namibia which was passed by this Parliament and, because of time, let me say something here.

If you read this Clause 33(a) –

(a) Establishes or conducts any institution, not being an institution established by or under any law.

This means, it is only when the Institution is unlawful, not being registered, then the Polytechnic of Namibia will take action and the person will be liable to a fine not exceeding N\$20,000.00.

It does not say that Institution must not be registered. You can go and register, and also the Registrar of Companies will never allow a company or an Institution to be registered in the name similar to another Institution or company.

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:

What t are we saying now? We are saying that Clauses 32, 33 and 34 have been agreed to.

I put Clause 35. Honourable Minister.

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HON DR NAMWANDI**

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much. **Clause 35**

Substitute the following Sub-clause for Sub-Clause (2):

“(2) A statute or regulation proposed to be framed under Subsection (1) and which deals with any matter in relation to the activities of the Senate is not valid, unless approved by the Council on the recommendation of the Senate.”

HON CHAIRPERSON OF THE WHOLE HOUSE COMMITTEE:
Please table the Amendment. Any further discussions on the Amendment?
Any objection? Agreed to.

Clauses 36 to 41 put and agreed to.

Title put. Agreed to.

I shall report the Bill with Amendments.

Honourable Speaker, the Committee has gone through the *University of Science and Technology Bill* [B.3 – 2015] and agreed to it with Amendments.

ASSEMBLY RESUMES

Bill reported with Amendments.

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**THIRD READING - UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BILL
HON DR NAMWANDI**

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

Honourable Minister, would you like to say something.

HON MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much. I would like to thank my fellow Members of Parliament for the patriotism, constructive advice, input and support rendered to this very important Bill aimed at strengthening our human resources capacity.

The University of Science and Technology and its community of scholars will remain forever indebted to this Parliament. Believe you me, we are very grateful. We thank you for your support. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. The Secretary will now read the Bill a Third Time.

**THIRD READING - UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE
AND
TECHNOLOGY BILL [B.2 – 2015]**

SECRETARY: *University of Science and Technology Bill [B.2 -2015].*

HON SPEAKER: The Secretary will now read the Fourth Order.

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TO EXPORT SHEEP ON THE HOOF
HON KATALI**

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF REPORT
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE
ON THE MOTION OF PROHIBITION TO
EXPORT SHEEP ON THE HOOF**

SECRETARY: Resumption of Consideration of Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Motion of Prohibition to Export Sheep on the Hoof.

HON SPEAKER: When the Debate was adjourned on Tuesday, 10 March 2015, the House was dealing with the Motion by Honourable Ben Amathila.

The Honourable Minister of Mines and Energy, I thought should earn time to speak to this. Honourable Minister.

HON MINSTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Honourable Speaker, this is now the third day that I am speaking on this Motion. I said most of the things previously, and I think the Honourable Members may not even remember where I started and where I ended.

However, be that as it may, I was just saying that we are in a predicament as producers. When we sell, somebody determines the price. When we buy what is produced by others, we are not allowed to determine the price, they determine the price. I think, that anomaly is killing the producers. Just to conclude, Honourable Speaker (*intervention*)

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**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE
RESOURCES:** Honourable Speaker, may I ask the Honourable Minister
a question?

HON SPEAKER: The Minister was just about to start, he did not say
anything yet.

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE
RESOURCES:** Yes, but he said something.

HON SPEAKER: You have the Floor.

**HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE
RESOURCES:** He said something and I want to find out. One very
interesting thing he said was, when we sell we do not determine the price
and when the others are selling, they determine the price.

What logic is that? He has a point, in actual fact, I understand him
because we talk about the market, the market determines the price for us in
terms of how much we buy and sell our products? The European market,
for example, determines the price they want to pay for our meat, but when
they sell their cars, they tell you this Mercedes Bens is so much. What
kind of relationship is this? Maybe you can explain a bit more,
Honourable Katali.

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HON MINSTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Honourable Ankama, in fact, that is the predicament. I am still to understand this demand and supply. That is actually what I am trying to say. As producers in Namibia I think we must have a say in what we are producing, especially when it comes to the price.

Finally, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I once proposed something here in the House and I think most of the Honourable Members who were present on that day laughed. I still want to propose the same thing. When I was at the Ministry of Agriculture with Honourable Mutorwa, we proposed the grain storage facilities and I think they are now up and running, save that this year there is no rain, maybe they are not going to get enough grains to store there.

However, during the drought of 2013, many of our people who qualified for the drought relief programme were fed from those silos. The price that the producers got was reasonable because it was set by Government. I am repeating my earlier call – can we not do the same for the meat, where the Government could construct big freezers? During times like this when the rain is scarce, the asking price from the people I referred to earlier is so low that once you sell your cow today, by the time you want to buy it again when the time becomes favourable, you will not be able to afford it because the selling price that you will received now will be so high.

This is making the people of Namibia poor, because for every two cows you are only going to have one. That means you are going down, but I had a proposal of Government putting up these facilities and buying at a reasonable price from the producers when the meat is good (*interjection*)

HON MEMBER: But what will the Government do with the meat?

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HON MINSTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: I will come to what the Government will do with the meat – then we are giving our people something to survive on and grow for tomorrow.

Now coming to what we do with the meat – we have the Army, schools, hospitals. Even the drought relief food that we provide, we should source that from our silos. Why should we buy from elsewhere when we have it here?

We sell our cattle at a cheap price to South Africa then we buy it back at a very expensive price. Let us think about this proposal as a country so that we can at least save our people from poverty. Honourable Speaker, that is the proposal I am repeating (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Ilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Before you conclude this good proposal, I just want Comrade Katali to tell us what we can do, because he is the one having the Floor. If you do not tether your proposal, I think those cool rooms or whatever name you gave them would be at risk. As we are talking, the Ministry of Agriculture's officials are requesting us to sell our cattle, without even telling us what we should do after selling our cattle. In fact, if they have those deep freezers or whatever (*interjection*)

HON MEMBER: The silos!

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TO EXPORT SHEEP ON THE HOOF
HON ANGULA**

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Yes, the freezers in the form of silos, the *meat silos* (*laughter*) This would allow us to slaughter the cattle instead of just selling at a loss. We can keep the meat in the freezers and we can then decide how to sell it from there. We can charge a reasonable fee for it.

Comrade Katali, because you are the one on the Floor, I want you to extend your proposal at least to all the Regions, because you may not be able to do it in all 121 Constituencies now. We can make provision for *meat silos*, *at least* in all Regions, where the meat is refrigerated.

I just lost my bull which, due to water scarcity fell in the well and died last week. And there is no *koelkas* (freezer), nothing! So we could not keep the meat cool. I, therefore, think that is a good idea.

HON MINSTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: I am very sorry for your bull, Comrade. I think you have expanded my proposal well enough.

Honourable Speaker, with that, I support the Report. Thank you, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister of Defence.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I share the sentiments expressed in this Report, especially by the producers. I know the decision to encourage local slaughtering and processing was the right one. However, I also discovered that the owners of the abattoirs took advantage of that decision and started to under price the producers. When I was at the Prime Minister's Office, I one day, chaired a very

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unsavoury meeting between the producers and abattoirs. At that time, the President of the Abattoirs Association was a lady, a very unreasonable lady, I must say, because she did not care about the interests of the producers.

Meanwhile, we as the Government did not understand the dynamics of this Industry, the producer and abattoirs' interactions. I also discovered during that meeting that, in fact, the abattoirs owners were not doing any processing. They just skin the sheep, pack it nicely as it is, they and only take out the guts and send it across the border to be processed there. The whole operation just defeats the spirit of the decision to encourage local processing.

Although I would like to say – *yes, we should continue to diversify the market*, there is also one thing we are not doing to develop the internal market. We are not doing that. I discovered the other day, when there was a stampede at the auction pens in Otjiwarongo and the prices just dropped like that, I took out my animals and I started to sell to private abattoirs. I was getting a better price, which means that these private abattoirs have a market for the meat. I would, therefore, counsel that we should try to develop internal markets.

If you go to formation centres like Oshakati and Ongwediva during Easter and Christmas period, you will find buyers there who could buy at a reasonable price. During Christmas, I found somebody selling a *kapater*, castrated goat, for N\$2,000. I do not think that you can get N\$2,000 for a castrated goat here in the middle of Namibia, but over there, because people are so desperate, the prices are high.

Therefore, if we can develop the internal markets, we might find a way of leveraging the prices so that the producers win and the abattoirs owners also win, and the population is delighted at least in terms of providing proper food and fighting malnutrition.

I want to commend the President-elect for his announcement this morning.

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If his intentions are carried out, I think they will make a difference in the type of Institutions he is proposing. If we are going to fight poverty, for example, you must integrate the internal economy so that whoever wants to produce something has a way of selling it. I wish those who are being appointed to run these Institutions to be creative, innovative and, of course, to consult the population and the like so that poverty alleviation comes through the hard work of people producing, and people can only produce if they can sell at a reasonable price.

We have this culture in Namibia of just exporting. We are exporting a lot of fish to West Africa, for example, and when those West Africans meet your soccer team, they are giants because they have been fed with Namibian horse mackerel and ours are dwarves because horse mackerel is not available to them.

I think we should develop the internal market and use that internal market mechanisms to circulate the products around in such a way that the population at large benefits. Comrade Speaker, I support the recommendations.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. The Honourable Minister whose properties we are talking about, Fisheries and Marine Resources.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:
Thank you honourable speaker. On the very Report, I also support the move that we should add value to our raw materials and animals like cattle and sheep, which are exported on hoof to South Africa or other destinations in the world.

I also want to take this very opportunity to inform the previous speaker that, in fact, as far as fish is concerned, we have tried to move and

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encourage those who are catching and processing fish, especially horse mackerel, that that very fish is also marketed within Namibia and that there is a special incentive for those who are doing that and the rule is that 30% of the fish quota we are giving is to be marketed locally. That is why you see the flourishing business activities of the SME Sector.
(Intervention)

HON SPEAKER: Point of Order.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: On a Point of Information. Can I encourage the Minister to encourage the retirees to do that? (Laughter)

HON SPEAKER: You are one of them.

HON MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES:
Note taken Comrade, the future retiree after tomorrow. Thank you. Otherwise, I support the Report and I rest my case. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable, Comrade Lempy Lucas.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I would like to register my support for the Report under discussion. My contribution will be very brief, because I have contributed to the Motion by Honourable

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Kaura when it was tabled two years ago.

My contribution today will speak to Recommendation Number 4 of the Report, which reads that – *the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry expedites the drought relief subsidy claims by farmers.*

Comrade Speaker, maybe it would be beneficial to share the background with Members of this House to say; as much as the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry would wish to expedite the process of the payment of the claims to the farmers, the scheme itself is also inundated with challenges.

To start with, Comrade Speaker, it is important for Members of this House to know that the original request that was advanced by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry was amounting to N\$110 million. Out of N\$110 million only N\$50 million was allocated to cater for the Drought Marketing Incentives Scheme.

Comrade Speaker, as I said, the Scheme is inundated with constraints and challenges and the process itself is cumbersome due to the following:

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry receives and processes the applications from the farmers while the actual payment is done by the Office of the Prime Minister through the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management.

It is a well known fact that the Office of the Prime Minister, the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management, does not have relevant personnel in all the 14 Regions like the structure of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry. That is in a way contributing (*intervention*)

HON SPEAKER: Point of Order, Honourable Tjihiuko.

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HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. I am still here for a couple of minutes. Honourable Speaker, may I ask the Honourable Deputy Minister a question?

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Yes, please.

HON SPEAKER: Yes.

HON TJIHUIKO: Honourable Deputy Minister, I actually have two questions. The Honourable Deputy Minister mentioned that N\$50 million was budgeted for this project. Was it not N\$100 million? Was it really N\$50 million? I am trying to recall. I thought N\$100 million was actually budgeted for that project, if you can just refresh my mind.

Secondly, you were saying that you have targeted N\$50 million in the Ministry of Agriculture and the actual work is being done by the Office of the Prime Minister. Has the money been transferred to the Office of the Prime Minister? How do you implement this project? The money is from the Ministry of Agriculture and the implementer is the Prime Minister's Office, how do you do these things?

HON SPEAKER: Deputy Minister.

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HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I just want the Honourable Member to listen carefully.

What I said is that, as much as we would like to expedite the process of the payment there is a very serious shortage of money to address the claims by farmers. The original request was N\$110 million requested and only N\$50 million was approved. The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry is responsible for the processing of applications, but the actual payment is not done by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, because the Fund is administered by the Office of the Prime Minister under the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management. The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry's personnel does the paper work, but the actual payment of the Fund is administered by the Office of the Prime Minister.

As I said, the Office of the Prime Minister, the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management, does not have complete structures in all the 14 Regions like the Ministry of Agriculture. It has few officers here and there, but the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry has offices in Regions and Constituencies.

As the time goes, I think there is a need for the two offices, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry and the Office of the Prime Minister, to clearly demarcate or transfer the specific function dealing with the Drought Market Incentive Scheme, particularly the Fund, to reduce the waiting period by farmers. Of course, the paper work can be done on time, but the payment, due to the reason I have alluded to earlier on, also contributes to the delay.

One of the challenges the Scheme is inundated with is the fact that when a particular farmer does not have a bank account, the payment is done manually, meaning that the staff from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry have to drive to the particular Region where an applicant lives in order to deliver the payment. As we are going to implement this

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recommendation, we should bear in mind that it is not just an easy recommendation that can be addressed overnight. One of the contributing factors, which causes the delay, is the incomplete application forms because some farmers apply to benefit from the Scheme, but they submit incomplete application forms. The officials first attend to the complete applications and the incomplete ones are relooked at a later stage.

As I said, Honourable Speaker, we have identified the shortcomings during the implementation of the Scheme. As time goes on, at an appropriate time and an appropriate platform, there is a need for the two Offices to harmonise these challenges in order to reduce the waiting period by the farmers.

This is my contribution, Honourable Speaker. I thought it was worth mentioning this to inform the esteemed farmers who are sitting around this House so that when they go out there, they should speak in defence of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry as well as the Office of the Prime Minister, specifically the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management. I support the Report and I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Any further contributions? Honourable Amathila, are you in your usual readiness to reply?

HON AMATHILA: Comrade Speaker, Honourable Colleagues, It is a fact that we are running out of time or we have sacred time.

I do not know whether I have to remind the House that this Motion that we have been discussing was originally introduced by Honourable Kaura. It was referred to the Committee to investigate only one thing, and that is whether the export of the sheep on the hoof to South Africa and other places could be removed permanently.

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Procedurally, the way I understood it is that, the matter has to come back to the House with that Report and revert back to the Mover of the Motion for the House to complete that Motion. Is it not? That is the procedure. Just to give an explanation about some of the issues discussed; when I was introducing the Report of the Committee, I pointed out two recommendations for specific reason.

Firstly, the Committee visited the south at the time when the south was dry, unless you go to that area and see what is happening there, you may possibly not appreciate some of the things that the Committee has put on paper. That is the reason why they are experiencing the drought, for three years in succession.

Employers, who are the big farmers, have put their workers on the road because they could not afford to keep them on the farms anymore. Old people with five goats will have a problem, they go to the auction to sell their goats, only to find that they will not get the price they want and they have to make a choice whether to accept that low price offered or to take their animals back to their villages. The cost of taking back the animals to their villages was so exorbitant that they opted to give the animals away for close to nothing.

It was not a very easy situation and the Committee thought of making these recommendations as they were made. I will deal with **Recommendation Number 7**. It is very important for the future because this situation will not stop recurring and haunt us all the time that we try and help those who are trying to find alternative markets to South Africa.

Everybody agrees that South African has taken advantage of our dependence on their market and there is an outcry from both the small farmers and the big farmers for us to try and find a way of creating alternative markets. Some of the farmers have even gone as far as Zambia, Angola and Congo, that is, DRC and they found out that there is a market there. In the process, obviously, they need some support from the Government to consolidate these markets so that, at least the monopoly

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that South Africa taking our animals, is broken and people will be able to sort of bargain where the prices are better for their animals. People raise animals because they want to make money. If you deny them that, then we are obviously killing the farming skills we have in those particular areas.

Secondly, **Recommendation Number 5:** Our country is very dry and all of us are aspiring to become farmers, and the drought is haunting us. It is going to haunt us this year as well and for Government all the time to come up with bailouts and so forth, there are other competing demands to the farmers. Therefore, this is a message that we left with the farmers in the south: We have plenty of sun, if only people can be assisted to harvest the sun, transform it to electricity, sell this electricity to Nampower and they get paid for it on a monthly basis, it will absolve them and Government will not have to run to people every moment that they cry because of the drought. People will have generated an income by selling electricity while farming with whatever stock they are farming with. It is a choice that we need to make.

Some of the farmers are off the transmission line and obviously, Government may not have money to lay lines to each and every farm, but farmers could maybe come together and create cooperatives. Those who are on the transmission line could accommodate others to put up, be it Solar Panels or Biomass, and they put this on the transformer and from the transformer onto the transmission line. These people would be accommodated with meters and they will be able to tell how much electricity they had generated at any given point in time.

It is not the last time that we are going to have the drought. Therefore, we have to think a little bit more innovatively. The Committee has been trying to say – if we can put our heads together and make a national project, go to COP21 which will be held in Paris in December, and we sell this project to the Green Fund and say – *this is what we want to do for our people* – each and every citizen of this country will maybe have the Right to produce half a Megawatt of electricity. Producing that half Megawatt,

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whether you do it by putting a solar panel on your roof, on your farm or wherever – you sell this and that is one guaranteed, speedy way to alleviate the disparity of income between individuals in this country. For the farmers, it is definitely one way that farmers can take advantage of to absolve the pressure from nature and at least accumulated some savings by selling electricity to the grid.

We are spending N\$1.7 billion every year to buy electricity from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and South Africa. It is only this year that I learnt that we started selling electricity to South Africa, but this is only when the rains are very good in Angola. Namibia has a potential of becoming an exporter of electricity. However, for the farmers to be able to generate an income by selling electricity produced either through Solar Energy or Biomass, it is a way to go, especially for all those small farmers in the south. It is for that reason that we have made this recommendation here.

We would like to commend and thank all Members who positively addressed the issues that we raised here in this particular recommendation. Given the lateness of the hour, I would like to thank you very much for listening attentively. Thank you very much, Comrade Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. You are always engaging and convincing when you speak on this favourite topic of yours.

When we were in South Africa, during my days as the IPU President, you moved the House and converted some people to advocate in what you have just repeated here. You did the same thing when we had another COP here in Namibia. The Conference which we convened here as Members of Parliament was very a successful one. You also did the same thing to those wonderful people who travelled long distances to come here and they left convinced. There is then something missing. I cannot think of any of those gatherings where anybody, those who understand the

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technology and the need that you so eloquently repeat, that those who do not have the resources like the technology and knowhow can access.

There must be a missing link and you need to find that missing link so that therefore, we do a, b, c, d. I do not have it, but it is a message that makes me think it can be done. What is that missing link then? It is, in a way, self-empowering, if only we could find that missing link message.

I am now asking you a question, what is it that would make us converted or believe in this message, so that we would be able to answer the question or imagine the next step forward. If only we could do this or the other, we would indeed be self-empowering. That is my question. What do we do? The message is convincing, it is loud and clear, but there must be something missing. And, therefore, let us do a, b, c, d. That is the missing link.

Any further contributions? If that is the last word, as Honourable Amathila has replied, I now put the question that the Report be adopted. Any objections? Agreed to. The Report is, therefore, adopted.

HON SPEAKER: For how long did we extend the proceedings? I am doing something like foot dragging, because tomorrow is another day. We shall be starting differently. I do not quite know whether it will be a mixed bag of the departing and incoming ones together, but there will be an *apartheid* – bye-bye to those who are leaving – I do not know outside or now, or sometime some, magically, tomorrow. Chief Whip?

**MOTION BY HONOURABLE PROFESSOR KATJAVIVI THAT
ALL THE ORDERS BE ADOPTED WITHOUT DISCUSSIONS**

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**MOTION TO ADOPT ALL THE ORDERS
WITHOUT DISCUSSIONS
HON PROF KATJAVIVI**

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, in view of the time, I thought we could maybe devote the rest of the time to bidding farewell to you and the Colleagues who are leaving us.

If I may propose, we could adopt the rest of the items, take note, and move on to bidding farewell to the Honourable Speaker and the other Colleagues. (*Applause*)

HON SPEAKER: I like saying farewell and goodbye to people, but I am not used to be the object that other people bid farewell to. I have sort of outlived that since I left Usakos. Honourable Kaura?

I think we could have started with the Chief Whip.

**MOTION OF APPRECIATION TO THE OUT-GOING SPEAKER
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, HON. DR. THEO-BEN
GURIRAB, MP**

HON KAURA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Should I now start with my farewell?

HON SPEAKER: If you insist, yes. I think we should start with the Chief Whip, because it is his Motion. We should start with him.

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HON KAURA: Alright.

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Katjavivi.

HON PROF KATJAVIVI: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I rise on this special occasion to Move a Motion.

This is not one of the usual Motions we are accustomed to in this House. I am presenting this Collective Motion to thank none other than one of our own. It is hereby referred to as a Collective Motion, because it is representing the entire membership of the National Assembly. This is the man from Mount !Oetgab, of the valleys of #Khan River and the rocks of /Uikrens. This man is none other than Honourable Dr. Theo-Ben Gurirab, MP and outgoing Speaker of the National Assembly.

Comrade Speaker, looking back at your proud history, and I must confess that speaking about you, I am not going to exhaust all the aspects about your life as we know it, but will attempt to touch one or two things that will hopefully do justice to your contribution to this country.

You left Namibia at a very tender age of 24 years, and remained in political exile for over 27 years or so. During your stay away from home, in the United States and elsewhere, you, along with Comrades Hage Gottfried Geingob, the President Elect of this country, Hidipo Hamutenya, Honourable Katuutire Kaura and the Late Dr. Mosé Penaani Tjitendero, amongst others, campaigned around the corridors of United Nations to express to the international community, the plight and aspirations of the oppressed people of Namibia as championed by the SWAPO Party. I am

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saying this because I was with you throughout the departure from home and, whereas you were managing the USA leg of events, I was similarly managing the UK and Western Europe pillars of the campaign. This was despite the fact that we interacted and worked together in so many other parts of the world during the struggle, along with many of our Colleagues, present and those who have left this world.

Comrade Speaker, as a seasoned freedom fighter, diplomat and negotiator, you served 14 years as SWAPO's Chief Representative to the United Nations and Americas and, later, as its Permanent Observer. Throughout these years, you played a major part in negotiations leading to Namibia's Independence. Over the 14 years of the stewardship of yourself and your Colleagues as SWAPO's top diplomats at the United Nations, from 1972 to 1986, the Organisation's political and diplomatic status grew from that of a petitioner on the sidelines of diplomacy to a mainstream negotiator and participant in the international arena. The protracted negotiations that produced UN Security Council Resolution 435 (1978), containing an internationally accepted plan to bring Independence to Namibia, 3 of 5 represented a high point of your political and diplomatic career. In over 35 years in the field of International Affairs and Diplomacy, you worked with three generations of world leaders and five Secretaries-General of the United Nations.

After the UN supervised elections in November 1989, our people gave SWAPO an overwhelming majority to form the first Government of the independent Namibia; you became a Member of the Constituent Assembly, as well as the Constitution Drafting Committee. On 21 March 1990 with the attainment of our hard won Freedom and Independence you joined this august Chamber as the Member of the first democratically elected National Assembly and served in this House for 25 years. During your tenure in this august House you became the first and longest serving Foreign Affairs Minister of our Republic. Among your major achievements as Foreign Minister, together with Honourable Nangolo Mbumba, you led three years of negotiations over the question of Walvis

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Bay, which resulted, in its reintegration, and that of the Offshore Islands, into Namibia, in fulfilment of Security Council Resolution 432 (1978) in 1994.

Comrade Speaker, you also presided over the United National General Assembly that produced the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). You served as the Prime Minister of this country and today, concluding your tour of duty, as the second Speaker of the National Assembly. During your tenure as Speaker of the National Assembly, you were also elected to serve as the President of the Inter Parliamentary Union. It was during your term of office as IPU President that this Organisation adopted its first ever Strategic Plan covering the period from 2012 to 2017, under your able leadership.

Honourable Speaker, it is here in this Legislature that you championed the instruments to create a better life for all our people. Under your stewardship, efficient oversight of our Government has been exercised. It is here that our society in all its formations has had an opportunity to influence policy and its implementation. You have diligently driven the agenda for change that you inherited from your predecessor.

Comrade Speaker, you took a resolve to selflessly serve this country, and its people and did so with honour and distinction. Under your stewardship, the National Assembly has successfully delivered the mandate our people placed on our shoulders. With the firm support and assistance from the former Deputy Speaker, Honourable Doreen Sioka and current Deputy Speaker, Honourable Loide Kasingo, you directed this House to rise up to its challenges and to work as a team to steer this ship to the rightful destination, as we continue to address the needs and aspirations of our people.

Comrade Speaker, you have walked along the road of the heroes and heroines of our country. You have borne the pain of those who have known fear and learnt to conquer it. During those difficult and testing days you have marched in front when comfort was in the midst of the

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ranks. And now, Comrade Speaker, you leave this distinguished arena to continue to march in front of a different detachment of the same army under the sun. We count ourselves fortunate that history permitted us to have been able to work with you as a renowned, seasoned diplomat of our time.

Comrade Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to all the Parties represented in this Parliament for their contribution to the progress we have made. On a very special note, we take this opportunity to thank the Honourable Members whose term of office as Parliamentarians is ending and now also exiting. This House is very grateful for your honourable service. You have served to the best of your abilities, the interests of the people of Namibia.

Finally, Comrade Speaker, as you are bidding farewell to this august House as its active Member and Speaker, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a long life, good health and success in your future endeavours. We trust that the Nation shall have the privilege to access your wisdom and experience as we continue our journey towards a better quality of life for all Namibians. Dignity will always follow you!

This House extends thanks to you and wish you, your dear wife Joan and your family all the best for the future. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, my Dear Friend. Yes, Honourable //Gowases. Ladies first always.

HON //GOWASES: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I am deeply moved to realise that five years passed like a swift of a second, but I look back with pride and dignity on our collective achievements over the past years. We, as the Republican Party of Namibia, were honoured and

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privileged to serve the people of Namibia and that we were able to make humble contributions in this august House. Opportunity granted and trust bestowed upon me to serve on various Committees being; Gender Equality under the able Chairmanship of Honourable Ncube, Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security under the able Chairmanship of Honourable Kapia, Constitutional and Legal Affairs under Honourable !Nawases-Taeyele and Human Resources and Social and Community Development under Honourable Tjongarero, as well as Standing Rules and Order to serve as a Chief Whip of the Republican Party of Namibia has made me proud.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, our alternative role was to give constructive criticism and to level the playing field while we keep the Ruling Party on its toes (*laughter*). Much was achieved, but there is still more to be done. Through the proper mechanism that we introduced to collect tax, our revenue base has increased and broadened. We were able to balance our Budget. Collective efforts were made to improve social upliftment. Our economic growth improved but not yet stable. We want a two digit Budget growth rate like Angola.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, land is and was a burning issue, however, we condemn this grabbing of land but encourage the training of more surveyors and the expansion of municipal boundaries. Exorbitant land price must be curbed. A mere population of only 2.2 million people cannot be defeated by this land issue. Let the incoming Government address the land issue even if it takes us to a second Land Conference.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, (*interjections*) it is my farewell speech and it is my right please. May I express my sincere appreciation towards the outgoing President, His Excellency President Pohamba, for his firm stance against violence against women and his call for prayer day as a deep-rooted Christian. His firm stance against corruption and his effort of social upliftment that earned him the Mo Ibrahim prize for good governance.

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Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, the Republican Party of Namibia was privileged to be part of the Third Amendment of our Constitution. In the long run, it will be to the advantage of us all.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, allow me to congratulate the President Elect, Dr Hage Geingob. We want to assure you that we will not oppose for the sake of opposing, but will consult on common national issues. With new Ministries about to be established, we hope for poverty eradication, food self-sufficiency through green schemes, getting rid of food importation syndrome, industrialisation of the Economic Sector of mineral wealth of the country as well as other natural resources.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, we look forward with hope, that the new President lift up the expectation that no one feel left out in this beautiful country. Congratulations with the 50-50 women representation in the new Parliament. It makes me a Namibian woman proud. We also congratulate the President Elect for promoting women to the powerful positions of Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister because when you empower women, you empower the Nation.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, I will conclude by saying good-bye to those who bowed out. We will miss you, especially the Honourable Speaker, my Uncle, Theo-Ben Gurirab's hammer, silence! Point of Order, etcetera – as well as other Members who passed on. May their souls rest in eternal peace. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Maamberua.

HON MAAMBERUA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Allow me to first associate myself fully with the Statement made by the Chief Whip

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because that was indeed made on our behalf. It was a collective *Thank You Statement*.

I shall, therefore, not deviate and dwell much on other things but directly said, I would want to express my appreciation for your Open Door Policy throughout the five years that I have been in this Parliament. I was able to knock on your door and be able to discuss and bring issues of national importance to your attention. Through that Open Door Policy and support that you have rendered to me, specifically in my capacity as the Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee, your assistance has actually translated into your facilitation to our visit to the Head of State to be able to brief him on the issues pertaining to accountability and transparency as per the mandate of our Committee.

For that, I remain indebted and I should extend my thanks in my personal capacity and the thanks of the Committee to you and indeed to the Head of State. I would also like to thank everybody, all the Comrades here, Members of Parliament who are leaving us, for the cooperation, for the collegiality, camaraderie, the good working relationship that we have had, the support that they have rendered to me in my early days and throughout the time that we have been together.

Having said that, Honourable Speaker, as we take note that perhaps you might be resting after this or perhaps be doing something different, I would like to remind you that you will probably remain indebted to the people of Namibia in the sense that the lifelong accumulated intellectual wealth that you have need to be collected and be translated in a format that all of us in Namibia should be able to share and that format can most probably only be in a book form. Therefore, if Honourable Speaker, you can use some of your leisure time to be able to translate that wealth of knowledge in that format, I think Namibia shall appreciate and be able to use that information, that intellectual wealth to develop itself further and to learn more from what you can share with Namibia. Comrade Speaker, we

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are expecting a book. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Mushelenga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Honourable Speaker, it is very difficult to find words to bid farewell to you and other Honourable Members with whom we have worked together as legislators in this august House.

Veterans of this House who are leaving, namely Right Honourable Hage Geingob, Honourables Dr Nickey Iyambo, Nahas Angula, Marko Hausiku, Ben Amathila, Chief Justus Garoëb, Katuutire Kaura, Ben Ulenga and Hidipo Hamutenya alongside yourself, Comrade Speaker, serve as institutional memories of this Chamber as Members of the Constituent Assembly and the National Assembly. History shall always glorify their names.

The same applies to other Honourable Members, who have served this House whether for a long or short duration. Their contributions to the Debates in this august House have enriched the process of lawmaking in this country. I wish them heavenly blessings in their retirement.

Comrade Speaker, coming back to you, your history speaks volumes of your service to the Namibian Nation. An accomplished negotiator and skilful diplomat that you are, you have always remained equal to the task as a SWAPO Permanent Observer to the United Nations, SWAPO Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prime Minister and Speaker of the National Assembly. This makes you a revered politician and accomplished Statesman.

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Comrade Speaker, you have always risen to the occasion and responded to the call of duty, selflessly serving your Nation with dedication. Your competence in the field of Foreign Policy is a matter of public record. Oh, yes, yours is a tail of countless achievements and outstanding diplomatic engagements.

Your eloquence and unique talent of articulating issues have seen you rising to the top in multilateral institutions thereby putting Namibia on the world map as President of the United Nations General Assembly and President of the Inter Parliamentary Union. I admire your sense of excellence as a First Class Diplomat. You have taken personal interest in my passion for International Relations and Diplomacy. I drew inspiration from you to engage international affairs having compared notes with you here, there and elsewhere. I wish you a happy retirement, Comrade Speaker. May God bless you and all the Honourable Members who are retiring from the legislature. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Katali.

HON MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Comrade Speaker, Honourable Members, there is time to come and there is time to go.

I must first thank God the Almighty who created me and add my parents, that is my late father and my mother for raising me up in the manner that I was able to go to school and being a disciplined child so that I could achieve what I have achieved to date.

Comrade Speaker, I would also like to thank and give tribute to my late

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brothers, my brother and all my sisters, my entire relatives, friends and countrymen in the Republic of Namibia.

Honourable Speaker, I must also thank my family for having allowed me to spend time away from them, from home, in order for me to fulfil this national duty.

Honourable Speaker, I would be indebted if I do not mention and thank the Founding President and the current President for having appointed me through all those years in different capacities to serve the Namibian people and to do the tasks that were entrusted to me.

I would also like to thank the officials in all the Ministries that I have served, for the cooperation that they have given me and for what I have learnt through engaging and mingling with them. I must thank the Mining and Energy Sector, the stakeholders, be it in the Mines or in the institutions, that were under my Ministry. Colleagues, thank you that we were able to work together and to achieve what we were able to achieve during those times.

To my fellow Parliamentarians led by the former Speaker and the current Speaker, I must say that over the years, I made good friends in Parliament, both from the SWAPO Party and from Members of the Opposition and I am definitely going to miss you, Colleagues.

To every Namibian, especially those Members of the SWAPO Party, I must say that I am a human being; I may have made some mistakes here and there, I may have upset others or may not have extended a helping hand to others as they may have expected, for that, what I can do now is just ask for forgiveness.

I am going to serve and contribute to the cause of the advancement of Namibians in different capacities from different places other than this august House. What I learnt over the years, I owe it to the Namibian

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people, to the Namibian Nation. I would, therefore, like to use this opportunity to wish those who are going to continue in the National Assembly, the new ones good luck and for Colleagues who are going out with me, I would like to say let us go well. Thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Kaura.

HON KAURA: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I want to express a deep sense of gratitude to the Namibian Nation for having availed me the opportunity to serve them for the last 25 years. I want to thank you, Honourable Members of the Ruling Party, for the spirit of cooperation and reconciliation you have displayed over the last 25 years. I am leaving this Chamber with a full heart and with no regrets, although I am mourning the passing on of my Colleague, Honourable Moongo, who would be laid to rest on the 28th of March 2015. I wish he was here today.

Honourable Members, the *sine qua non* for any sustainable socio-economic development is peace and we have been fortunate that Namibia has been at peace for the last 25 years. Let me take this opportunity to wish Namibia well and to be at peace for the next 10,000 years.

Honourable Speaker, I met you at Augustineum in 1958, in New York in 1964, in Namibia in 1989. Let us go home and watch others from a distance. It is time for us to become spectators. Let us go home, brother.

For those that are continuing, the clarion call should be peace, peace, peace in Namibia. So long Honourable Members, Brothers, Sisters and Comrades. Thank you very much.

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HON SPEAKER: Thank you. My Colleague, Deputy Speaker.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable Speaker, thank you for giving me the Floor at this moment I call critical, where we are gathered to say bye-bye to you, but not bye-bye for good.

First of all, I would like to associate myself with the eloquent farewell statement of Professor Katjavivi, however, as a person who worked under you, I have a moral and legal obligation to say something.

In addition to that you are a skilful and seasoned diplomat, as well as a freedom fighter, I have to add that, through the five years I have worked with you, you are a peacemaker and an effective listener. What I have learned from you in that time led to my recognition outside the Republic of Namibia. It is because of your skilful training strategy that I was elected as one of the Vice Presidents of the Pan African Parliament at continental level. You may not have noticed, but having listened to you helped me acquire your skill of listening to others. This person in front of us would never quarrel with you, no. He speaks a diplomatic language and if you are not clever enough, you will not understand what he is telling you.

Comrade Speaker, we have three Organs of the State: The Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature, you are the only one who climbed to the top of the two Organs. You were the Prime Minister, second in charge of the Executive and you were the first here at the Legislative Body. I always used to say that to be a seasoned politician, as a legislator, you must at least go through those Organs.

I wish you well. I am a believer in God, I will pray for you and your dear

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wife. This is not the end. We will always come to knock at your door for advice. Thank you so much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you, my Friend.

HON DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would also like to bid farewell to my Comrades and Colleagues. Please allow me to mention their names: Comrade Teopolina Mushelenga, Comrade Ilonga, Comrade *Tate* Amathila, Comrade *Tate* Kaapanda, Comrade Kapia, Comrade Lempy Lucas, Comrade Petrina Haingura, Comrade Rosalia Nghidinwah, Comrade Elia Kaiyamo, Comrade Katali, Comrade Jankowski, Comrade Richard Kamwi, Comrade Kazenambo Kazenambo, Comrade Namwandi, Comrade Herunga and Comrade Muharukua. You are leaving but in my view you will return within two days.

I know that all of you have contributed to the fight for the Independence of Namibia. The majority of you fought physically to free this country and after that you came to assist our Heads of State to manage this country in the interest of our people. I am still going to mention those people who are leaving voluntarily.

I will quote what my Sister, Comrade Rosa Nghidinwa, whom I describe as a silent strategist, said when she was asked – *what are you going to do, is it the end of politics?* She said – *no, politics is not only in the House of Parliament, but everywhere.* I know all of you will continue from where you left off and we welcome you and I am aware of your significant contribution.

To our two senior Colleagues who voluntarily retired, the Minister of

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Defence, the Deputy Prime Minister, these are my seniors but you are not old. You will still be there in terms of politics and we will continue relying on you. We will come to you for advice, so do not get tired of us. Please advise us as we will be running around.

To all the Colleagues from the various Political Parties who are not coming back, you may come back after five years – go well. May God bless you. Thank you so much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Kazenambo.

HON KAZENAMBO: Thank you, Honourable Speaker for giving me the Floor to say goodbye, goodbye and goodbye. Thank you very much. I am one of those who have joined my Senior Leaders, accompanying them in voluntary retirement because normally we say that when Leaders are moving out, there should be a young one to move with them, to accompany them in certain traditions, however, this happened coincidentally or accidentally, I do not know. When I am extending my farewell, I am extending a farewell and thanks to people who are alive and some who are no more. People who have been witness to this person we are bidding farewell to today.

I will try to be brief but the journey has been long. The life of the person whom we are bidding farewell to spans over about three countries. It spans from Botswana – from a family homestead of the late Reverend Veketa Kazenambo who later became Bishop Veketa Kazenambo who was a worker in Sehitwa together with Daniel Munamava, Hirore, Kapombo, Muundjua and many others, I was too young.

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When I was young, I used to listen to the Voice of Namibia from Tanzania, that cracking voice that was not clear due to jams. It would be faded out and that was the baptism of politics. I thank those people who were communicating that voice, conveying the message of hope of one day coming home. I grew up in that house and I keep saying that I think all my actions should not be blamed on anybody, but on me because you cannot say that it is his biological parents who failed to make him a, b, c. At the tender age of 15 or 16 I lived in SWAPO Offices in Francistown under the care of the late *Meme* Selma Nghidinwa, a wife of Andrew Nghidinwa – may her soul rest in peace because she is no more. We used to live together.

I used to live under the care of Kalinda who was the Representative at UN Council for Namibia in Botswana. We used to call him at midnight asking him to help us. When the SWAPO Chief Representative, Andrew Nghidinwa or *Meme* Selma was not there, we used to call Kalinda and say that we have refugees who have arrived and are stranded in Francistown without food. It me and Kondja Sheehama and may his soul also rest in peace because he is no more. We were young kids who used to be left at those offices. I am saying thanks to them and I am saying thanks to Leonard Ipumbu, the Chief Executive of Agribank who used to take care of us. If I am like this at this age, just imagine how I was when I was merely 16. I must thank him because I remember the day we were working, taking care of the office young as we were, when he just arrived from Lusaka, I could see that he was stressed and frustrated. I used to smoke cigarettes, we used to play with that as kids. I was sitting in a SWAPO car and he came to me and said Kazenambo – *how can you smoke in the car?* My answer to him was – *it is a SWAPO car*. He just turned and went back to the office even though there was nothing that he was going to do at the office. I could see that he was frustrated. I threw the cigarette away and I said let us go home and I could see him lightening up again. We went home. I, therefore, thank him and his wife most sincerely for having taken care of this boy who some people cannot contain.

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I thank the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) instructors, who in my political career at its pinnacle, have taught me to assemble and disassemble a gun, who have taught me about military manoeuvres, who have taught me to crawl with an injured person while also protecting myself and who have taught me not to surrender under whatever circumstances.

As I am bidding farewell and saying thanks it cannot be more blessing and moving that when I am saying thanks to PLAN, General Namoloh and Erick Nghimtina is sitting here. Maybe he forgot, but I remember that when we were at Hainyuwa, where we received pre-military training in Lubango before one goes to Tobias Hainyeko, every morning you would see a big green Chevrolet or Ford and you could see him coming from the Military Council, the Military Headquarters of our PLAN. That was a simple life of organised people who were proud to deliver freedom.

One afternoon I was leading a section unit from our military camp of which I was the Commander and we were coming from the field. It was a unit of about 10 people. We went under the bridge and the convoy that was above the bridge could not identify us as we were emerging. There were 3 convoys that were guarding Ho Chi Min who was our Chief of Staff at the time. We did not give any signal that we were in the area, the situation could have turned out into a tragedy. I hear people talking about war here but the worst thing that we feared in our military operation was the engagement of two PLAN Units because you were guaranteed of a disaster as no one would retreat even for an inch. Everyone would go forward without retreat, that I guarantee you, and that would lead to the worst tragedy. We were all lucky because they were on top and we were emerging from the bottom and immediately, we realised that they wanted to trigger a signal, we spotted that but thanks to his tact because if he was a shaky Commander, he would have commanded that we clash and imagine those machine guns and everything. I, therefore, thank you for your continuous vigilance and I thank you for knowing what we were capable of.

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I am using this opportunity to thank all those people. Some of them are in the Police Force that you see here, some are in the villages, some are drivers while others are unemployed. I have always been the talkative one but we knew our mission – we have never compromised it, we have never surrendered to the day. I am now using this opportunity to say that one of our unpopular voices is saying farewell and thank you.

Let me now shift to politics; I thank you my Commander Nghimtina and I thank you my Commander Ho Chi Min. Let me also thank the political Commissar of PLAN that many of us do not know – the Joel Kaapanda sitting there was one of the PLAN Commissars. Thank you for laying the political ideology that we have followed.

I am about to round up for the sake of others who also want to take the Floor. Coming to my Political Leaders; I am thanking the Founding President, thanking President Pohamba for having appointed me to serve as a Deputy Minister, thanking Nahas Angula for having given me the key to education, Professor Katjavivi and thanking the Right Honourable Prime Minister who is the President Elect because I have worked with him for years.

Let me thank everybody – I thank Honourable Kapia because he was my Secretary, he is demanding that status. Thanks to those that we have worked with in the SWAPO Youth League the Shifetas and the Juliets. I thank everybody.

Now my last word, this troubled boy, Kazenambo Kazenambo, this problematic boy who knows no culture, who knows no language is saying bye-bye. He is saying bye-bye because from the age of 15 to the age of 52 he has never not known anything other than politics and the politics of SWAPO, nothing else. I have been sent to various missions, silent missions and missions of no return but with whatever character, thanks that I have never betrayed the cause. As a person who has been born in

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exile and a person who has been on the duty, I am now saying farewell.

I am now saying that others must take over as I am retreating as an ordinary citizen to the Oshanas of the North, to the tropical forests and rivers of the Eastern Kavango, to the East of Omaheke, to the oceans of Arandis, to the plain areas of the South. I am a citizen whose identity
(*intervention*)

HON MEMBER: And Zambezi?

HON KAZENAMBO: I have mentioned the tropical forests of Zambezi and Kavango. As a citizen, I would like to enjoy what my forefathers have been deprived of. I want to be a free citizen, no duty and no what, and to be a spoiled child! I thank you and I thank you. (*Applause*)

HON SPEAKER: Honourable Kazenambo, I did not know you were a poet too. Honourable Tjihuiko.

HON TJIHUIKO: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. To speak after Kazenambo Kazenambo has become a challenge, all that I can say is that I have been trying to control Kazenambo Kazenambo, but I failed.

Honourable Speaker, it is indeed very difficult for one to say good-bye. I remember the first time I entered this Chamber in 2005, sitting here at the back with some ideas and looking at the other side of the isle; I said to

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myself *I have arrived, I am going to teach them a lesson.* I was thinking that there are people with better knowledge than others, thinking that there are people who are better educated than others, but as the time went by, I started realising that, yes, this is a different ball game indeed.

However, before I continue Honourable Speaker, let me use this opportunity to thank you personally for the kind leadership that you have provided to us. As a young person during those years, I have come to know few Leaders who were in exile. We have known names of some Leaders without having seen them and among those that we thought we knew, was a young man called Theo-Ben Gurirab at the United Nations.

We were reading your contributions through the *Republikein*. Every time that something happened at the United Nations, they wrote – “*Theo-Ben Gurirab het by die Verenigde Volke gepraat,*” and that was inspirational for the younger people. There were few that we thought we knew, Pieter Katjavivi – “*Die Herero man van SWAPO het in London gepraat.*” These things were like dreams to us.

In 1982, I visited the United States. I went to New York with some colleagues, Advocate Rukoro and Zack Kazapua and we went to the UN and there I said to both of them that – *I want to see Theo-Ben Gurirab.* In fact, we wanted to shake hands and take a photo with him. When we entered the Restaurant of the UN, we saw him sitting there with some diplomats in a serious discussion. That is when we started learning about the politics of diplomacy.

Honourable Speaker, you did not know us by then but we knew you. We may not have been in the same Political Party, but you have inspired us to keep on with the struggle. We knew then that having polished politicians at all corners of the international politics, we were in safe hands.

Yes, when I entered the Chamber, sitting on this side of the Chamber, looking at that side, I said to myself – *it is true, this country is free, we are making Laws for ourselves, whether good or bad we are going to blame*

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ourselves for what we have done.

There were Leaders who have encouraged us to move on, but as I said earlier, sometimes one enters the Chamber with predetermined ideas on what you are going to say. You do not listen, once someone stands up to say something, you already start planning what you are going to say and in that process there would be a lot of misunderstanding.

Honourable Speaker, one of the things I remember, that you have done with *Mbuti Ben* as we used to call him, is the guidance that you have provided to me in particular, when we were trying to finalise the Motion by Chief Riruako on Genocide and Reparation. I remember one day sitting with Honourable Amathila as a SWAPO Chief Whip in the Restaurant and him telling me – *this is the best way to draft the Motion of this nature, make a change here for this reason and use these words as opposed to these ones.* We have learnt and benefitted from your experiences that you gained through hardships during those years.

Honourable Speaker, there are a few things that I want to say; one of them is – I am sure that we all know that this country is beautiful. I have never been to any country and meeting people who do not want to Namibia. They really want to come to this beautiful country. I am not surprised to read in the newspaper that 40 countries will be represented during our 25th celebrations. It is good and it did not come by chance, but through hard work.

We sustained peace and democracy, things that Honourable Kaura has referred to and of course, democracy is very expensive. Sometimes you compromise, and pay a high price to keep democracy. We should continue doing that because if we do not do it, the consequences will be too grave. I am saying this because the politics of today have become the politics of the elders and the youth. The politics of today have become – *we will take everything that we want; no Rules and no Laws, as long as we are young, it belongs to us.* We should not lose our heads. Let us keep on

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talking to the youth explaining to them that peace and tranquillity is expensive.

Let me come to my conclusion. Honourable Speaker, I will fail in my duty if I do not recognise what you have done through your humble leadership in this Chamber for us, for me as a person, for NUDO as a Party and for the entire family of Chief Riruako when the dark cloud befell us. There were shoulders for us to cry on.

Honourable Speaker, I am too small to thank you and through you, the Government of the Republic of Namibia, particularly His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba, for what you have done for Chief Riruako from the day that he was admitted to Catholic Hospital until the day that we put him to rest in Okahandja.

Let me conclude by saying something on a lighter note; the Debates that we had in this Honourable Chamber were very interesting, we were calling each other names, Honourable Kazenambo would call me *twister*, I did not understand what it means and did not bother to ask. There an Honourable Member really gave me tough time during the Debates, especially from the other side of the isle. When it comes to shooting from the hip and kicking without looking where they are kicking, I cannot forget Honourable Angelika Muharukua who one day stood up in this Honourable Chamber when I was at it, thinking that *now I have cornered the Minister of Finance*. It was during the Budget Debate that Honourable Muharukua stood up and said – *Point of Order, Honourable Speaker!* And the Honourable Speaker did not want to give her a chance, upon which she begged him and said – *no, no, Honourable Speaker please!* She stood up and said – *Honourable Tjihuiko, do you know that your wife is a SWAPO Member? (Laughter)*. I was actually expecting something serious, so I honestly went blank. I went blank, I had to go for my glass of water to recover because I had lost my rhythm. Then there was Peter Iilonga. While you are serious on something, he would stand up, take everything so lightly, change it into a different direction altogether and then Honourable Utoni would stand up and say – *og these tribalists!* We could

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hear when you say these things on that side and when you start listening to that, you definitely lose direction. Including Honourable Katali, these were the people who have gave me tough times when it came to Debates.

When the Debates start heating up and you start getting the confidence that – *yes, I think I am getting the attention!* You would see the big one standing up in the name of Professor Katjavivi. You would know then that trouble was on its way.

There was also the Honourable Minister of Finance. When the President Elect announced her appointment, he said that she would be killing with smile. She would stand up smiling and then dissect what you have said point by point, trying to prove to the listener out there that – *no, no, Tjihuiko is not right because this is the truth* and she would go on smiling at you for a few minutes. You would know then that people are now looking at her and – *I am being neutralised here, so I must put what I am saying in a different perspective* and then the Speaker would say – *time is up, Tjihuiko sit down*. It was an experience.

For my Colleagues and Comrades on this side, the people that you call the Opposition, there is no opposition on this side, we are just small Parties on this side waiting to take over one day. We are not opposing anything, is it not Comrades? Yes. We are not opposing anything, all that we doing is to provide different views.

Honourable Speaker, let me once more thank you very much for everything that you have done for us. Obviously, I will not be retiring and I will not be going to the farm because I do not have any cattle and do not have a farm.

The Honourable Minister of Lands did not resettle me. I will be around in Windhoek. I will leave my contact details at the Office of the Speaker, so anybody who will be looking for somebody to help you in your garden, do

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not go far, please give me a call, I will come. I have experience in washing cars and speaking in Parliament. Thank you very much once more and God bless you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Iilonga.

HON DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Comrade Speaker. I would like to join my Colleagues who gave us their wisdom and stand here as a *stukkend kop* (broken head). *Cabeça não trabalho!*

Firstly, I want to thank *Karunga Kanangombe, Kalunga koo Kuku* followed by my father and my teacher. Those two leaving animals, although my dad died in 1965, I have regarded him as hating me. When he was beating me, I always saying – *no my daddy*, it was just as if I was not his son. Then there was my teacher, Paulus Kauro, in 1966 when I was in Standard 4 in Okahao. There were no cars and bicycles at that time. You could only find a bicycle at the Clergy House.

I was lucky that when my dad passed on we were having horses and I knew how to ride, so I used to ride my horse to school in Okahao. There was a station called Amakeya and I hated stations. The period of that station was always on Wednesday and when it was time for that period, I do not know, I just started becoming emotional. My principal and teacher went to fetch my horsewhip and whipped us with that. I said to myself – *I will just wait for him, ambush him and I will chase him with a horse*. That is what I did. I chased him and the horse was trained to hunt.

I would ride so close to him on his bicycle and hold it, you would hear a wobbling sound. He came to learn later that the bicycle could not do

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anything so he jumped off the bicycle. I did not damage, but started becoming frightened. I did not know that this was a preparation in disguise. Since we were not many coming from *Etilyasa* to Okahao, the people did not know what I did there. My mother thought that I was going to school, but I did reach school, I was just hiding. I then decided to get this *Ovambo stamp – okakarata*, that would enable one to look for work.

I wanted to take a short cut, but my father's brother was working in the office and he would not allow me to get that, he would chase me away, so I ambushed him. When he went out of the office, I came in, lifted a bag of sand and retrieved a card, and I went to Ondangwa. I was lucky, I was employed on a farm east of Grootfontein. I just stayed there from May to July, sneaked out and went back to Grootfontein. In Grootfontein, the people got me a bus ticket to Tsumeb.

I initially thought that these people hated me, but I later came to learn that they were just preparing and I thank them. They prepared me to face whatever came my way calmly without panicking. That is where I earned the name *Mutse Gwateka* (broken head). Obviously, people do not know my character, as I am a person who can only be known when I work closely with someone. However, if I just stand here you will never know who Iilonga is. You would either say I am a drunkard or someone who cannot even utter a single word. No, it is not like that.

I went abroad in 1974. Comrade Ho Chi Min, we must talk about ourselves like our Comrades from *Tanga*, they talk about themselves. There is no need to hide, they talked about themselves and support each other while we forget about the hardship we went through. People who do not know that for me to stand here as I do today, it was not easy. It was not easy to be here alive. That is why I thank *Karunga Kanangombe* who carried me. I was an Engineer who first had to clear the road for my Comrade Ho Chi Min to pass through. I was the first to come across a double bomb and dismantle it without any casualties.

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Comrades, I, therefore, thank all those people who made me to be who I am today. In my last battle, Ho Chi Min clearly knows that no one in the history of PLAN Fighters would bring back horses alive apart from this *Mutse Gwateka* and Hole Ulenga, the man who comes after Honourable Ulenga. We were the first and thereafter they did not even use horses. No one in the history of SWAPO's Liberation Struggle ever reached the level of fighting of this very same *broken head* and my mentor, my political Commissar – the late Comrade John Pandeni, may his with soul rest in peace. No one! No matter how much we talk and that is a history that will remain. There is no fiction in Iilonga – *Mutse Gwateka's* history.

I can never forget my last battle in my life that is why I am saying it was not easy to be here alive. We fought the day we were followed by enemies inside Namibia in the village called Osharongo. My Commander was the Councillor of Onayena Constituency, Comrade Nekongo. We vowed never to allow our Commander to be captured and we did as we were trained, until we brought him back alive and he is still alive.

My Commander Mburunganga as well as the Ho Chi Min and others are still alive. They were planning the mission that needed to be carried out, a mission they termed *a mission of no return*. After they had a proper look at the PLAN Combatants, they identified *broken head – stukkend kop* to be given that assignment and he had to fulfil that under the Commandership of Comrade Martin Iifo and my political Commissar John Alfonso Pandeni. We came in and fulfilled our assignment until the enemy could not do anything any longer. I did not use money until the day they came to know of our whereabouts. The three of us were arrested. I want to thank the Late Comrade Pandeni no matter whether he is resting at the Heroes Acre. I want to thank this Government for honouring him.

I have to thank Comrade Biwa because he is the man who let me remain alive. We thought that he was going to reveal our connection with the Late Comrade Witbooi because the Late Comrade Witbooi gave him to us, may his soul rest in peace. The Late Comrade Witbooi stood firm and I

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know him as a builder. Go to Gibeon and you will see the fruits of our hands. We built that office as guerrilla fighters. During the day we were guerrilla fighters and at night we were builders, the three of us, late Comrade Witbooi, late Comrade Pandeni and Ilonga still alive. I am the only one who is still alive. You may remember that during Comrade Pandeni's Memorial Service, in the presence of my First Commander-in-Chief of PLAN and my current Commander-in-Chief of Namibian Defence Force I said that – *there are things that I will tell you, but there are things the two Comrades died without saying and I will die without saying it.* I repeat what I said.

Comrades, after that we were arrested and were sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. We were sent to Robin Island where we found Honourable Ulenga and other Comrades. We endured hard labour. I experienced an asthma attack in 2005 and my lungs were left with only 30 seconds before they could collapse. I give thanks to our hospital, not a private hospital, that resuscitated me.

They told my wife who is a sister by profession and said – *Pauline Ilonga we do not need your consent. We are carrying out all tests whether HIV or whatever, to see whether that we treat one and only one disease.* They did that and found that I was clean except for asthma. They said that – *you will be with this asthma for 25 years. We will treat it now and it will only return after 25 years.* Maybe by that time, after 25 years, I will no longer be Ilonga but the Late Ilonga, who knows?

We served only 8 of the 18 years of imprisonment and came back. We arrived here with Honourable Ulenga and were given instructions by the Senior Comrades from abroad not leave Namibia, but that we must organise the workers and revive the structure of NUNW. We did that with vigour and determination. The Esaus, the !Naruseb, the Ngatjizekos were beaten up. I blew up a bridge between Usakos and Karibib and did not know who blew that up because I was in Gibeon and they are beaten up – *klap die terroriste!* (slap the terrorists). They did not know because I

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never had any communication with any person who was linked to SWAPO because we did not want them to suffer. That is why they were beaten up, time after time but they could not reveal anything. Comrades, honestly speaking, this may sound like a waste of time, but it is important.

When we came back I also used to stay with my Late Comrade Anton Lubowski and we worked together with Comrade Loide Kasingo who as a lawyer was denied to practice under the colonial Government. We worked day and night to prepare for you, all the houses that you find here passed through *this man*.

I was one of the key planners to who undertook a decision to make sure that your safety was protected, that was my field. The houses where you were accommodated, everything including driving. We drove some of you and also made sure to give you people whom we knew were honest. This cost Comrade Tjiramba his job, although he is now heading the brewery. They dismissed our Comrades when they discovered that he was driving some of you. I drove the Comrade President Elect for four months. The scarf he is wearing is from *this man*. All the fortune he has comes from *this man* because I never failed in my duty. I would do it and complete it. Everything else would happen after my work was done.

I came to this Chamber in 1995 and started as Backbencher there behind Comrade Billy Mwaningange before I was promoted to where he is now. I ended where Honourable Kapia is. In the year 2000 I was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism. This is where I started sitting before I went to sit at the end. Then I came where Honourable Utoni is, from there I came here and I am here now (*laughter*). Honestly speaking, that is the reality.

In the year 2005, I became the Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Welfare and in the year 2009, I was the Deputy Minister of Agriculture for three months. The year 2012, I became the Deputy Minister of Defence,

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the responsibility which I am going to lay on the table today to allow others to come in.

I thank my Founding President for the trust he had in me. I was denied academic education, but militarily I was well prepared. The Chinese and Soviet Union trained me. I was crying when I saw that Crimea was almost gone but fortunately, Crimea remained and yesterday completed one year of its return to Russia, congratulations. I want to thank those countries.

I also want to thank Comrade Dr Hifikepunye Pohamba who continued to have that trust in me and allowed me to continue serving under his leadership.

In our time as Backbenchers we did not enjoy the same privileges enjoyed by today's Backbenchers and I want to thank my first Speaker, late Honourable Mosé Tjitendero for his efforts. Founders always experience problems. We did not even have the benefit of transport allowance. Let me simply say we had nothing but we were entrusted to go on missions.

As I always used to say, Namibia is a good country, it is the only country where people differ politically but socially, they are working together. Comrade Speaker, we also made history by being the only country, that had a physical battle, but managed to form a unified Namibian Police Force and Defence Force that include both forces that were fighting each other without any civil war erupting. We, therefore, need to thank ourselves.

I want to thank my second Speaker Comrade Gurirab for your endurance because I was sometimes naughty as Honourable Tjiuiko revealed. I simultaneously thank you for having been our leader of the House as Prime Minister, as well as our first Prime Minister for steering this House in the right direction. It is through your leadership that we gained higher discipline and respect.

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Comrade Speaker, it is not easy to leave people who made you who you are today. I served under five Ministers and I want to thank them all. Firstly, with Comrade Malima there has never been any problem because he was a political Commissar and I was an Engineering Commander. We worked together and we established many of the conservancies that people are talking about. Go and read for yourselves, there is an Iilonga name to many of the conservancies that exist today. I was exposed.

From there, I moved on to the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare where I worked with Comrade !Naruseb. He is the man who sent me to school for training. I even attended courses that were conducted by some of the reputable Universities to gain negotiation skills although, I am a natural negotiator. I never failed in my negotiation skills. Just ask Comrade Calle Schlettwein and Simataa when they were Permanent Secretaries. Unfortunately Comrade Simataa is not here, otherwise you would have known who *Mutse Gwateka* was but he was *Ekanda* then. I, therefore, want to sincerely thank Comrade Malima, Comrade !Naruseb, Comrade Ngatjizeko, Comrade John Mutorwa and of course my current my Senior under whom I felt like the Minister. All of them used to delegate most missions to me.

To all the Ministers and would be Ministers, I would like to advise them to please treat their Deputies and would be Deputies as their advisors because they do not have a job description. The job description of the Deputy Minister is the same as that of the Minister. His or her duty is to make sure that the terms of reference is implemented. That is my humble request to you Comrades.

I admire the President of Zambia who I used to meet when he was the Minister of Defence. We used to have discussions to solve some of the very delicate issues such as those of the Great Lake. I have a high regard for the way he expressed himself on the recognition of Deputy Minister because he also used to be a Deputy Minister sometime time back.

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Please, Comrades, let us change this thing of not attaching value to Deputy Ministers. They are only recognised in the absence of their Ministers. The same Ministers who fight in Cabinet are the ones fighting here and they just end up thinking like a monopoly. It would be better to delegate certain things to your juniors that would eventually come back to you for approval in order to encourage efficiency. I do not know which system we follow. When other Deputy Ministers come here they are recognised they can even make a courtesy to our President while we cannot even meet ordinary Ministers in their countries. Let us look into this thing. It is more helpful when you expose your Deputies.

As I said earlier, I was more fortunate to be able to communicate with all my Ministers openly, and I am referring to all five Ministers with the exception of only one who is not here, Honourable Malima. I am aware of some of my fellow Deputies who do not even get a document from Cabinet, but are expected to represent their Ministers tomorrow. They are there, it is that one cannot mention names because you are bidding farewell.

To my fellow SWAPO Members of Parliament – Comrades, I want to thank you for all the assistance you have rendered to me. I also want to thank my fellow Members of Parliament from the Opposition. Sometimes I was harsh to them, however, I was just honest and I will remain honest. I will continue to state that, yes, theoretically we are friends, but practically we are not friends. We are theoretically friends and that is why we meet, travel together, eat in the same hotel. However, I know a person who is not my friend. He is planning to make sure that I am out one day. How can he be a friend in that way, yet he insists to be my friend? This was said on a lighter note.

In conclusion, I want to thank the public out there for the genuine trust they have in me all along up until today. They invited me left and right but despite the fact that Iilonga will not be here, he still feels ready to

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serve his community. I saw people written in the *Windhoek Observer*, and I want to tell them that my political career was not built in Parliament. I came to Parliament because I am a politician and I am a SWAPO member. I remain a SWAPO member and a member of the Central Committee of SWAPO until 2017. How can a person say – *his political career will end with Parliament?* Parliament is not a House for politicians, but a House for the representatives of the people. This is where we represent the people. When I campaign, I never tell people to vote for DTA or CoD, I tell them not to vote for them but here when we talk about the Budget here, I say – *let us have a Budget that can help all the Namibian people including the Opposition Members and those who are known politically.* That is why I just want to assure you that my political career will not end with Parliament. I am going to carry on with my Political Party – the SWAPO Party's activities and I am going to assist my community with setting up projects that will benefit them. Those are the issues.

Lastly, Comrade Speaker, I want to thank Comrade Kazenambo Kazenambo. I consciously wanted to say this at the end. At the beginning, I did not know him but as a person who worked with so many people, I studied him and I now understand him. Now I know that he is not emotional when he speaks because I always used to challenge him by saying he is emotional – he is not emotional. Comrade Speaker, it is, honestly speaking, rare to find someone whom you may differ with to the extent of even quarrelling, however, when you go outside is just as if you had no differences.

People wanted to hit our heads against each other while it was none of their business, but we handled our differences and left them behind us. Fellow Comrades, I am also an emotional person although not at the degree with my Comrade, Kazenambo Kazenambo (*laughter*).

I became very emotional, especially after my dad passed on when I was 17 years old. I loved *Tate* even though he used to beat me. However, when

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he passed on, I became vicious and I started fighting. I thank SWAPO and my uncle for developing me in the person that I am today. My uncle took me out of my Village EtiIyasa that is why people do not know that I am a *Ngandjera*, a *Kwaludhi* and I am a *Kologadhi*. My uncle took me as a Christian by belief, out of my home village and I went to stay with him. I do not know what happened to me but I was vicious. If you look at me, you can even see my *omayego* – the mark on my teeth (*laughter*).

However, I honestly speaking, respect Comrade Kazenambo Kazenambo *tjinene uriri* (very much). *Omuano mbo omundu tjeripura kutja tjimatu ka hakaena ozongomi ndumazeumbwa* (to the contrary, one would expect that when we meet we would be exchanging blows).

Having said that, let us go and do the work of our Parties. Let us go and unify our people. I always believe that unity is core to the success of all of us. Tribalism is a disease, even worse than HIV/AIDS. We must fight against it and work as a team. Thank you, thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you very much indeed. Honourable Ulenka.

HON ULENGA: Honourable Speaker, after my Comrade and others who have spoken before me, I have to start by acknowledging and associating myself strongly with most of what they said.

Honourable Speaker, Colleagues, memory lane is a long street. It is a street that, no matter how you walk, you may not be able to complete. However, let us start by being humble. It is with extreme humility that I want to remember the ways that I have come and the extents that I have

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reached together with you Comrades in Parliament, and as I say Comrades, I just mean each and everybody who is assembled here.

If I look around, I do not know whom to mention first, whether it is Kandy Nehova there with whom we used to play soccer, a formidable fullback as you see him there. You stand up and start saying things that you have not actually thought of saying when you first entered the House. If I look around me here, I just keep on calling up names like that.

Theo-Ben Gurirab, I must thank you for being a giant and perhaps I should not address you, but the Colleagues. In Namibia, we have some rare blessings despite all the other negative aspects that we have, we are lucky enough to have some rare people amongst us who have always proved to be giants and one of them is, of course, our current Speaker. On a personal level, thank you for recommending good authors like Langston Hughes and others whom I did not know and thought I have I already knew until you introduced them personally to me. I just wish that, amongst all the other blessings that you have, you will continue this rare characteristic of reading and of making others read because knowledge and even character itself comes from reading and acquainting oneself with other people's ideas.

The two Colleagues, Ilonga and Kazenambo Kazenambo spoke about PLAN and if I delve into that, I may end up repeating a lot of stuff that they have said already, but I feel happy enough for having said that – me, myself, personally, not borrowing anybody's body, stood there with a tiny weapon called AK47 against canons, helicopters, mirages and all kinds of weapons, it has made me to believe in myself and to know that it does not matter how little one is.

I am also proud of our beloved jewel, especially when it comes to memory lane – the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN). I am very happy to associate myself with those who stood up or actually had the

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opportunity because some never had that opportunity to go and say – *yes here we are, whoever you are, however big you are, we are ready for you, you can just do whatever you want to do, but will never put us down.*

However, we are talking about Parliament. Here in this Parliament where I first came in 1990, serving on the side of SWAPO and then coming here to represent the CoD, I sometimes feel I just belong to both.

HON MEMBER: Now come over!

HON ULENGA: No, I am where I am, I do not need to come over anywhere. Wherever I am on this soil of our forefathers, I just feel at home. However, what I mentioned is that I never feel like I have left and unlike others, I never feel (*intervention*)

HON MEMBER: Cry!

HON ULENGA: I may cry, I am also a person, even though I can assure you that today I will not cry. I never feel that I should not have done what I have done. I feel very proud of what I have done, I have no regrets. Of course, there are some regrets but who will live a life without regrets.

Regrets must be such that we can handle them. Sometimes you leave late

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and you miss something. Sometimes you leave early and you leave something. Somebody was saying so when they missed being bombed in a certain area; they just left and then there were bombs. Therefore, you must count yourself lucky when you have regrets that you can handle, but definitely in everybody's life there will be such a thing that – *I should have spoken to so and so or I should have warned him*, those kinds of things.

However, talking about serving in this House, having mentioned the need for us to approach it with humility and to thank the Namibian people for bringing us so far, I would also like to thank you specifically. I will not mention names. For the opportunity to cross-fertilise, I have singled out the man who is supervising us there. I mainly associate myself with him in this particular context but let us leave out the names. Like Tjihuiko was saying, and actually surprising so, you come here and think – *no, it is only the doctors who are going to educate me*, so you come here, stand up and want to listen to Doctor *So and So* because there have been a few here before but then you end up being educated from a completely unexpected corner. Thank you very much for having been there and for doing just that.

This country, especially this House after 25 years, has come to recognise the need to have sufficient representation of women in Parliament, for example. I really think that it has been one of the high points in our short history. When we started to implement this in the CoD, it was cancelled out by the fact that we were a small Party, but when a big Party such as SWAPO comes to recognise that need, then you can see the result and I am actually proud, partly for having implemented it before, but I am also proud that as a Nation we have come to put it into action. It is a long way to go. I was recently listening to an interview on the TV. The way that we do not understand gender and women issues is amazing because I saw women doctors in this interview admitting to having stood there watching a woman having a heart attack without recognising the fact because as

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women doctors who have gone through the whole course, they have studied the human anatomy from the male point of view and the known recognisable symptoms of a heart attack of a male person are different from those of a woman. Perhaps you did not know and I also did not know. I am not starting to be a doctor, but even physically speaking, there are so many differences which impact so much on our social wellbeing as a community and we need to still go a long way in terms of balancing this world, this community and the society into a proper of 50/50 representation. The understanding, the studies and everything must be 50/50 and not have a situation where you have women studying about the male symptoms of a heart attack without actually knowing that a woman's heart attack starts differently. I was shocked to hear about this kind of approach, for example.

Colleagues, I do not want to cancel myself out completely because I have never felt like leaving, I am just there in Namibia even when I am six feet under the ground. However, those who are going to actively serve this House, push so that in the end there is not just proper legislation, but a completely non-gender biased approach, especially when it comes to issues that socially impact on you.

Since I do not want to take too long, let me come to my sore point. If I have regrets, the one that is perhaps worth mentioning is the fact that however much I have spoken, I have not been able to attract sufficient attention on the issue of Education and everybody single person recognises it from the President down to the last person, but yet every year we have more than 50% of failures both in Grade 10 and Grade 12.

Looking at other countries and other societies, I am actually alarmed and I think all of you should be alarmed because that makes us lag far behind.

President Elect, there is a need to put more and more money into Education. It is one single area of concern to many of us in this country.

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It is one single area where we need to push very hard and no matter who is going to be there, whoever will have that kind of leverage, please let them use it to make sure that Namibians are properly and sufficiently educated in order to make this country move forward. I am trying to keep names out, but I have learned a lot from interacting with everybody here, particularly our Chief as well. Your Colleague is out here, I was going to mention the morning when he came to open the jail gate for us. Iilonga is still there. Maudjuu was not there, but I was going to thank him. I hated not persons those days; I have almost crossed the universe in that respect as well, I used to be very hateful in a certain respect, but this country is teaching us a lot of things. It also teaches us to learn to love each other, like I love my Comrade very much.

Thank you Namibia, thank you Comrades in this House for being there for all of us, some of you, perhaps in ways you have not foreseen but this is a small country with long distances. If I am not in this Parliament, you will just be a phone call away from me and I have made it a point to collect all the numbers, including that of Honourable Angula. I will not change my number – not for now.

Let me allow others who still want to speak, sometimes, some of us like to listen to ourselves. As my last word, Comrade Theo-Ben Gurirab, our collective teacher, other Comrades, you will not believe it but I am extremely happy to have served, especially in my last capacity with you. I am saying last just for now. Like I said, until that day that some of you will take the spades and put the last tuft of sand, I shall be in this country and nobody will shut my mouth. Thank you very much. I am now going to shut up. (*Laughter*)

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Just as you say Mr Ben. The lights guide me, so first come first serve. Honourable Dingara,

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HON DINGARA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Thanks to God, the Almighty, who have made everything possible from the day I was born until today.

Thanks to the NUNW and all the Namibian workers. Thanks to the SWAPO Party that has given me the opportunity to come and serve the Namibian people here in the National Assembly.

I arrived here when I was 45 years old and I am retiring at 50. The five years that I have been here have made me a completely different person from whom I was. It is true that I was not intending to take the Floor, but also thought that since the Speaker is leaving now, we may never have the opportunity to say some things in his presence again.

I can remember that I was the only one who served Parliamentary Committee, Standing Rules and Orders without a portfolio. All the other Members are Chairpersons and Chief Whips, so I do not know how I reached there.

In 2012, while attending a SADC Plenary Assembly in Maputo, our Speaker, Dr Gurirab, invited me for dinner and he was telling me that – *this is my last term, I am going to retire. I will retire and go to Swakopmund and Usakos. The reason I am retiring is that I have a big library in my head that I do not want to die with. I want to share it so that others can learn from it on paper.*

About two or three weeks ago, when the NBC asked him why he was retiring, he said – *perhaps the people have read my mind or discovered my secret, I do not know from where they did get that.* I was telling my wife it is true because he told me that he is going to retire in 2012.

During the entire five years, I served in the SADC Parliamentary Forum and I do not know who decided for me to serve there, however, having

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served there with the Speaker, I was given many opportunities and these opportunities came personally from him as a Leader.

Before I came here to the House, I was afraid because people like Theo-Ben Gurirab were people we only used to hear about or see on TV. We did not shake their hands physically and all of a sudden I was told – *you are working with the Speaker*. Even though I was a Member of Parliament, when I went to his office the first time, I was shivering because I was still under the same impression that I was speaking to a big person. However, it was just a matter of time and his leaderships approach made me feel very comfortable around him.

I have been given the opportunity to lead the SADC Parliamentary Forum missions to elections held in different countries. He first appointed me on behalf of the SADC Parliamentary Forum to lead the mission to Zambia and finally to lead the mission to Lesotho and that was last month. I found myself pondering whether to wait until this Session of the House to first adjourn before I could say thanks to the Comrade Speaker or just say it to the Namibian people.

I am going to leave this House with a wealth of knowledge. I was born in Mayara, I am now going to Mayara a different person than when I left Mayara, and I hope to make a fruitful contribution to my village. Like Honourable Ulenga said, I tried to avoid mentioning names because there are so many of you who have contributed to my life; starting from up there, I have the Kavetunas, Muheuas, Tjekero Tweyas, Mutorwas, our teacher, the Ben Esaus, all these people here have made a meaningful contribution to my life and I would like to thank all of them.

I now know SADC, however, before coming to Parliament I only knew Namibia. As we speak, I now regard any SADC country as home and I also consider going to some countries in the world as going home.

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The staff of the Parliament of Namibia, both in this House and the other House, including the Secretary of the National Assembly, also made their valuable contributions, I have learnt so much from them. Sometimes, I worked with the Chief Whip of SWAPO, Professor Katjavivi and I also worked with Professor Kasingo – that is a desk of Professors. There were times Professor Katjavivi would treat me like a Deputy Chief Whip because sometimes he would forget and request my consultation on many things whereupon I would tell him – *no, I am not one of the Whips*. I have learned many things from these educated people. In my language when you are too overwhelmed, you must say – *I do not know what to say* and that means you are appreciating a lot.

When I came to this House, I did not know that I would speak to the Opposition Parties because I understood the Opposition Parties to be pure enemies, so when we are here, I am not supposed to greet or speak to them because what we used to see in Parliament was a big fight, so I was under the impression that when one leaves the Parliament Building we would not greet each other.

The first time I sat on this bench, when anyone from the Opposition Parties speaks I would be angry, just like I used to watch on TV, but I came to learn that – *no, this are just political issues that we must deal with*. Sometimes it people would go close to insulting each other, but when they leave the House, these people would engage each other in a normal conversation. I came to learn – *oh, this is how these things work*. I, therefore, started cooling down because when I came here I hated the Opposition Parties so much but truly speaking, today all of them became my friends. Some of them even use to be my friends before they deflected to the Opposition and we became friends again when we met here.

I can now attest to the Namibian people out there that what you see on TV are just political issues, when these people are in the Restaurant they eat together and laugh with each other. I used to think that Comrade Jerry

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Ekandjo does not greet Members of the Opposition Parties, but I came to learn here that it is not the case.

Comrade Speaker, I have learned many things. I was trying to write my speech last week and realised that 25 pages were too much, where could I say all this things. I then decided to drop it entirely and said I will not say a word but when I was sitting here looking at my Senior, Comrade Kasingo speaking as well as hearing some of the things that I wrote in my speech, I said – *no, let me switch on my microphone*. I actually wanted to stand up and appreciate the fact coming here five years ago has changed everything about me, including my behaviour.

The invaluable experience that I have gained would enable me to work out there, not only at my village, but also in our country as a whole. Otherwise, Comrade Esau, thank you very much for having been one of our Secretary-Generals at the NUNW. Thank you very much.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you for letting me know you. Honourable Bezuidenhout.

HON BEZUIDENHOUT: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I will divide my time, if I add the experience of all the Members who are not returning and have served Parliament between 20 and 25 years, I will get in excess of 300 years of experience. My time in Parliament has only been over a period of five years. Comparing my five years in relation to 300 or 400 years, I would be very brief.

I just want to thank Parliament, under the leadership of the Speaker for making my experience of knowing people a very humane and humbling

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experience. I have learned a lot by observing, listening and what Honourable Dingara said, I have grown and I am still growing.

On behalf of the Party I represent, I want to wish all the Members that are retiring well. It is good for a country to have its Leaders retire so that they can still manage and assist the ones that are around as opposed to dying in office and that is it, you do not know what happens thereafter.

I want to congratulate the Ministers and Deputy Minister who were appointed to day. You have a big task ahead of you but you can count on Parliament and us for assistance. You should count on the Members of Parliament to be critical or in rendering advice on this, that or the other.

I also want to, especially thank those ones who are retiring voluntarily. It is just an honour and amazing story for people to voluntarily step back. Honourable Speaker and everyone else, I will keep on following you. I want to wish you all to go well but do not go too far because we may need advice and guidance. However, let the children make mistakes and then tell them – *do not do that, be careful there is a crocodile or that river is too deep for you, do not go there, I have seen it happening to other people.*

Please bring whatever you have in whatever format you want to bring it. To all the others, go well but do not go too far, we need you and we will consult you when the need arises. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Right Honourable Prime Minister after me.

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HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Yes, you are the former and I am the former.

HON SPEAKER: No, I am not the former because I keep all the titles that I have.

HON MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I have been speaking in this House for the last 25 years, a quarter of a century.

Those who want to learn about my mind can go to the Hansard and read my speeches there. I am, therefore, just going to be brief tonight. It was not actually my intention to take the Floor, but I thought people would think that I am not grateful for the trust they invested in me.

Firstly, I would like to pay homage to the martyrs of the Namibian Liberation Struggle, stretching all the way from Kahimemua Nguvauva, Nicodemus Kavikunua who were executed in 1896 for resisting German occupation and encroachment on their land and all the martyrs up to the martyrs of Ondeshifilwa who fought a bitter battle after the breakdown of the Ceasefire on the 1st of April 1989 – *their blood waters our freedom*.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Founders and the Leaders of SWAPO for mobilising us, the youth in the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s to join the struggle and to make our contribution. They also gave us responsibilities when we joined the struggle and collectively, we were able to pull our efforts and achieve our National Independence on the 21st of March 1990.

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I express gratitude to the people of Namibia who invested their trust in SWAPO and elected us to serve in this august House. I hope we have not disappointed them.

I express my satisfaction that I served in this House for the last 25 years. 25 years is a long time and it would only be logical for me to give the opportunity to others, especially now that we decided on the 50/50 representation, not to compete with the incoming women but to give them the opportunity to also serve this House.

Honourable Speaker, on a personal level, you know when we lived in New York and would go to the UN where Namibia was being debated, we would leave the Headquarters disappointed. We would always find a watering hole along Second Avenue, sit down, buy a drink and we would tell each other that we were doomed to succeed. That was our consolation when we were disappointed. We were truly doomed to succeed and we did.

On the personal level, of course, besides being a Comrade, a Brother and a caring family man, you hosted my wedding in New York when I was just joining the family of the majority. We, therefore, came a long way. Having you as the Presiding Officer, in this House, was indeed a joy, especially the time when I was the Leader of Government Business in the House.

Let me tell you one thing without wasting your time. One time the SWAPO Members here did not understand each other properly. It was the big Debate about the Millennium Challenge Account. We had to consult and I consulted the Speaker, I first consulted Venaani and I told the Speaker – *do not look at the SWAPOs, look at Venaani there*. They have been kept focused on Venaani and when Venaani proposed to adjourn the Debate on the Millennium Challenge Account, he saved the day because the SWAPOs were on each other's throats.

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It was indeed a pleasure to serve here under your leadership. I thank you all for your friendship, camaraderie and for being civic citizens. We all worked together here for the common good of the Namibian people.

For those who are coming in and those who are continuing, my small word of advice – the challenge of leadership in Africa, is the challenge of managing diversity. If you cannot manage diversity, you will fail. I, therefore, hope that those who are continuing and those who are coming in, will manage our diversity prudently so that we continue to make progress. *Au revoir*, goodbye, *totsiens*. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Chief Garoëb.

HON GAROËB: Mr Speaker, Sir, thank you for the opportunity. Honourable Speaker, Dr Theo-Ben Gurirab, being your homeboy I am afraid to say that I have not much I can say that will differ from what was alluded to by the Chief Whip, Honourable Professor Katjavivi. All I can say is, thank you very much *son of the soil* for guiding this august House diligently and with wisdom. I wish you good health and long life – farewell brother.

Having associated myself with the Chief Whip, I now come to the House on a broader level. Allow me to thank God, the Almighty Father, and the Namibian people for affording me time to serve them as their Member of Parliament. I would particularly, also like to thank the members of the United Democratic Front (UDF) for accepting to serve as their Leader in this august House. I am, however, confident that I have passed on the

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torch to the humble and charismatic young Leader, Honourable Apius !Auxab.

UDF is seen by many as a small Party, but has enriched our democracy immensely. We have a record of being the only Opposition Party to govern a Region for 24 years, indeed 24 years as a majority representative in the great Kunene Region. UDF also served on several local Government or Local Authorities and never had below two Members in the National Assembly. Our history is incomparable for a small Party and must be written down.

I now come to His Excellency, President Pohamba and Madam Pohamba, the First Lady. I wish to congratulate you for the noble leadership that built on the foundation laid by the Founding Father, His Excellency Dr Sam Nujoma and some of us. You took Namibia to greater heights if we compare it to the rest of Africa, including your speedy transformation of power, which is so laudable. I wish to also congratulate you for the Mo Ibrahim Governance Award. You really deserve it. Your Excellency, President Pohamba, it is in your character to lead ethically and dignified. Thank you very much.

It is with appreciation that I also congratulate the newcomers in the high positions; Honourable Dr Nickey Iyambo as Deputy President, Honourable Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila as the Right Honourable Prime Minister and Honourable Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah as the Deputy Right Honourable Prime Minister. I am very, very proud of you.

I would now like to come to the President Elect, Dr Hage Geingob; congratulations for being elected as the third Namibian President. The 87% you gained as votes are many votes. It is indeed historic and it reflects the true colours of the Namibian people, irrespective of Party, race, tribe or colour. Honourable Dr Geingob, you are a veteran politician and come with wisdom. I can only say, lead with God, the Almighty, as

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your guide and build on the previous legacies for the economic prosperity of the majority of Namibians.

President Elect, I also wish to urge you to look at a few key issues which may even already be on your agenda: The first one being the land; increasing the Budget to allow servicing of more land at the Local Authority level, more land than in current demand must urgently be serviced. Let us revisit the Stakeholders Conference to discuss and agree on land availability, affordability, etcetera. These should be some of your actions during your first year.

I would want to touch on the Traditional Authorities. I wish to finally urge for a fair treatment and empowerment of Traditional Authorities to

effectively handle their administration, let alone vehicle support, as Traditional Authorities, still remain key to social and cultural welfare of our people.

In the same vein, I hope to state that the recognition of the Damara King's Council must be high on the agenda. My official recognition as a Traditional Leader was only sleeping because I joined active politics, but now that I am phasing out of active politics, I am now returning to the royal call. It is now also proper that I am now missing my long time Colleagues and Freedom Fighters namely, distinguished Late Kuaima Riruako, Philemon Moongo and Hitjevi Vei who recently passed on. May their souls rest in peace and may their legacy still live on.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, I wish all the best to the new incoming Leaders. Please serve our people fairly and with integrity and for the outgoing veteran Leaders, please remain honourable even if you vacate the position so that the new generation can learn from you and lead us peacefully with our blessings into the prosperous future.

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Honourable Deputy Speaker, Professor Kasingo, thank you very much for helping to guide this august House with dignity and wisdom. May God bless you.

To those Honourable Members of this august House who are not coming back, I say farewell and may we meet again one day.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, I am very proud of the Honourable Members of this august House for their friendship and good relationship, which I enjoyed for more than 10 years. We are all here for a common cause and the common cause is to lead our people in a way that they enjoy living in Namibia.

Honourable Speaker, Sir, it is with something very heavy on my heart that I am leaving this House. I have come a long way and made friends with all the Members of this august House. I cannot name you, but all of you know that I have really enjoyed being a Political Leader in this House. I am here as a Damara Traditional Leader, but for all the years that I have been in this House, I did my best for all the people of Namibia and I sincerely hope that the newcomers will do their very best to lead our people with wisdom.

Let me touch a little bit on **Education**: We must assess the economic cause and benefits of Namibia's investment in the Education Sector. I further recommend National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) to provide grants or scholarships in all the 14 Regions. We congratulate the Government for the free education at the Primary School level. I am urging the Government to also consider free education at both Secondary and Tertiary levels for all.

I now touch on the **State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs)**: The performance or Return on Investment of most SOEs is in question, yet a lot of our taxpayers' funds are spend on them, which could have been better invested

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in the economy for supporting Programmes of youth development, small-scale farming, sport development, etcetera.

HON SPEAKER: Continue.

HON GAROËB: Thank you. Imagine the economic return for the country if every professional soccer player at Premier or First League received a minimum wage, how many young men could maintain their young families and status as respectable men while enjoying what they do best? I am calling on our Government to do its best to assist people who are taking part in sports. Last week I read in one of the newspapers that one country that won the soccer match gave each of the 23 members of that Soccer Club a house or round about R600,000.00 and the same amount in cash. It is now also high time that we also start looking after our own people so that they can feel attracted to various sport codes.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Honourables of this House, let me rest my case here with due respect to each and everyone for what they have done for the people of Namibia. Keep up the good work and it will definitely, in the long run, pay back the Namibian Government. I thank you.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable Kapi.

HON KAPIA: Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Members of the National Assembly, I firstly want to congratulate our President Elect and wish him well in leading us for the next five years.

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I also want to congratulate Comrade Dr Nickey Iyambo, Comrade Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Comrade Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah for having been designated to lead and assist our President Elect, hopefully for the next five years.

I also want to congratulate all Ministers and Deputy Ministers who have been appointed and wish you all the best for the new tasks ahead.

Honourable Speaker, I want to wish you all the best in your retirement.

HON SPEAKER: No, I am not retiring. (*Laughter*)

HON KAPIA: I know you are retreating to the rear, so I want to wish you all the best with advancing to the rear. Honourable Speaker, I know

that you have shaped some of us during the time we have been working together.

For the Members of Parliament who are advancing to the rear and those who are going forward, the ones to be sworn in tomorrow for the Sixth Parliament, I want to wish you all the best.

I want to particularly thank the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Home Affairs and Immigration, Safety and Security, Veterans Affairs and the Director-General of the Namibia Central Intelligence Services for having been supportive and for working with us in the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security without any push and pull. I thank you for having understood our questions. We

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were not really interfering with your day-to-day operations, but you respected the oversight functions of the Parliamentary Standing Committee.

I want to thank you because we know that without your good understanding, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security could not have carried out its constitutional requirements, as you did. As the outgoing Chairperson, I particularly enjoyed your support and the respect that came from you, although you were my seniors by age and by order of precedence.

I want to thank my Party, the SWAPO Party, SWAPO Party Youth League, in particular, and the Namibian people in general for having trusted me with the responsibility of being one of the lawmakers in Namibia. As I have been, I will continue to be ready to serve the Namibian people and my party in particular.

Thanks to the Chief Whips, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chief Whips, Assistant Chief Whips and all my Colleagues in the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security and the entire Parliament for the support and advice they have rendered to me during my time as a Member of Parliament and Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee. Thank you very much. I wish you all the best.

To my *Mitiri*, particularly the Senior Citizen of Namibia, Comrade Angela you have been my mentor all along. When we came back from exile, you assigned me to be the Head of a Sub-centre from Ondangwa Centre to a Sub-centre at Ekeke in 1989, to prepare and mobilise the Namibian people to elect and vote for the SWAPO Party into power. We are still working together in the Community Skills Development Foundation, the body that is governing COSDEC centres. I really want to single you out, so thank you very much for all the advice you gave to me.

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I know Ho Chi Min also wants me to thank him as a former PLAN Combatant. I want to thank all my Commanders in PLAN and the Political Commissars under whom I served, as I was also one of the Commissars. Thank you very much, and I will be ready to serve the Namibian people. Thank you very much, Honourable Speaker.

HON SPEAKER: Thank you. What do I do with myself now? I begin by thanking my Colleague, Veteran Comrade, personal friend and long standing Chief Whip who kick-started this long process and my Colleague the Deputy Speaker. This is an occasion where I should also aptly recognise the Secretary to the National Assembly in terms Constitution and his team, some of them sitting here in front of me. This has been an experience. Somehow, I feel there is a difference from the others, whether it was the General Assembly or IPU. There were also a number of others that, when you start reading about me, you would get to know about them.

However, I was listening to all of you as I had to do the listening, it sounded as if it was about me, but I am still sitting as the Speaker to make sense of what you were saying. Usually the difference between this experience and what I have been doing since I became the Speaker, it was not really about me, the work that I have been doing for the period that I was the Speaker. It was about us, about this House, about the Constitution and about the partnership, as it were, between the three Branches of Government or of the State.

My relevance to you as the Speaker, throughout the period that I have been the Speaker, was about our joint interaction, my guiding the deliberations and you wanting me to recognise you by either calling you to order or to thank you for something good that you have said and for a moment I was not entirely as serious as it would sound. For a moment, I was wondering – *am I dead or alive?* (Laughter)

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I was wondering whether all these things are being said to me because I am somehow leaving this life and ascending or going away to some other place where I am not likely to see you again. You will see me tomorrow, I can assure you and you are going to see me for a very long time to come. I am not relocating, occasionally, I will visit Usakos, I will visit //Uikrens – that is where I was born and we will meet at shopping places and so on. I intend to be around for a long time. I have not relocated from my experiences in Cabinet and obviously, I am not going to forget my long association with Parliament, the National Assembly, in particular.

However, I want to thank you for all the remembrances and for all the good things that you have said about me. My son, whom I named after Hanganee, is here so he has been listening to all of you and is here by choice, I did not ask him to come, but I recognised that he was here and of course, I am glad and I am thankful to you. I might not be the father that he had expected me to be, I am doing injustice to him. However, for all the nice things that you said about me, I want you to count me in, those of you who are going to come back tomorrow to the House and those of you who are going to be in Cabinet. Whether you are in Cabinet or in the National Assembly, I want you to count me in.

I still have the ambition, willingness and readiness to contribute to Namibia's nation building. We have achieved a great deal, in some respects we have almost made miracles out of our collective responsibility as elected Members of our people. There are so many challenges, with Honourable Nahas, as they call him or I, sitting in this Chamber or in another forum, be it the Cabinet, I know we still have our seats vacant in the structures of the Majority Party – those ones, we have not walked out from. There are so many demands on the existence, the lives, the busy bodies of all the citizens.

There is nothing that I can think of that, now that I am no longer the Speaker, I do not care about. I do not know but in my neighbourhood –

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Klein Windhoek has been going through thunders and rain, not abundance of it, but I care about it because I read and I hear that we have not received the amount of rain that we have expected, so count me in, in your prayers. I have been frequenting my church of late, so even if you do not see me in your church, count me in that I am praying together with you for rain.

There is unemployment, youth unemployment, in particular, and I think that I am duty bound regardless of whether I am the Speaker or Member of the National Assembly and maybe something that I would say, something that I would do or something that I would hear from somebody and pass on to a Namibian that I meet on the street, would somehow contribute towards doing something about our young people.

Housing is a major crisis and those of you who are responsible for that, count me in.

I will now have time to watch boxing matches, football matches and those who were with me at Augustineum know that I was a good footballer. I am saying all these things just to emphasise that I am not going anywhere. I have so many friends and somebody reminded me earlier of that obligation.

I am trying to find meaningful words to express my gratitude and thanks for the solidarity that you have expressed to me, but I want to reciprocate this goodwill, the Minister is reminding me to get down seriously now, without excuses to the business of finding all the notes that I have collected and packed away, waiting for that opportunity to produce a book for a start and maybe books for a start, but even before that, to say things from time to time that you have recorded back then about the unfinished business of my life outside of Namibia, by writing things in magazines, newspapers and periodicals that everybody can read, if only, for me to report back about the life that I have lived both abroad and back home.

I cannot summon enough words. We got started before 19:00 or close

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enough to that and we are now past 21:00. Some of you have gone out to have a bite or something else, coffee, tea and have come back to be part of this, so to speak, farewell party for me. I am trying to just say things that will appear to have touched all the bases. You have spoken as Members of different Political Parties represented in this Chamber. You have all been generous in paying tributes and accolades and I am most grateful for all that.

I just want to declare that, wherever I am, I am available to serve the Namibian people and I may even be happy that I can say things and pretend to be an elder citizen of the country to say things the way that I want to say them without making any excuses or asking for apologies. That is the freedom that I have earned now. I could say I used to be this or I used to be the other, if you do not believe it, so be it and if you do, thank you for that.

There are not enough words for what you have done, Chief Whip, and for what you have done my Colleague, Deputy Speaker, in having ensured that enough of you are here to pay the kind of accolades that you have paid me. I wanted to verify with Honourable Kaura as far as I remember the following people, I and Honourable Kaura's case is under a question mark.

Honourable Pendukeni became a Member of this House in 1990 and she is still around; Honourable Netumbo-Ndaitwah the same, Honourable Nahas Angula the same, Honourable Marko Hausiku, Honourable Jerry Ekandjo, Honourable Nickey Iyambo and Hanganee's father and these are the people that I know who have never left the National Assembly since 1990.

Now, there is a device that some Honourable Members make use of; when you were elected and you know that you will come back – in order to

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access their savings, they have resigned, I do not know whether it took months and they came back again to be sworn in (*laughter*).

I have to ask myself, which Members they were and whether Honourable Kaura was one of them because I know he did that. Maybe we were in the recess so perhaps that does not count, if that is the case. However, the names that have I mentioned are of the people that have served during the periods that we started together in Cabinet. As Members of the National Assembly, we have served for a long period of time and those experiences do not belong to us. You must demand to benefit from any of that that is useful for your work, for those of you who will come back.

I would, after I have recollected my mind, maybe say more through the papers or some other means as a way of thanking you for this generosity and the time that you have spent to pay all the tributes that you have paid to me. Once again, I thank you all very much. (*Applause*) Chief Whip, thank you very much. I know that both of you love me and I do not know whether I love you or not.

What do you want me to do now? The incoming Prime Minister has instructed me, maybe exercising her power, before you she is sworn in, that I should, and of course speaking on behalf of the Majority Party as we particularly wanted, that those who are up for being sworn in, to be here at 08:00.

Your boss is here and he is listening to you. I am specific in what I am saying, the SWAPO Members present here, should be here at 08:00. She was exercising apartheid, she was being specific and she wanted me to say so – the SWAPO Members, particularly, and not everybody. She has reasons why she said that and I only had to convey that.

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**ADJOURNMENT
HON DR GURIRAB**

As the outgoing Speaker, do I say the House stands adjourned or shall we just stand up and walk out? If I do not see you tomorrow, I will be in Namibia.

HOUSE ADJOURNED AT 21:24 UNTIL 2015.03.20 AT 14:30
